

# Valence News



Dear Parents and Carers,

## The Valence Fireworks Are Back!

Thursday 6th November | 5:30–7:30pm | Valence Main Hall & School Drive

We're thrilled to announce the return of the Valence Fireworks Display, thanks to the generous support of Westerham Heights Garden Centre and The Shampin Restaurant.

After overwhelming support from our community, we are delighted to reinstate this much-loved event – exclusively for Valence students, staff, and their families. And best of all? It's completely free to attend!

Please note: This is a new date, different from the one previously advertised

### Event Schedule:

5:30pm – Main Hall opens

- Hot drinks, food, and delicious treats available for purchase
- Light-up toys and novelties on sale – don't forget to bring some cash!

6:10pm – Fireworks Display

- Viewing from the school drive, or stay cosy in the Main Hall with a great view from inside

After the display – Stay until 7:30pm

- Enjoy more refreshments and sample some tasty bites courtesy of The Shampin Restaurant



This special evening has been organised by the Friends of Valence, and we're so excited to welcome our Valence families for a night of fun, food, and fantastic fireworks.

A huge thank you to our sponsors, Westerham Heights Garden Centre and The Shampin, for making this event possible.

We can't wait to see you there!

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

**Valence School, Westerham Road, Westerham, Kent. TN16 1QN**

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Leading Parent Partnership Award

# News from Simmonds 1

Simmonds 1 have settled into the new school year brilliantly and have really risen to being in Year 7 and 8.

The students have all been very busy and are loving their learning.

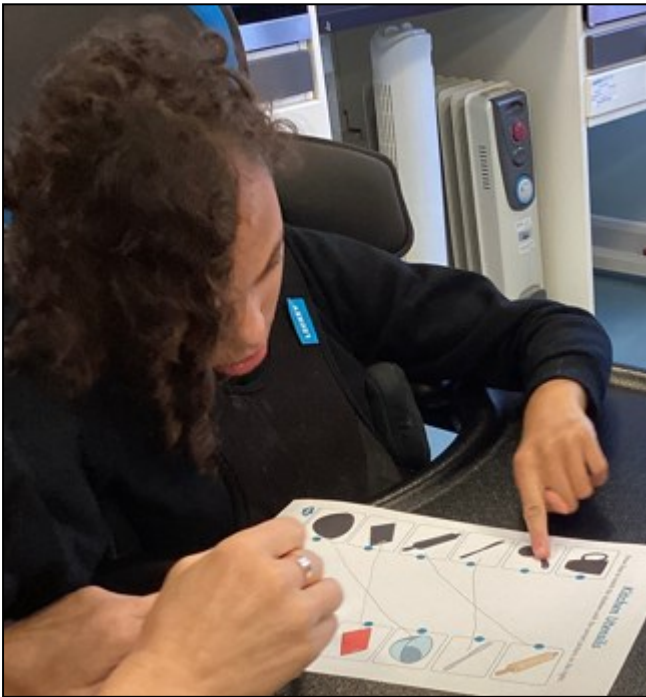
We are very proud of our Physical Management; we love going in our standers and in our walkers, as well as swimming, going on the trikes and doing our exercise programs.



S1 really love the Sensory Room too!



In our cooking lessons we've made fruit salad, practising our chopping and mixing skills; we've also been learning how to keep safe in the kitchen.



We love messy play where we get really creative! We are loving our Halloween arts and crafts! We have been full of beans practising our Harvest song, and in Art we made bouncy cable tie spiders!



S1 are also really engaging with their Makaton signing and we love watching signed stories.

Here is the link, if you'd like to watch some at home too:  
<https://www.morethanwordscharity.com/videos>



### **You're Invited!**

**A dedicated group of students from Sevenoaks School, currently volunteering at Valence, have organised the above special fundraising event in support of our school.**

**As part of their generous efforts, they have donated 20 complimentary tickets for Valence students and their families to attend. If you'd like to join in and support this fantastic initiative, please get in touch with Debbie Beaney to reserve your tickets.**



**THE SPACE**  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

PERFORMANCES AT THE SPACE  
ARE OPEN TO EVERYONE

Box office 01732 467765  
[thespacesevenoaks.co.uk/whats-on](https://thespacesevenoaks.co.uk/whats-on)

The Space Box Office  
Sevenoaks School  
Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1HU

# Wellbeing at Valence

Friday 10th October marked World Mental Health Day, and Valence took part in a number of exciting activities to celebrate and promote wellbeing across the school community.



For the third year in a row, our student representatives attended the Big Mental Health Conversation at Detling Showground, a countywide event organised by the KCC Education Team, bringing together over 20 schools from across Kent. Alongside taking part in workshops, our PE department led a *Boccia* session, co-run by student volunteers. This was a brilliant opportunity to share an accessible and inclusive sport with mainstream peers, helping to spread our message of inclusivity and accessibility. The workshop was a huge success, a big thank you to all the students and staff involved!



Back at school, Friday also saw our Student Council elections, an important part of promoting student voice and wellbeing. Across the pathways, tutor groups took part in smaller activities, sharing positive messages and reflections on mental health and kindness.

We are also delighted to announce that Valence has won a Wellbeing Award at the Kent Mental Wellbeing Awards! This whole-school achievement is a fantastic recognition of our ongoing commitment to supporting the wellbeing of both students and staff.

Members of our Staff Wellbeing Team will collect the award during the half-term break, and we look forward to sharing more details (and some photos) in Term 2.



Valence School  
enabling independence



Kent  
Mental  
Wellbeing  
Awards

kentmentalwellbeingawards.org.uk

WINNER 2025

Apollo Victoria Theatre, West End

Register your interest for **£10\*** tickets to our **Inclusive Family Day!**

This is the latest bespoke theatre-going experience, for disabled young people and their families **on Sunday 30 November 2025.**

This exclusive all-day event commences at **10am** with a **creative theatre workshop** that the whole family can enjoy, exploring the themes and story of Wicked, followed by a **Touch Tour** with the opportunity to get up-close with a selection of the props and costumes. The day will finish with an **Audio Described performance** of this multi award-winning show!

This programme is available to **families only**. **Age & Content Guidance:** 7+ The show features loud noises, flashing lights, smoke effects and strobe lighting

**Tickets are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis - we'll be in touch with details on how to book if your application is successful. Applications close on Thursday 23 October 6pm**

Go to: <https://golivetheatre.org.uk/wicked> to apply





**FRIENDS OF VALENCE  
FIREWORKS DISPLAY FOR  
STUDENTS STAFF AND FAMILIES**

**KINDLY SPONSORED BY:**

**WESTERHAM HEIGHTS GARDEN CENTRE  
THE SHAMPAN - WESTERHAM**

**17:30 - 19:30 THURSDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**

# Owl Class had great fun on their Bowling trip!





*Join us for the*

*Valence*  
CHRISTMAS

FAYRE

DECEMBER

| 7th |

12PM-4PM

STALLS . ENTERTAINMENT . REFRESHMENTS  
FATHER CHRISTMAS

ENTRY FREE

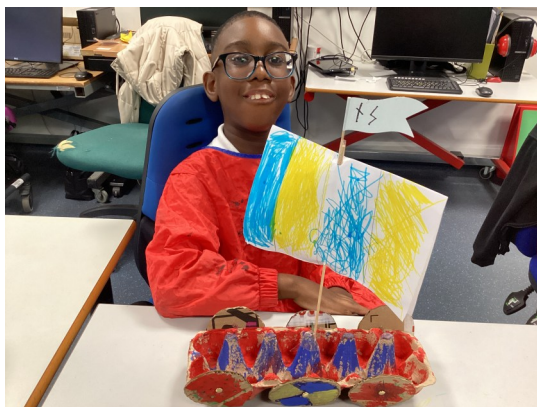
£4 FATHER CHRISTMAS VISIT INC. GIFT

PLEASE EMAIL  
FRIENDS@VALENCE.KENT.SCH.UK  
FOR MORE INFORMATION

VALENCE SCHOOL, WESTERHAM, TN16 1QN

# Vikings

This half term, Deer Class thoroughly enjoyed exploring the fascinating world of the Vikings. We discovered where the Vikings came from and why they travelled, delved into their everyday lives, and even learned how to decipher the rune alphabet! In Art and Design Technology, we brought the Viking era to life through a range of exciting projects. The children created impressive longboats using junk modelling, sculpted detailed figureheads out of clay using cross-hatching techniques, and made Viking shields and coins while practising their shading skills. We also had great fun making braided bracelets inspired by Viking designs.



## Senior Staff On-call Rota from 17th October 2025

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

Date	Day	Time	DSL	DSL
17/10/25	Friday	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Closed for Half Term
		Midday to 4pm	Matt Strange	
27/10/25	Monday	07:30 To midday		Closed for Half Term
		Midday to 4pm		
28/10/25	Tuesday	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Matt Strange
		Midday to 4pm	Matt Strange	
29/10/25	Wednesday	09:00 To midday	Matt Strange	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
30/10/25	Thursday	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Matt Strange
		Midday to 4pm	Matt Strange	
31/10/25	Friday	09:00 To midday	Matt Strange	Closed for Half Term
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	



Every Monday in November is a Christmas Fair Donation Day  
in exchange to wear non school uniform

**We would like the following:**

**Food for Christmas Hampers such as biscuits, chocolate, crisps, sweets, preserves, mince pies, Christmas cakes etc. alcohol, wine, cans of cocktails, spirits etc., nice gift toiletries**

**(Food items must still be in date for Christmas),**