

Valence News



A Week of Change and Renewal at Valence

There has been no mistaking it this week—the weather has well and truly turned. After a prolonged spell of dry conditions, the arrival of heavy rain, hail, and even the occasional rumble of thunder brought a dramatic shift to our surroundings. At times, the downpours felt almost biblical, with both staff and students doing their best to dodge the showers as they moved around the site.

While the weather may have tested our resilience, it has also brought a welcome transformation to the school environment. Nowhere is this more evident than on the front field, which has shifted almost overnight from a dusty, hay-coloured expanse to a vibrant, lush green.

Amidst the unpredictable weather, the focus and determination of our students has remained unwavering. Examinations have continued throughout the week, and we are proud of the resilience and commitment students have shown during this important period. At the same time, our attention is already beginning to turn toward the future. Preparations for transition are now underway, and significant work has begun to shape next year's curriculum and class structures to ensure we continue to meet the needs of all students.

This week also saw school leaders come together to begin reviewing our School Development Plan, which is approaching the end of its current two-year cycle. This is an important moment for reflection as well as ambition. We have been identifying key priorities that will ensure Valence continues to grow and develop, building on our strengths while embracing new opportunities for improvement. We firmly believe that we should never stand still; there is always more to learn, refine, and enhance. I look forward to sharing these priorities with you once they are finalised.

A key part of our ongoing development is ensuring that staff feel supported, valued, and motivated in their work. Recent staff surveys have provided very encouraging feedback in this regard. In our most recent survey, 94% of staff agreed or strongly agreed with the statement: "I enjoy working at Valence." This is something we are extremely proud of. Over the past year, we have invested significant time and energy into supporting staff wellbeing and mental health. We recognise that the best outcomes for our young people are only possible when our staff feel supported and able to perform at their best.

Alongside this, we will also be providing further information about the transition process as it unfolds over the next few weeks, ensuring that students and families feel informed and confident about the next steps in their journey with us.

As we head into the weekend, the forecast suggests another shift in the weather—this time toward more traditional summer conditions. We hope this brings opportunities for everyone to enjoy the outdoors and take in the renewed vibrancy of our surroundings after this week's dramatic transformation.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

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

Phone: 01959 562156 | Mob: 07894 483673

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



H6 News

H6 have been diligently working towards their assessments and exams this term, sitting lots of qualifications from A Levels to functional skills. They have really impressed us with their hard work and dedication, attending revision sessions after school.

Now the last exams for them are finished they are beginning to look to the future and for many of their next steps. These last few weeks are filled with activities including a class trip to Brighton.

The words below are written by Rachel to capture H6's feelings at this pivotal time in many of their journeys.

New Chapters

As a year 14 student, I am currently in the process, alongside many of my other peers, of getting ready to transition to our next stage of life. Over the next few weeks, we will be participating in many activities such as the 'Leavers Prom', 'Leavers weeks' and a 'Leavers Barbeque'. This is an exciting and important part of our Valence journey as it helps us to commemorate and reflect on where our school journeys have led us to now. This time can be filled with mixed emotions of feeling scared, happy and excited for what is to come as well as sadness. One of my favourite phrases is 'When one door closes another one opens' this is really important to remember as despite all of the sadness and fear that can be felt, there is a new chapter to be explored with lots of new opportunities and adventures to be had. I am excited to see what our futures have in store for us all.

Reminder for Parents/Carers: Free School Meals – please apply!

Just a quick reminder to apply for **Free School Meals**, if you think you might be eligible. Even if your child already gets a meal at school, registering really helps. It means:

- your child can get **free, nutritious meals**
- the school receives **additional funding**, which helps pay for resources, staff, and enrichment activities that benefit all pupils

Applying is **quick and confidential**. If you're unsure whether you qualify, it's still worth checking – many families are eligible and don't know it. Thank you for your support – it really does make a difference to our school community. If you need help applying, please speak to Reception.

V A L E N C E S C H O O L

ART EXHIBITION



**PRIVATE VIEWING
FOR FAMILIES/ FRIENDS**

**15
JULY**

VALENCE SCHOOL
LARGE PLC

**FOR A PLACE ON THE
GUESTLIST**

**& TO FIND OUT MORE
INFO**

EMAIL:

SDARR@VALENCE.KENT.SCH.UK

FREE ENTRY

SUNDAY 28 JUNE 2026

10:00 - 16:00

VALENCE SCHOOL
WESTERHAM
TN16 1QN



AUTOSOLO - DISPLAY
PADDOCK - BAR
FOOD - ENTERTAINMENT
KIDS ACTIVITIES

FESTIVAL OF MOTORING

ADULT SPECTATOR £7.50

CHILD SPECTATOR (4-16) £5.00

**FAMILY (2 ADULTS AND UP
TO 4 CHILDREN) £20.00**



**MORE
INFO**

**SCAN
ME!**



Do you have a vintage,
performance or unique car
that you wish to display in the
paddock?

book now via email below

£15 PER CAR

To include up to 5 people

Book early via email as places limited:
friends@valence.kent.sch.uk





Sports Day 2026

Save the date! Further to our communications sent out before the half term holidays, we wanted to remind our wonderful parents and guardians that next week we will have our sports days. On Thursday 18th June, we have Simmonds 1-4 and Hawking 1-5 taking part in a carousel of activities on the top lawn. Hawking 6 students will be supporting the younger students as sports leaders on the day. On Friday 19th June we have all Primary and Keller classes taking part. Both mornings the Friends of Valence will be selling refreshments to keep you full and hydrated. We will be welcoming parents onto site from 10am onwards with an anticipated finish time of around midday. If you wish to attend, please email reception@valence.kent.sch.uk to let us know who will be coming and the class you will be supporting. More details will be sent out to those who have responded at the beginning of next week.

We look forward to seeing you at what will be a fun, and inclusive morning will be to celebrate physical activity and competition at Valence School!

Best wishes,

Ryan Beasant

Subject Lead for Sport and PE.



Still time to sponsor us



I'm supporting
Valence Buoy Channel Swim

Scan the QR code to find out more

Senior Staff On-call Rota from 5h June 2026

Matt Strange **07894 483673**
Lisa Kavanagh **07912 124724**
Jo Chivers **07896 905095**
Kate Bayman **07827 961903**

Date	Day	Time	DSL	DSL
12/06/26	Friday	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
15/06/26	Monday	09:00 To midday	Matt Strange	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
16/06/26	Tuesday	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Matt Strange
		Midday to 4pm	Matt Strange	
17/06/26	Wednesday	09:00 To midday	Matt Strange	Kate Bayman
		Midday to 4pm	Kate Bayman	
18/06/26	Thursday	09:00 To midday	Kate Bayman	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
19/06/26	Friday	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	