

Valence News



Happy Easter

Dear parents and carers

We have reached the end of another term and I am sure everyone will be looking forward to the Easter break and especially the holiday weekend that begins tomorrow. This term has been very busy with us having to address our budget deficit and related matters. Fortunately, this work has in no way detracted from the normal activities and running of the school as this newsletter amply demonstrates. There was the Shakespeare Schools Festival held at the Woodville Theatre, Gravesend with tremendous performances and behind the scenes support by our students see pages 2 and 3). The Science week provided great fun both during the school day and for the Residential Education Provision in the evenings. The volcanoes were particularly impressive! And Morph is back at Valence after enjoying his time in London. Our Green Ambassadors have also been busy (page 9) and are trying to get people to do their bit by recycling batteries.

Next term begins on Tuesday 16 March - the Monday is a Staff Development Day!

Please do take note of the special events coming up:

Arts Week - see page 5.

Friends Festival of Motoring - Sunday 12 May - see page 8

Friends Golf Day - Westerham Golf Club - Wednesday 22 May 2024 - see page 7

As we reach the end of this term we are finishing with our usual Easter Celebration assembly for students and staff and can spend a bit of time enjoying music, songs, the Easter Story and much more. It is an opportunity for us to reflect on the greatest Christian season of the year which begins on Maundy



Thursday (the celebration of the Last Supper), followed by Good Friday (the Crucifixion of Christ) and then Easter Sunday (the Resurrection of Christ). We can think that at the very heart of these events is the great gift of God's love. Jesus said to his disciples at the Last Supper that they should love one another as he had loved them. If only the world could embrace that message of love - surely it would bring peace, joy and hope to all people. Have a very Happy Easter.

With every good wish.

Roland Gooding

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Valence School performs 'Much Ado About Nothing!'

On Wednesday 13th March, all pupils from H3 and two from H5 participated in this year's Shakespeare Schools Festival performing 'Much Ado About Nothing' at the Woodville Theatre in Gravesend- their performance was a triumph! Students spent the day rehearsing in the professional theatre environment and the evening performing on stage to a live audience. They all worked extremely hard during the weekly rehearsal period and performed with energy and confidence on the day! The audience were blown away by their ability to capture them, tell the story effectively and bring the humour out in the play. One audience member wrote a lovely email to the School saying the following-

I visited the Woodville Theatre in Gravesend last night and I watched the Shakespeare concert which was a mix of 3 schools and Valence being the first act of the evening.

I was blown away by the performance of your students and I wanted to congratulate them for the sheer determination, humour and drama skills they produced on stage. It was an enlightening performance with passion, dedication and pride.

They should be so proud of themselves for achieving an excellent performance on stage in front of a large audience and having everyone's attention and capturing the storyline in detail.

Thankyou to all the helpers and support behind the scenes for guiding the children and giving them encouragement to be proud of themselves.

I was very inspired with the performance and it's something I will never forget and take into my daily life of the true grit that can be achieved. A huge well done to your school and the children taking part, you should all be very proud.

As this was their first time performing in a professional theatre they should all be proud of themselves! One member of the audience emailed myself the following- Congratulations to all students involved and thank you to the staff who supported students on the day!

Rehearsal photos



Cast

Narrator/Dogberry- Kashyani Nelson

Don Pedro- Joshua Abidogun

Don John- Theodor Taussig

Leonato- Magnus Rankine

Beatrice- Maci Storey

Benedick- Joshua Shaw

Hero- Dilly Thompson

Claudio- Benji Ballard

Sound- Harvey Lovarini

Lighting- Mason Towner



Escape from Science

For some of our older students we ran a science week escape room. There were some new puzzles to decode and a surprising end to the escape room (no students, staff or buildings were harmed and the "bomb" was safely diffused each time). There was some great teamwork from all the classes who participated and everyone seemed to enjoy the puzzles. A big thank you to Jonathon Alder and Eagle designs in Edinburgh who provided the parts for the "bomb". The class with the fastest time were Hawking 6 with an escape time of 42 minutes and 48 seconds although all times from the students were within 8 minutes of each other so it was a very close competition this year. We even managed to invite Mr Strange, Mrs MacPherson, Ms Belton and Ms Lord to have a go at the escape room. They managed to escape slightly quicker than the students with a time of 29 minutes and 27 seconds but still not the quickest time for the staff competition!



Science Week Escape Room Leader Board

Team	Time
Hawking 6	42 minutes 48 seconds
Hawking 3	44 minutes 2 seconds
Hawking 5	44 minutes 38 seconds
Hawking 7	45 minutes 16 seconds
Simmonds 5	48 minutes 53 seconds
Hawking 4	50 minutes 59 seconds



Arts Week

We are excited to announce that Arts Week this year will take place over three separate days for each pathway. Please see below:



Tuesday 23rd April: Keller & Galaxy

Wednesday 1st May: Simmonds

Monday 8th July: Hawking

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



Stunning photo taken at Musical Bingo by Claire Gjaci



Morph's Travel continues at Valence

After his exploits around London, the wonderfully Valence designed morph has returned home. He loved his time in London and seeing some many different people, but he loves coming back to Valence and seeing all the amazing students and staff. During term 5 and 6, Morph will travelling to different places around Valence School. Your task each week will be to find Morph and take a photo with him. Morph will also have with him each week a different word that you must collect, can you collect all the words and make a sentence with them.

Morph is looking forward to seeing you all and giving you an opportunity to make great sentences about Valence school and its students. Enjoy and hope you look forward to seeing Morph around school.



FRIENDS OF VALENCE

GOLF DAY 2024
WESTERHAM GOLF CLUB

22 MAY 2024

£95 Per Player to include:

Coffee & Bacon Roll on Arrival

Putting Competition

18 Holes Stableford Competition

Live 'on Course' Scoring

Quality Prizes (Team & Individual)

Nearest the Pin - Longest Drive

Two Course Presentation Meal - Games

To register email:
friends@valence.kent.sch.uk



Friends of Valence and
Sevenoaks & District Motor Club



Festival of Motoring

A celebration of all things automotive, including an auto solo competition, a display paddock and the chance to parade up the traditional hill climb course.

9am to 5pm
Sunday 12th May
Valence School
Westerham
TN16 1QN

Adult spectator - £7.50
Child spectator - £5
(aged 4 - 16 years)
Family £20
(2 adults and up to 4 kids)

Bring a picnic or enjoy
one of the many food
vans or bar!



Do you have a vintage,
performance or unique car
that you wish to display in
the paddock?

To pre book a car please email as below
£10 a car
to include up to 5 people



scan to book

Email to book:
friends@valence.kent.sch.uk

Valence School's Festival of Motoring 2024.

This promises to be a fantastic occasion and we hope to see many of you there! Admission tickets will be available to buy on the day at the entrance. Volunteers are also needed, if anyone is interested in volunteering on the day please contact friends@valence.kent.sch.uk

Valence Green Ambassadors



The student Green Ambassadors have had a few meetings this term to decide on some projects to get involved in. One thing we all need to do more of is recycle, but batteries are often forgotten about in this.

The Green Ambassadors have discovered that we throw away around 600 million batteries a year, that's as heavy as 4,000 elephants! It can take a battery over 100 years to decompose. The chemicals in the battery can pollute the soil and water, which animals and plants need to survive.

All the parts of a battery can be separated and used again to make new things.



Recycled steel can be used by the construction industry. So your old battery could end up in a sky scraper!



Recycled metals and plastics can be used to make new batteries.



The chemicals can even be processed and used in grass fertilizer!

The Green Ambassadors have decided to do their bit and join Duracell's big battery hunt. They have set up two collection points: one in reception and one in Cedars room 4. Please bring in any used batteries and we will recycle them for you. We have lots of stickers to hand out to those who take part!



Last Day of Term

Just to confirm that on Thursday 28th March, we will be **finishing school for students at 2:00pm and using Friday end of day routines/ departure.**



Senior Staff On-call Rota from 15th March 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
Thursday	28/03/23	09:00 To midday	Matt Strange	Easter Holidays
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	



Tuesday	16/04/24	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Roland Gooding
		Midday to 4pm	Roland Gooding	
Wednesday	17/04/24	09:00 To midday	Roland Gooding	Matt Strange
		Midday to 4pm	Matt Strange	
Thursday	18/04/24	09:00 To midday	Matt Strange	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
Friday	19/04/24	07:30 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed Weekend
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	