



# The Vale Primary School

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Co-Headteachers: Mrs Cathy Browne BA(Hons) PGCE and Mrs Sarah Leyland BEd (Hons) NPQH

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

# Inspiring All

### ADVERSE WEATHER

What a week of weather we have had? Thank you for taking care in the snow and ice and it has been with reluctance that we have had to close, but feel it has been necessary in order to keep everyone safe. Please do check our 'Twitter' feed on the School Website if you are ever unsure whether the school is open as that will be the most up to date communication. We will send messages via parentmail in addition, although as happened this week, the system can get overloaded and we apologise for any confusion this caused.

We do hope you are able to stay warm and safe over the weekend.

### VALE BOOK DAY

On Tuesday the school was filled with a host of characters. Thank you to all for the fantastic effort and creativity that went into costumes. It was a pleasure to reward Amelia-Rose, Albie, Danica, Ewan, Cameron, Alfie, Amy and Emily with prizes for the 'best dressed'. The children were involved in a range of reading, writing and drama activities throughout the day as well as a 'West End Theatre' dance workshop. All year groups completed learning using the book 'The Lost Thing' by Shaun Tan as inspiration. Fun was had by all.



### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018

### PARENT & TEACHER CONSULTATIONS

The next consultation meetings are set for **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March**. The online booking system will be live next week now – we will advise when by parentmail. Our SENCo Mrs Roberts will also be available for meetings on this day, please book these by contacting the school office.

In order to maximise pupil learning time in class and help working parents, we have made a few changes to the timings of the slots and will be starting at 3.30pm and finishing later. **This will mean that we will be closing school that day at 3pm**, in order for staff to have time to prepare. Please do let the office know if you will be unable to collect your child that day at the earlier time so that we can make provision. If your child uses school transport, they will be collected as normal at 3.30pm and looked after by school staff.

The meetings will be a good opportunity to discuss further your child's targets and how you can help support them at home, along with their half termly achievements update that we have introduced, in response to parent feedback at the last Family Forum. It is also a great opportunity to see some of the fantastic learning they have been doing in their books and talk about what is going well and what would be even better if for them.

### CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

We will update you on who has been celebrated this week in next week's newsletter.

### NATIONAL LITTER PICK DAY

It was a shame that we had to post-poned this event this week but I am sure you understand why and we hope, with the Eco team and Mrs Tinker, to book a future date for this in due course.



## BRITISH ATHLETE LUKE LENNON-FORD VISIT

We are very excited and feel very lucky to be welcoming Luke Lennon-Ford to the school on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March**. Luke is a 28 year old British athlete, who specialises in the 400 metre event. He has been coached by the gold medal sprinter, Linford Christie.

Luke has already had an impressive career, winning bronze at the European Athletics U23 Championships and gold in the 400 metre relay! Luke has also represented his country at the 2012 Istanbul World Indoor Championships, achieving silver in the 400 metre relay, and these are only a few of his achievements! Luke's personal best in the 400 metre sprint is 45.23 seconds- that's fast! On the day he will be leading a sponsored fitness circuit, involving all pupils. This will be followed by an assembly, where pupils will be given the opportunity to ask Luke any questions regarding his career. The purpose of this event is to inspire all pupils to play an active part in their own physical well-being. It also aims to inspire children to pursue their passion, despite the difficulties they may face ahead of them- resilience is a life skill we aim to nurture at The Vale.

The fitness circuit is a non-competitive sponsored event. The money raised in this event will be used to buy sports equipment for the school, while supporting the work of GB athletes. Please ensure that **sponsorship forms and moneys** are returned to the school office on or before **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March** at the latest.

Please also make sure that your child/children come to school on the event day with their PE Kits! Thank you in anticipation of creating a terrific and memorable event. We do hope we will all be inspired by the visit of such a talented athlete!



## HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILDREN AT HOME

### TIMES TABLES

Can you write a poem that includes the x table question that you find the hardest to learn?

### MATHS PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

Jack says:



All 3D shapes have at least one vertex.

Is this true or false?  
Explain why.

### SPELLING STRATEGY

#### Squiggly Spelling Words

You are going to write your spelling words two times. First write in regular letters. Then write the words again in squiggly letters!

### DO YOU WANT TO BUILD A SCARECROW?

Year 4 would like to put a further plea out for some materials they need to create their 'Rosa Parks' scarecrow for the Epsom and Ewell competition.

They are still looking for:

- brown and white wool
- A dried/made or artificial white flower
- Tweed or brown material
- Two broom handles
- Thick wire (to make her glasses)
- A thick black marker
- A thick red marker

They are also still on the look out for anyone who would be willing to volunteer some time and

support on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March** to make it. Please do let us know.

### WORLD MATHLETICS DAY

Mathletics are holding a world competition day that we are taking part in on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March**. The competition measures speed in arithmetic and numeracy skills on the LIVE mathletics platform and runs for 48hours. Please do take part.

### FAMILY FORUM

Our next Family Forum meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March** at 2.30pm. All parents are invited to come along to the hall, have coffee and meet with the Co-Headteachers. We will be discussing a PR strategy and your suggestions about how we can raise the profile of the school locally, particularly in a time of change with regards to the closure of the Headley Court.

### HALL HIRE

Our hall is available for hire over the weekend. It makes a great venue for parties from £12 per hour plus a £6 insurance charge. There is a minimum hire of 3 hours, for example a half hour set up, 2-hour party and half hour clear up. Please contact Mrs Potter if you are interested.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### Local Vinyasa Yoga Sessions

Vinyasa yoga is a dynamic and flowing style of yoga that links breath with movement through different postures. Classes are suitable for all levels of experience. Please see attached flyer for more details.

### Epsom Baptist Church

Springtime Holiday Club for the Easter Holidays. This year the holiday club is called **PASSPORT TO ADVENTURE**. It is for children aged 5-11 (Reception to Year 6) and the dates are Tuesday 3rd April to Friday 6th April. There is no charge for this event as it is part of our service to the community and we usually have about 80+ children from most of the primary schools in the borough. There are craft activities, quizzes, games, stories, DVD's, songs and refreshments.

### BOURNE HALL MUSEUM KIDS CLUB

See attached flyers for great history learning opportunities.

### BOURNE HALL

Herald of Spring - March 10th 9am to 5pm

This year's theme is 'Mother Nature'. There will be children activities and games. Cheer on our Y4 Scarecrow in the competition.

Children can enjoy the Hobbledown Puppet Show and dancer's, be amazed by Close Up Magic's trickery and sleight of hand, marvel at the Bourne Hall Museum kids club as they discover Roman sacred springs and the Gods they thought that lived there and take part in 'feel-good' kids' activities from the Rainbow Centre in the Main Hall.

**FREE entry!**

**Fantastic fun for everyone**

### WRIGGLES & GIGGLES

Each Tuesday our local 'stay and play' community group meet in our school hall from 9.30am to 11.45am. It is a popular group for parents and carers for babies to pre-schoolers and open to everyone. For a small fee of just £2 for children aged over 1, £1 for children under 1 and siblings, visitors have a range of toys and activities on offer. Please spread the word and come along.

### LETTERS THIS WEEK

[Parentmail](#)

[Hardcopy](#)

**Cathy Browne and Sarah Leyland  
Co-Headteachers**



March 2018		
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Athlete Visit and fitness circuit event. Junior Citizen for Y5 & 6	Morning Afternoon
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Pedals for Y2	Morning
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Consultations <b>School closes at 3pm this day.</b>	Starting at 3.30pm
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	SATs Information Evening for Y2 and Y6 parents	6pm
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March/Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Epsom & Ewell Music Festival for Infant Choir	Evening
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	End of Term	1.30pm
SUMMER TERM		
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Start of Summer term	8.30-8.50am
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 1st June	HALF TERM	1 week
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June (additional date)	INSET: no school for children	Day
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	End of Term	1.30pm

