

# Valence News

## Term 4 begins

Dear Parents and Carers

There are a couple of important notices below:

### Attendance

We are pleased to report that we have a new attendance policy in place. Please note the following points:

- For planned absence for day students, please email reception and copy in the class coordinator and form tutor with details of the appointment.
- For planned absence for REP students, please email reception and copy in the key worker and form tutor with details of the appointment.

The policy is on the school's website.

### Students arriving at school in the morning

Please note that the school is staffed from 08.30 in order to receive and supervise students when they arrive at school. Recently a taxi company dropped two students off at 08.20 and left them waiting on their own. Clearly this is unacceptable. All transport department have been reminded about the school's drop off time. Any parent/carer transporting a child to school should wait with them until 08.30. Thank you.

There are some nice events coming up this term starting with International Wheelchair Day on 1st March which of course is a celebration day for Welsh people being St. David's day. Then there is World Book Day (see page 2) on the 7th March. Red Nose Day is also coming up so lots to celebrate.

Have a lovely weekend. *Roland Gooding*

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# Word Book Day 2024



*It's that exciting time of year again, World Book Day 2024! Book tokens will be handed out Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February so please check bags as they can be spent from half-term onwards. It lands on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March and we have a range of thrilling activities to celebrate the day. Here are some of the ways we will be celebrating at Valence.*



## Costumes...

Dress up as a book character of your choice, there is no theme, but creativity is encouraged! There will be certificates for the best dressed students and staff



## Book cover display...

Tutor groups will be set the challenge of turning a part of their classroom (door, wall, window) into a book cover of their choice. This will be a school wide competition taking place from 19<sup>th</sup> February. Start thinking and sharing ideas with your class and Tutor!



## 'Baby picture pair-up' and 'don't judge a book'

At the start of each lesson your teacher will read an extract from their favourite book (childhood or currently), you will then have to guess which book it's from out of an option of three book covers! At lunch time the teachers will share their baby photo and you have to match their photo with their associated book cover.

Finally, not forgetting, certificates, book tokens and lots more...

## Term 4 Dates for your diary



### **International Wheelchair Day March 1st.**

This day is a day of events and activities which take place around the world when wheelchair users celebrate the positive impact a wheelchair has on their lives.

At Valence students will be having talks on how to look after their wheelchair and how to drive safely in the community. We will also cover how to stretch and exercise in my wheelchair

There may also be some exciting WOW moments with wheelchairs.

### **World book day 7<sup>th</sup> March**



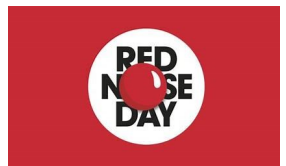
As usual at Valence this will be marked with - Dressing up as a book character for staff and students and book related activities all day.

### **Red Nose Day Friday 15 March 2024!**

It's that time of year when incredible cake-bakers, joke-makers, telly watchers, t shirt-wearers, Red Nose-buyers and laugh-til-you-cryers, do something to fight poverty through humour and fun, for communities here in the UK and around the world.

Valence will also be joining in with these fun activities

Students will be encouraged to wear their red nose and will not be expected to wear school uniform on that day. All activities will be linked to Science week with some fun competitions. We will be collecting any donations on that day to support this charity event.



### **Shakespeare schools festival Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March**



Students from Valence will be taking part in these national events and you will have the opportunity to see them at Woodville Halls Theatre

### **22<sup>nd</sup> March Make a difference day with students from Radnor house**



Some Valence Students will be taking part in some joint activities with students from Radnor house

### **25-27<sup>th</sup> March GCSE Art practical exam**

This term for some students is the start of the Exam series and we start with the

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March** we end the term with our Easter assembly for students



*Friends of  
Valence presents  
Musical  
Bingo*

*Join Friends of Valence for a singalong afternoon of bingo... hear the tune, mark your card! Cash prizes to be won, raffle and refreshments available.*

**23RD MARCH 2024**

**2PM-5PM**

Location: Valence School Hall

*Adult entry £5, child entry free. £1 per bingo card. To purchase tickets and arrange payment please email [friends@valence.kent.sch.uk](mailto:friends@valence.kent.sch.uk). Limited spaces so book early to avoid disappointment!  
(Advance booking only)*

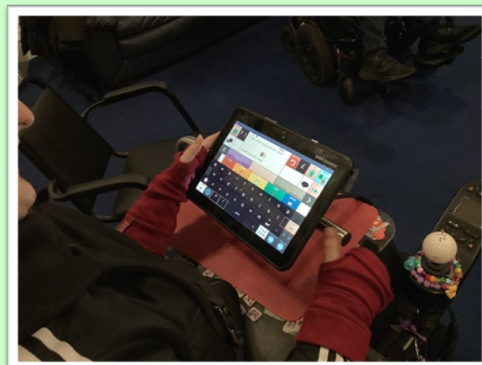
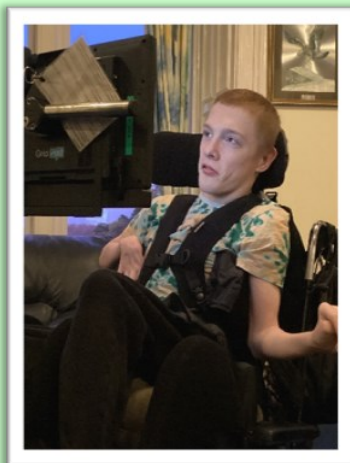
# VOICE CLUB!



Would you  
Rather?

Last term a new after-school club started, every Wednesday and Thursday, for the residential students who have VOCAs. The aim of the group is for the students to develop their social skills while using their communication aids in a group setting, by playing games, asking questions, and sharing thoughts about their day with others.

Some of the games we've played included "Zoo Am I", "The Shopping List", "Desert Island" and "Would You Rather". At Christmas, the students also played a festive version of the "Who Am I" game, which proved very popular!





Well done everyone!

We will start again next week (28/02/24), with new activities and more students joining the groups! See you there!

The School Therapy Team

**'Should you need to know what your child is studying each term please look at the curriculum overviews which are on the school website and in the students' black organiser.'**

## Senior Staff On-call Rota from 9th February 2024

### 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	23/02/24	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed weekend
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	

Monday	26/02/24	07:30 To midday	Matt Strange	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
Tuesday	27/02/24	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Roland Gooding
		Midday to 4pm	Roland Gooding	
Wednesday	28/02/24	09:00 To midday	Roland Gooding	Matt Strange
		Midday to 4pm	Matt Strange	
Thursday	29/02/24	09:00 To midday	Matt Strange	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
Friday	01/03/24	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Open Weekend Roland Gooding
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	



**International Wheelchair Day**  
**1st March**