

Valence News

Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to Term 3! We hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break. Happy New Year to all in our wonderful Valence community—here's to a fantastic year ahead.

Exciting New Beginnings

We are thrilled to welcome two new students to Star Class, Archie and Adele. We are so excited to have you join us and look forward to seeing all the amazing things you will accomplish.

We also extend a warm welcome to new members of staff who have joined our team this term:

Charles Cox (SSA)

Denise Eagle (SSA)

Anya Haring (School Admin)

Rebecca Huitson (Keyworker)

Ciara Purkiss (SSA 1:1)

Betty Savoiu (SSA)

Additionally, we are pleased to introduce Katharine Young, our new Maths Lead Teacher. Katherine will be overseeing numeracy across the school and teaching Maths to our secondary students. Katharine is an experienced teacher who joins us from Darrick Wood School, and we are excited to see the positive impact her expertise will have on our learners.

Mock Exams – For our learners who will be sitting public examinations this year, next week sees an important time in their preparation as they undertake mock examinations.

Student Progress Evenings - A reminder that our student progress evenings will take place on the following dates:

- **Tuesday 28th January**
- **Tuesday 4th February**
- **Tuesday 11th February**

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Leading Parent
Partnership Award

Details have been sent out via letter. These evenings are an excellent opportunity to discuss your child's progress and celebrate their achievements.

In addition to the mocks and progress meetings, there are some other exciting events planned for later in the term. There are also some events in term 4 that we would like to give you advance warning of and these are all as follows:

On **Wednesday 22nd January**, we are looking forward to our **Hawking Arts Day**. This year, the theme is Indian culture, and it promises to be a vibrant and enriching experience for all Hawking students. The day will include creative activities, cultural exploration, and plenty of opportunities for students to express themselves through art.

We are delighted to announce that the **Sevenoaks Orchestra** will be visiting our school on **Thursday, 6th February**. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to experience live classical music and learn about different instruments. It promises to be an enriching and memorable event for all.

Students in Hawking 5 will be attending a performance of the acclaimed **musical 'Blood Brothers'** on **Wednesday, 5th March**. This trip will provide valuable insights into storytelling, music, and drama, enhancing their appreciation for the performing arts. More details about this trip, including timings and arrangements, will follow soon.

Get ready to celebrate the joy of reading on **Thursday, 6th March**, as we mark **World Book Day!** Students are encouraged to come to school dressed as their favourite book characters. Now is the perfect time to start brainstorming creative costume ideas—we can't wait to see the imaginative outfits on display!

Mark your calendars for **Thursday, 13th March**, when Simmonds 5 will perform Shakespeare's **'Twelfth Night'** at the Woodville Theatre as part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to shine on a professional stage and showcase their hard work and talent. Tickets will be available soon, and we encourage families to come along and support them.

On **Friday, 14th March**, we will join the global celebration of **World Pi Day**. The day will feature fun and educational maths activities and, of course, the famous number π (Pi). More details about how students can get involved will be shared closer to the date.

We hope you're as excited as we are about these upcoming events. Thank you for your ongoing support in making these opportunities possible for our students. As always, if you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Matthew Strange, B.Ed (Hons) NPQH | Principal

Phone: 01959 562156 | Mob: 07894 483673

Raising Concerns

We would like to remind parents and carers that if you have concerns about any aspect of school life, please raise these directly with the school rather than discussing them on social media. By doing so, we can address your concerns promptly and effectively.

The school is committed to listening and responding to all feedback in line with our complaints policy, which can be found on our website. Thank you for your cooperation and support in ensuring open and constructive communication.

Matthew Strange: Mobile 07894 483673 , email mstrange@valence.kent.sch.uk

Lisa Kavanagh: Mobile 079121 24724, email lkavanagh@valence.kent.sch.uk

Senior Staff On-call Rota from 11th January 2025

Contact details:

Matt Strange **07894 483673**
Lisa Kavanagh **07912 124724**
Jo Chivers **07896 905095**

2025

Date	Day	Time	DSL	DSL
11/01/25 12/01/25	Weekend	Closed		
13/01/25	Mon	07:30 to Middy	Matthew Strange	Lisa Kavanagh
		Middy to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
14/01/25	Tues	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Jo Chivers
		Middy to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
15/01/25	Wed	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Matthew Strange
		Middy to 4pm	Matthew Strange	
16/01/24	Thurs	09:00 To midday	Matthew Strange	Jo Chivers
		Middy to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
17/01/25	Fri	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed Weekend
		Middy to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	

Christmas Fayre

Thank you to all that supported us.

We raised

£1759.23

