

Valence News

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, Kent County Council (KCC) launched a consultation regarding proposed changes to post-16 school transport, set to take effect from September 2026. These changes could have a significant impact, and we strongly encourage families to carefully review the consultation details and provide their feedback. The school will be submitting an official response, but we also recommend that families of students of all ages share their views. The consultation will close on 23rd March, and further details can be found here:

//www.kent.gov.uk/post16consultation

A reminder that our first Student Progress Evening took place this week. If you were unable to book a meeting, there is still an opportunity to do so. Please contact Karen in reception via email or phone, and she will be happy to assist. Meetings for secondary students in the Simmonds and Hawking pathways are conducted online, while for primary students and those in Keller classes, meetings can be either face-to-face or online, depending on your preference.

Be sure to check out the advert in this edition for the upcoming Bingo & Quiz afternoon, hosted by the Friends of Valence. This exciting event will take place at the school on Saturday, 8th March. It promises to be a fantastic, fully inclusive event for the whole family. We hope to see many of you there!

Thank you for your continued support,

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

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News from Simmonds 1

This term Simmonds 1 topic is 'What makes someone a hero?'. Alex, Keller 2 teacher also works as an on -call firefighter and she brought in her uniform for the class to try on and she told us all about her experiences. And she also taught the students all about fire- safety.

The students found it really interesting and it was so exciting to meet a real-life hero!

Daniel liked trying on all of the uniform.

Arlo said the helmet was "very heavy and it made me laugh. I looked funny wearing it!"

Franchesca put on the boots and said they were "big and heavy! I loved Alex being a firefighter."

Connie told us she tried on the "firefighters helmet, it was big."

Margot was keen to ask Alex questions about the fire engine.









My Future





Find job opportunities and improve your employment, voluntary or community prospects with practical advice and support.

Apprenticeships

Guidance

FE Opportunities

Employment

Supported Internships

Care & Support

Advice

Grow 19,
The East Malling Centre,
Chapman Way,
East Malling
ME19 6SD

THFEBRUARY
2025
10:30AM -12:30PM
Contact: amiles@grow19.com



Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 11 February 2025

On **Tuesday 11th February** we will be joining schools and youth organisations across the UK in celebrating **Safer Internet Day 2025** with learning based around the theme 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'.

Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to help to create a better internet.

This year the campaign will be focusing on the issue of scams online and for young people, how to protect themselves and others, as well as what support is available to them. We will assess the real scale of this issue and allow young people to share their experiences and ideas on how to tackle the problem. We'll build on the important work being done to raise awareness of issues such as online financial sextortion and we'll also consider the future of scams, answering questions such as:

- How is changing technology like generative AI going to impact the approach of scammers?
- What role can the government and internet industry take to tackle this threat?
- And what changes would young people like to see to help protect themselves moving forward?

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote at Valence School, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

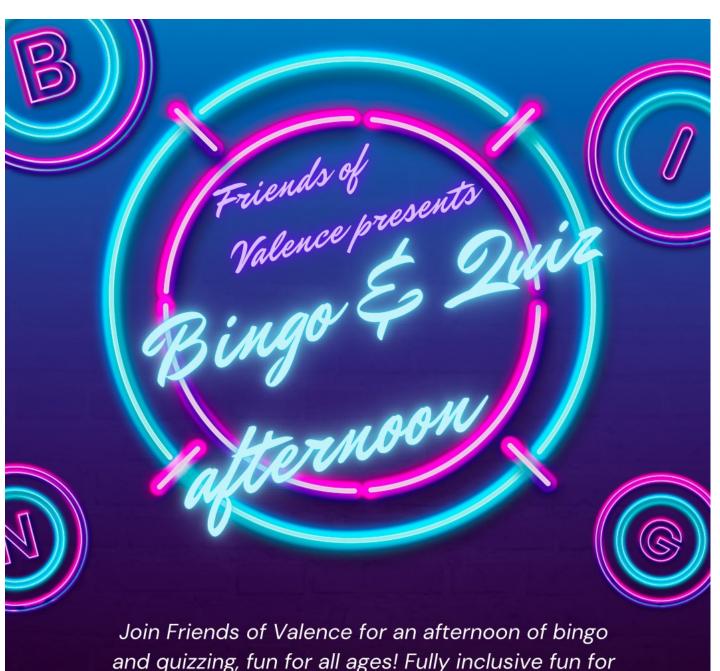


We would be delighted if you could join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home. Whether you have 5 minutes to start a conversation or an hour to spare.

To help you with this, the <u>UK</u>

<u>Safer Internet Centre</u> have created some <u>top tips for parents and carers</u>, including <u>quizzes</u> which you can use at home with your children and

young people.



Join Friends of Valence for an afternoon of bingo and quizzing, fun for all ages! Fully inclusive fun for all the family, prizes to be won, refreshments available.

SATURDAY 8TH MARCH 2025

2PM-5PM

Location: Valence School Hall

Adult entry £8, child entry £2. To purchase tickets and arrange payment please email friends@valence.kent.sch.uk. Limited spaces so book early to avoid disappointment! (Advance booking only)

Senior Staff On-call Rota from 31st January 2025

Contact details:

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

Date	Day	Time	DSL	DSL
01/02/25 02/02/25	Weekend	Closed Weekend		
03/02/25	Mon	07:30 to Midday	Matthew Strange	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
04/02/25	Tues	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	. Matthew Strange
		Midday to 4pm	Matthew Strange	
05/02/25	Wed	09:00 To midday	Matthew Strange	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
06/02/24	Thurs	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Matthew Strange
		Midday to 4pm	Matthew Strange	
07/02/25	Fri	09:00 To midday	Matthew Strange	Closed
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	

Winning Numbers for January 2025

Took place on 31st January 20245



1st	2nd	3rd
35	15	45
Eden Eady	Mark Pantry	Dallas Jones