



Valence News



A Wonderful Week of Festive Community Spirit

Dear Parents, Carers and School Community,

This week marked another memorable moment in our school calendar as our Primary students delivered a brilliant performance of their Nativity play, 'Knock Knock'. The hall was packed with families, and it was wonderful to see so many parents and carers joining us to celebrate the children's hard work. Their enthusiasm, confidence and festive cheer set a fantastic tone for the season.



We are also delighted to share the success of last Sunday's School Christmas Fayre, which raised over £3,000 for the school. A heartfelt thank you to the Friends of Valence Committee for organising such a well-run and enjoyable event. Their ongoing dedication to fundraising plays an invaluable role in supporting our school community.



Our gratitude also goes to all students, staff and visitors who helped run stalls, volunteered their time, or came along to support the fayre. It was truly a whole-community effort, and the results speak for themselves.



The Friends Committee is always keen to welcome new members. If you would like to get involved, the AGM and Committee Meeting will be held on Monday evening, 15.12.25, from 7pm. All are welcome.

Wishing everyone a calm, enjoyable and relaxing weekend.

Lisa Kavanagh | Vice Principal – Safeguarding & Social Care

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Leading Parent Partnership Award

2024-2027



Owl Class have loved getting Messy!!



Keller Term 2

The students in Keller have created resources for their sensory story 'Fox's favourite Autumn' by Fiona Barker and Christine Pym. Each week the story was read to them and after, added bit by bit, page by page tactile objects or images to support them.

We collected leaves from the background that made a scrunching sound when crushed, we went on a colour woodland walk to support Fox with his favourite autumn colours. The Keller students made lanterns to help fox keep daylight for longer and tried to help fox stick leaves back onto the trees as he didn't want Autumn to finish.

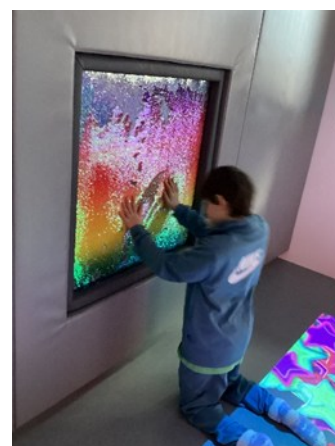


Rabbit class overview term 1 & 2

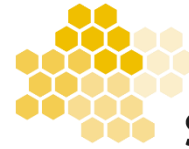
Across the first two terms , Rabbit class have been completing many different activities. The students always look forward to their time in the sensory room where they get to explore the sequin wall, the cause-and-effect games as well as the coloured voice recognition and bubble walls. In physical management.

We have been trying new activities which involve encouraging the students to work on their fine motor skills by having to reach through tape to grab some balls through the gaps, or to pull items off their trays which have been stuck down.

For letter of the day, the students have been exploring different sensory textures such as jelly. As always our students love their cooking lessons where we have been making a variety of things from cheese straws to banana muffins.

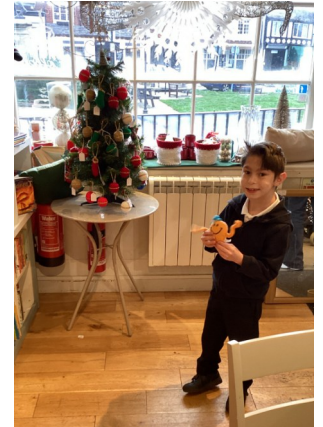


News from the Simmonds Pathway



Semi-Formal Simmonds Classes

Well done Simmonds on a great start to the new academic year. A lot has happened in Terms 1 and 2 such as a trip to Valence on the Green, St Mary's Church in Westerham and Bluewater, Studying Harry Potter, making jam and building upon independent living and finance skills.



News from S1

Simmonds 1 achieved the highest number of merits across Key Stage 3 classes in Term 1 and earned a reward trip to Valence on the Green, where they also purchased items for their classroom including numerous Christmas decorations.



In Term 2, we welcomed **David** into Simmonds 1. David has settled in well, making new friends and getting stuck into the class activities. Here is David making patterned bowls with clay.

Recently, in Cooking S1, made Pizza Toast.

Here you can see **Faith** adding cheese to her topping. These creative dishes looked delicious and were a big hit!

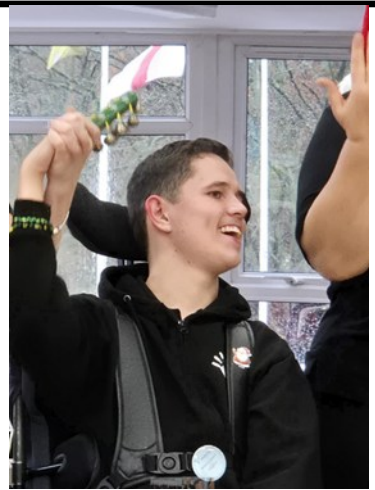


News from Humanities

In Humanities Simmonds 3 and 4 have been learning about places of worship for the six major religions of the world. As part of the unit the students visited St Mary's Church in Westerham to identify some of the religious objects and artefacts that we had been learning about in class.

News from Callum

Callum, Simmonds 3, and the Show of Hands BSL Signing Choir performed at our Christmas Fair on Sunday 7th December. Callum has been a member of Show of Hands for a number of years now. Well done Callum!



News from Independence

In Term 1 Simmonds 3 and 4 focused on a variety of independent living skills.

Here you can see Oliver (S4) cleaning a window.



The student also had a visit from Sophie Haigh (Nurse Manager) to demonstrate how to administer first aid. Here you can see Sophie applying a bandage to Talleulah from S3.

NB: No students were harmed during the first aid demonstration.

Over the past two weeks S3 and S4 have visited Bluewater to complete a shopping challenge as part of their current unit on Finance. The students spent a number of lessons, researching, budgeting and planning what they were going to buy from a directed shopping list and within a set budget.

Callum in S3 discussing his shopping list with his Keyworker, Kirsty Peacock.



Sasha (S4) buying a t-shirt.

Tim Longthorne
Simmonds Pathway Lead



This term, we enrolled 26 students onto the Duke of Edinburgh Award—a fantastic opportunity to develop resilience, leadership, and community spirit.

16 students across Hawking 4 and 5 and Simmonds 3 and 4 have started their Bronze Award journey.



9 students across Hawking 6, Simmond 3 and 4 are starting their Silver Award.

Students have already started planning activities for their different sections, including charity work, volunteering around the school, drama clubs, and cooking courses. We can't wait to see the amazing achievements these students will accomplish!

Tim Longthorne
Duke of Edinburgh Leader

Senior Staff On-call Rota from 12th December 2025



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



Date	Day	Time	DSL	DSL
12/12/25	Friday	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
15/12/25	Monday	07:30 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
16/12/25	Tuesday	07:30 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
17/12/25	Wednesday	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
18/12/25	Thursday	07:30 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
19/12/25	Friday	07:30 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed for Christmas
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	

