

Valence News

Vice Principal's Update – Celebrating a Vibrant Arts Day!

Dear Parents, Carers and School Community,

Last Thursday, 20th November, our school was alive with colour, creativity and celebration as we hosted our much-anticipated Arts Day, inspired by the rich culture of Mexico. Every Primary class, along with our wonderful Keller Class, took part in a carousel of hands-on workshops designed to spark curiosity and imagination.



Students enjoyed a high-energy Mexican dance session led by Zest Dance, filling the hall with rhythm, enthusiasm and plenty of smiles and throughout the day, classes moved through a series of themed activities, including Mexican cookery—where fresh ingredients and new skills filled the building—alongside music sessions exploring festival traditions and a lively introduction to Spanish vocabulary and phrases. The carousel concluded with a colourful arts and crafts workshop, where pupils created vibrant pieces inspired by Mexican folk art.



A heartfelt thank-you to all staff for your creativity, teamwork and dedication in delivering such an engaging and joyful experience. Your hard work ensured our pupils enjoyed a rich, memorable day of learning.

As we look ahead, a gentle reminder that there is still time to volunteer for our Christmas Fair on 07.12.25 (see page 9). Your support would be greatly appreciated. Email friends@valence.kent.sch.uk

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable week., Warm regards

Lisa Kavanagh
Vice Principal



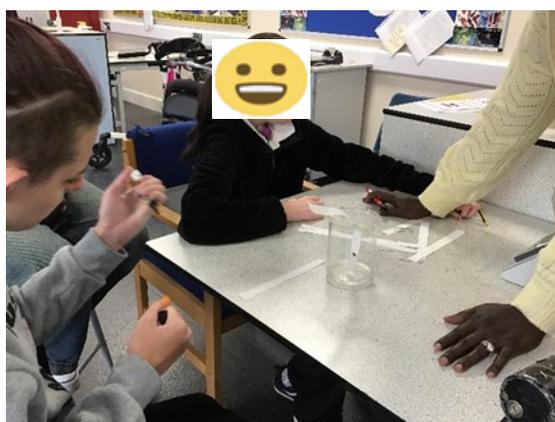
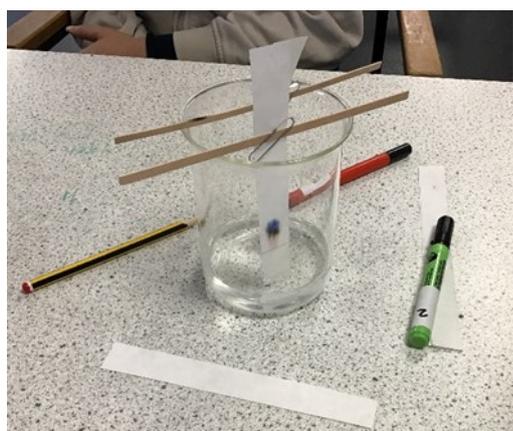
Weston Park, Kent TN16 1QN t 01959 562156 f 01959 565046 e valence@valence.kent.sch.uk www.valenceschool.com



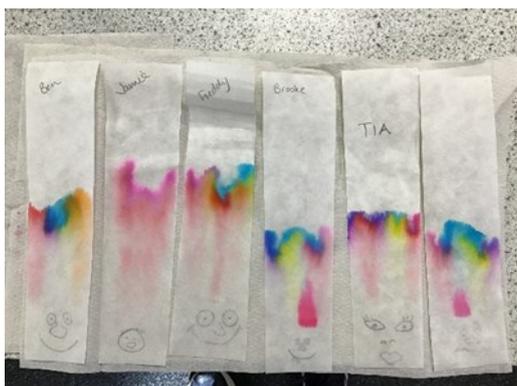
This week, our science labs were buzzing with activity as students explored separation techniques. We've had all the equipment out, embracing a truly hands-on approach. Students had a fantastic time using it to tackle mixtures or various substances. They successfully separated sand, salt and iron using magnetism, dissolving and evaporation, revealing how solubility plays a crucial role.



Colourful experiments with chromatography showed them how different pigments travel at different rates across paper, leading to some surprising patterns and funny hair styles!



Finally, they used a series of steps to isolate pure salt from rock salt, applying techniques like filtration and crystallisation. It was a great session that not only introduced them to essential lab skills but also brought the principles of chemistry to life.



News From Hawking 2

This term, the students in Hawking 2 have been busy creating two fabulous maths displays that showcase their hard work and growing confidence. They have been exploring both 2D and 3D shapes, developing a strong understanding of mathematical terminology and how to apply it.



Their learning has included investigating area and volume, as well as experimenting with transformations such as reflections, rotations, and translations. The displays highlight not only their mathematical knowledge, but also their creativity and teamwork.

Well done to all of Hawking 2 for their enthusiasm and effort – your hard work really shows!





Valence School Primary classes are all named after animals that you find in our school grounds. They have used this as the theme for their Christmas tree.

Fox class are the youngest students at the school, they enjoyed having their hands drawn round but it did tickle a bit. They chose the eyes for their foxes by pointing and reaching or asking.

Rabbit class students have enjoyed choosing different materials and designs to help create Christmas ornaments for the tree in the church. As a class they tried their best to turn the ornaments into rabbit shapes to help reflect the name of our class.

Hedgehog class really enjoyed making their Christmas decorations, choosing sparkly and colourful snowflakes for the hedgehog prickles.

Owl Class loved getting messy creating their Owl Christmas ornaments. The students chose all the colours themselves using their communication devices. We hope you like them, Twit Two!

Deer class thoroughly enjoyed making the Christmas tree decorations. First, we cut out shapes from an old egg box, then we painted them brown. Once it dried, we stuck a red pompom for its noes and some dry lavender sticks for its antlers.

All the primary students would like to wish you a **Merry Christmas**





Healthcare Update – November 2025

Our Healthcare Team continues to go from strength to strength, achieving outstanding results and ensuring the very best care for our students at Valence.

Highlights & Achievements

- **Named Nurse Allocation:** Each class now has a dedicated nurse, providing more personalised care and support.
- **99.8% Intervention Accuracy:** A fantastic achievement reflecting our commitment to safety and excellence.
- **Ongoing Professional Training:** Continuous development through both internal and external sessions, covering: *Diabetes • Tracheostomy • Medication Management • Gastrostomy • Infection Control • Emergency Medication Administration • Cough Assist • Catheterisation*, and more.
- **Sepsis Awareness:** Delivered focused training and awareness sessions throughout November. We're proud to have a **permanent, highly skilled nursing team** and **outstanding HCAs** who make a remarkable difference in the lives of our students every day.

Looking Ahead

As we approach the festive season, our focus remains on growth, safety, and excellence.

Our upcoming plans include:

- Advanced training in **Paediatric Basic Life Support (Tracheostomy), Long-Term Ventilation, and Transcription.**
- Continued induction of new staff in **Medication** and **Gastrostomy Administration,**
- Additional **Awareness Days** for students and staff.

Clinical Updates & Reminders

To help us provide the safest and most effective care, please take note of the following:

- **Clinical Changes:** Notify the nursing team of any updates to medication, feeds, procedures, or care plans *before* your child returns to school.
- **Post-Surgery Care:** For planned surgeries, please inform us in advance. A **Health Day review** will be required before your child returns.
- **Blended Diets:** Label all containers with the **date/time prepared or defrosted, ingredients,** and **initials** of the person who prepared it.
- **Half Tablets:** Ensure tablets are scored before sending in. Supply sufficient medication to account for any discarded halves, per policy.
- **Pharmacy Labels:** Must clearly state dose, strength, and frequency

- **Medication Consent Forms:** Required annually. If you need a new form, please contact the nursing team.

Your cooperation ensures our students remain safe, supported, and thriving.

Thank You

We're incredibly proud of everything the Healthcare Team continues to achieve — and we look forward to sharing more updates soon. For any questions or support, please get in touch:

✉ nurses@valence.kent.sch.uk

☎ Extension 1320 / 1600

Sophie Haigh—*Nurse Manager*

100 CLUB
Valence School

Monthly Draw

Draw on: 27th November 2025

1st - No.10 Kim Rees
2nd - No.31 Brian Davies
3rd - No.11 Jen Church

You could be the next winner
For More Information email:
friends@valence.kent.sch.uk

Could Your Child Be Eligible for Free School Meals?

Your application could bring extra funding to our school!



We're encouraging all families to check if their child may be eligible for **Free School Meals (FSM)**. Even if your child already receives universal infant meals in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, **completing an FSM application can provide the school with additional Pupil Premium funding.**

This extra funding helps us to offer:

- Additional teaching and learning support
- Extra resources and enrichment opportunities
- Subsidised trips, clubs and activities
- Pastoral and wellbeing support

These benefits make a real difference to all pupils across the school.

Applying is quick, simple and confidential, and many families are surprised to learn they qualify.

If you think you may be eligible, or simply want to check, please visit

[Apply for free school meals](http://apply.cloudforeduc.org.uk/ofsm/kent) or [http0s://apply.cloudforeduc.org.uk/ofsm/kent](http://apply.cloudforeduc.org.uk/ofsm/kent)

or contact the school office. We're very happy to help with the process.

Thank you for supporting our school community!

Valence Christmas Raffle

£1 A TICKET BUY NOW AT

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/valence-christmas-raffle-2025>

WITH MANY EXCITING PRIZES INCLUDING

- DOMINIC WALMSLEY EARRINGS
- MANICURE/PDICURE VOUCHER
- PROSECCO & WINE
- EMMA COLE SKIN VOUCHER
- 2 WAGAMAMA VOUCHEHS
- WATER COLOUR SET
- £25 COOK VOUCHER
- GAIL'S ARTISAN COOKBOOK
- PETS CORNER 2KG FOOD VOUCHER
- FREE MAIN ZIZZI'S VOUCHER
- AND
- MANY, MANY, MORE

TO BE DRAWN AT THE CHRISTMAS
FAYRE ON 7TH DECEMBER 2025
AT 3.15PM

If we get severe weather at Valence, parents and transport will receive a text message early in the morning informing them of the condition of the school site and if we will be closing or have a delayed start.





Join us for the

Valence
CHRISTMAS

FAYRE

DECEMBER

| 7th |

12PM-4PM

STALLS . ENTERTAINMENT . REFRESHMENTS
FATHER CHRISTMAS

ENTRY FREE

£4 FATHER CHRISTMAS VISIT INC. GIFT

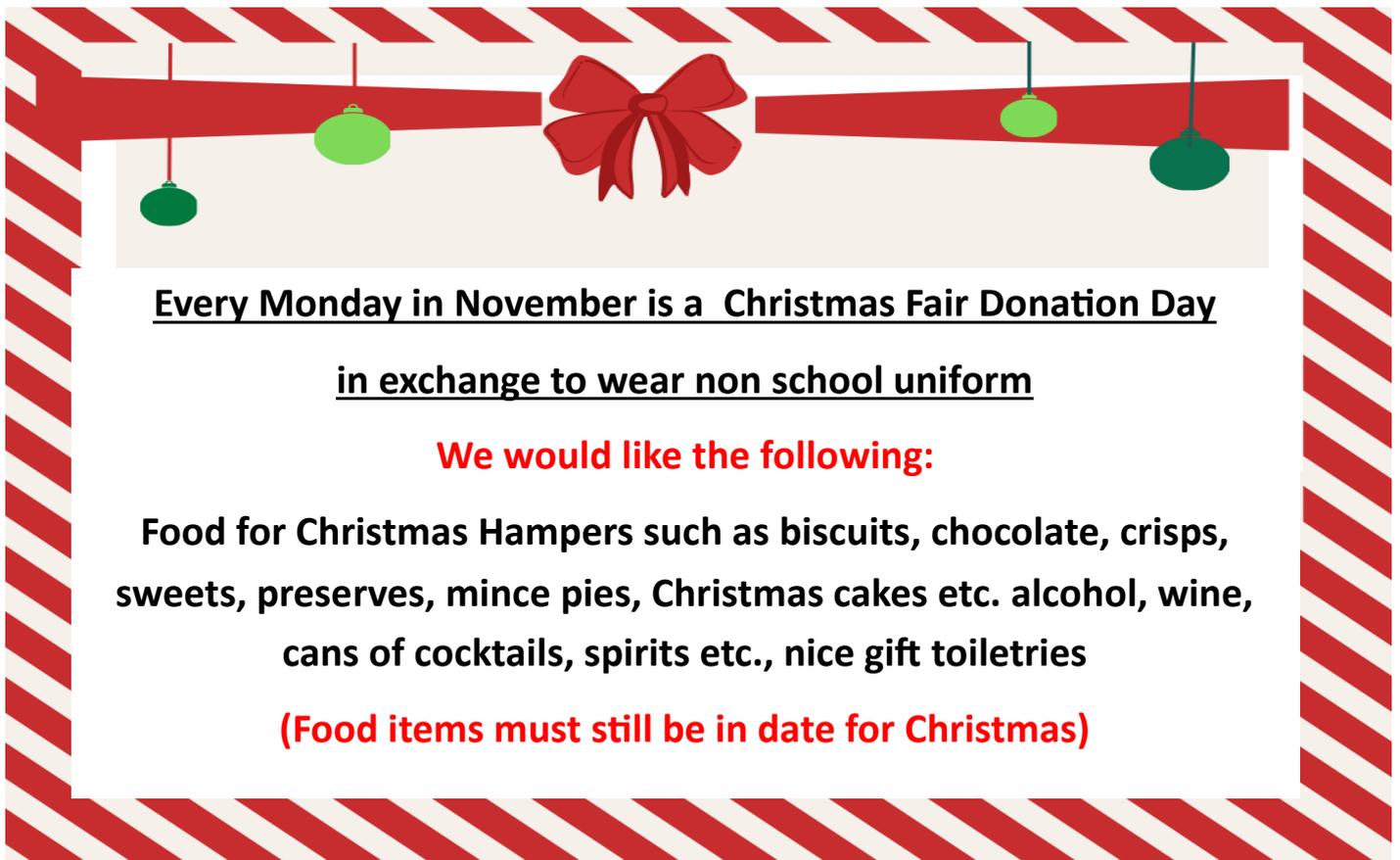
PLEASE EMAIL
FRIENDS@VALENCE.KENT.SCH.UK
FOR MORE INFORMATION

VALENCE SCHOOL, WESTERHAM, TN16 1QN

Senior Staff On-call Rota from 28th November 2025

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

Date	Day	Time	DSL	DSL
28/11/25	Friday	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
01/12/25	Monday	07:30 To midday	Jo Chivers	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
02/12/25	Tuesday	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
03/12/25	Wednesday	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
04/12/25	Thursday	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
05/12/25	Friday	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed
		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)