

# Valence News

## Term 1

Dear Parents and Carers

We are well into this new term and school year.

Welcome to our new students: Thomas D, Rohail A, Ralph J, Bella-Rose W, J'ssiah D-B, Mason B, Lilly D, Zarar R, Paide S, Evie-Jane G and Joshua B

And our new staff : Katie Lord : Assistant Principal, Students & Curriculum, Ryan Beasant : P.E. Lead Teacher, Maddie Brooker : Class Teacher (Simmonds 1), Alison Wilkin : Head of Health, Jackie Oliver : Community Shop Manager, Hannah Burton : SSA, Karis Boorman : SSA 1:1, Nicola Batley : SSA Bank, Faith Murimbarimba : Waking Night SSA Bank, Joanna Reeves : Catering Assistant, Susie Cassie : STLS Sevenoaks District Lead

All of these people joining Valence are very welcome and we hope that they will be happy at the school.

I want to take briefly about 4 P's today:

**Purpose**

**Policies**

**Participation**

**Prevent**

First **PURPOSE**

It is important that the school is clear about its purpose and that it can say clearly what its priorities are. This helps to ensure that the children and young people who are placed at the school have needs that can be fully met by the school's provision. Our purpose can be seen in our Learning Ethos in which we wish to provide opportunities in order that students can be respectful, resilient, independent, positive and be passionate about their interests and learning.

Second **POLICIES**

The school has a large number of policies and these are regularly reviewed and updated. Many are required by law such as safeguarding, health and safety, data protection and complaints. There are more than 30! These guide the work of the school and ensure that we deliver our purpose and operate safely and within the law.

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### Third **PARTICIPATION**

It is so important that we enable our children and young people to participate in a wide range of activities and opportunities to ensure our learning ethos and purpose is realised and we use our policies to ensure that such participation is equitable, safe and reflective of individual needs.

### Finally **PREVENT**

Staff had training last Friday on PREVENT, the government's strategy to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Whilst we might think what has that got to do with Valence students we have to be on our guard. Recruiting young people on line to support extremist views is a real risk and can easily lead young people to develop attitudes of hatred against minority groups. If we get our purpose right and build and embed our learning ethos this will help to keep our young people safe from the predators who use the internet to promote extremist and violent views.

I hope that you all have a pleasant and enjoyable weekend.

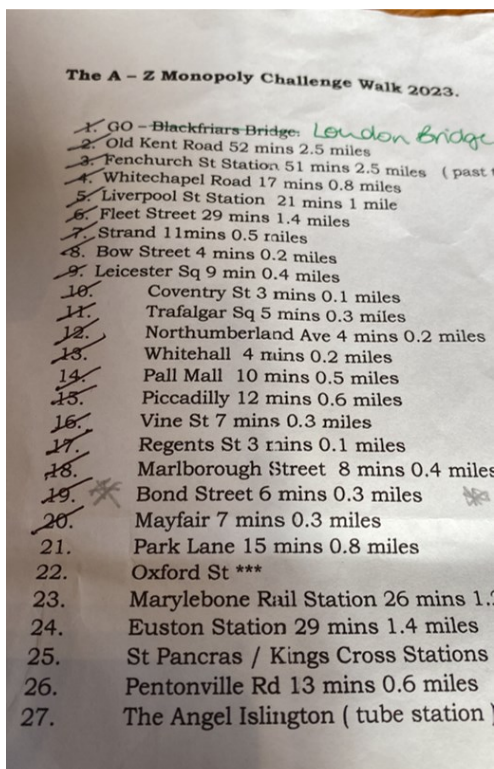
Best wishes

Roland Gooding

Principal

### Monopoly Fundraising Challenge

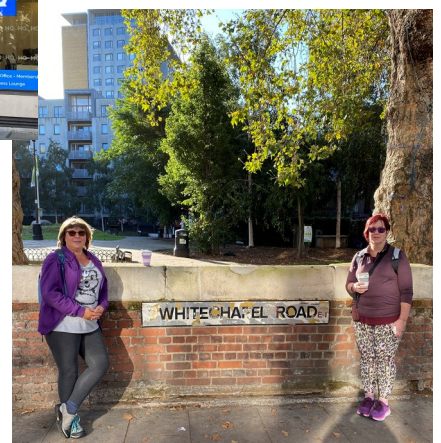
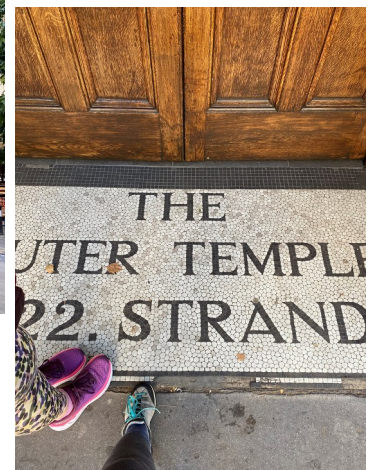
A big **CONGRATULATIONS** to Zena Belton and her friend Abi. Last weekend they completed the challenge and so far have raised £840 by walking 18 miles around London to raise money for additional equipment for lunchtime clubs.



[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/zena-belton-monopoly-walk?](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/zena-belton-monopoly-walk?utm_term=m64br4Rmz)  
[utm\\_term=m64br4Rmz](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/zena-belton-monopoly-walk?utm_term=m64br4Rmz)

**£840 so far**







## News From The Art room.

Well done to Freddie F, Freddy C and Evie C for the successful completion of their GCSE Art and Design.

Freddy C also completed an Art Summer School at UCA Canterbury. if you get a chance, ask him about it.

We also celebrated all of our students in our end of Year exhibition at Sevenoaks Library back in July. If you didn't manage to get along to see the incredible artwork here are a few photos to give you a taste of what was on display. But there is no substitute for seeing art up close, look out for our next exhibition in 2024.



## **Shakespeare Success!**



In July I entered a handful of pupils in a creative writing competition, held by Coram Shakespeare Schools Foundation. I am delighted to announce that our very own Aggy has been shortlisted and put through to the next round! On 10<sup>th</sup> October her entry will be reviewed by 5 expert judges. We are incredibly proud and would love to share with you her remarkable talent. This is based on **Much Ado About Nothing (Beatrice and Benedick 10 years from now)**

**A LOVERS SECRET REVEALED (In unlikely turn of events.)**

It had been a terrible cold winter, in the once gloriously sunny Messina. And ten years had passed since the...complicated affairs in which Benedick and Beatrice unlikely love story began. As snow fell outside the window, Beatrice slipped out of her quilts, greeted by a warm smile from her husband, Benedick. "Slept sweetly I hope?" he asked, precariously carrying a mug of steaming black coffee. "My favourite." She chuckles gratefully taking the warming drink. "Ursula yet to wake dear? Though of course I thank thy, would it not be her doings to tend to me, as my lady?" Benedick's face flushed pink and Beatrice cocked her head questioningly. "Dear? Whatever is the matter?" she asked him, her eyes flashing with stormy confusion intermixed with a prickle of uncertainty. "Matters to attend to dear, my apologies I must be off." His fingers fumbled with his deep coat pocket, withdrawing his gold pocket watch, clicking it open eyes flitting over the ticking of the hands. Snapping it shut, averting her gaze he turned on his heel and left the room, with a muttered, "enjoy the coffee!"

"Wait!" she called after him, noticing the leather-bound book he had dropped in his flustered rush. Popping her head around the doorframe she saw nothing but the lavishly decorated, but nonetheless silent and avoid of her husband in his hurry.

She took up the book and flicking it open to a random page she sees a detailed sketch of one of the garden statues done by her husband intrigued she finds her feet moving without thinking, and eventually she reached the garden of statues where everything began. Looking back at the statue drawn in the book, she scans the garden, and finding the statue she crouches behind the same. Her temples being to throb, and she finds herself being thrown into a vision from more than ten years ago...

"Thy plan is to run forth?" asked Hero to Ursula.

"Of course, me thinks it mighty clever. We shall declare sinful lies for joyful good."

"Ready?" Hero asked in a whisper creeping closer to the statue were past and future merged.

Sinful lies? What was she speaking of? Our love was the truth was it not?

**I hope you enjoyed reading this incredible narrative and join us in wishing Aggy good luck!**



FRIENDS OF VALENCE

AGM

Dates for  
the Diary:

Come along to find out how you can  
become involved in supporting our charity

Wednesday 11th October

PLC, Valence school, Westerham

7pm start

Please RSVP to [friends@valence.kent.sch.uk](mailto:friends@valence.kent.sch.uk)

## Senior Staff On-call Rota from 29th September 2023

### Contact details:

Roland Gooding	07896 905605
Lisa Kavanagh	07912 124724
Matt Strange	07894 483673
Jo Chivers	07896 905095

Day	Date	Time	On-call	Overnight
Friday	29/09/23	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed Weekend
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
Saturday Sunday	30/09/23 01/10/23	Closed		
Monday	02/10//23	07.30 To midday	Matt Strange	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
Tuesday	03/10//23	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Roland Gooding
		Midday to 4pm	Roland Gooding	
Wednesday	04/10/23	09:00 To midday	Roland Gooding	Matt Strange
		Midday to 4pm	Matt Strange	
Thursday	05/10/23	09:00 To midday	Matt Strange	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
Friday	06/10/23	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Open Weekend Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
Saturday Sunday	07/10/23 08/10/23	Open Weekend- Jo Chivers		

