

Valence News



A Reflection on Term One at Valence

As we begin to draw Term One to a close, it is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on what has been a positive and successful start to the academic year at Valence School.

We are incredibly proud of all our students for the way they have settled back into school life and embraced the opportunities that the new term has brought. Returning after the summer break can be a significant transition for many young people, but our students have approached it with enthusiasm, resilience and determination.

It has also been fantastic to see our students enjoying a wide range of community visits and social opportunities throughout the term. Students have visited Bluewater, enjoyed trips to the cinema and taken part in outings to The Range to collect decorations for our annual Halloween competition. These experiences not only provide enjoyment and enrichment but also help students develop their confidence, independence and social skills within the wider community.

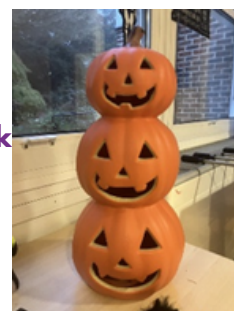
As we move towards the end of term, there is still plenty to look forward to. Our Harvest Festival will provide an opportunity to come together and celebrate the season, while pumpkin carving activities and our Residential Halloween Competition are always highlights on the school calendar. We are looking forward to seeing the creativity, teamwork and enthusiasm that our students bring to these events.

As a school community, we would also like to take this opportunity to say goodbye to Ben Y10. Ben and his family will be relocating, and whilst we will miss him, we wish him every happiness and success for the future. We thank him for being part of the Valence community and hope that the move goes smoothly for the whole family.

Finally, we would like to thank our families for their continued support throughout the term. The partnership between home and school plays such an important role in helping our students achieve their full potential, and we value the encouragement and commitment shown by parents and carers every day.

As we look ahead to the remainder of the academic year, we are excited about the opportunities still to come. For now, we would like to congratulate every student on the fantastic start they have made. Their hard work, positive attitudes and achievements continue to make us immensely proud, and we look forward to celebrating even more success together in the months ahead.

Kate Bayman - Vice Principal Teaching and Learning



Education Team Updates

Jedd Lloyd – Assistant Principal (Students)

It was lovely to welcome families into school for our New Parents' Afternoon earlier this term. The event gave parents the opportunity to meet pathway leads, see learning environments and find out more about life at Valence.

Students really enjoyed showing their families around and sharing some of the work they have been doing since the start of term. It was a great opportunity for everyone to get to know one another and begin building the strong partnerships that are so important between home and school.

Kirsty McIntosh – Assistant Principal (Curriculum)

As we approach the end of our first term, I would like to thank our students and staff for making it such a positive start to the academic year.

Across the school, students have been busy engaging in a wide range of learning experiences and have settled well into classroom routines. It has been fantastic to see them developing confidence, independence and new skills in their lessons.

There has been a real sense of enthusiasm around learning this term, with students embracing new challenges and taking pride in their achievements. We are looking forward to building on this strong start as the year progresses.

Amy Glover – Primary and Keller Pathway Lead

It has been a busy and exciting start to the year for our Primary and Keller students.

Following our move into new classrooms over the summer, students have settled into their new environments brilliantly. They have adapted well to the changes and have quickly made the spaces their own.

Our topic this term has been Marvellous Me, giving students the chance to explore their own identities and celebrate what makes them unique. They have particularly enjoyed creating self-portraits, which now brighten classrooms throughout the pathway.

We are also excited to be working alongside Friends of Valence on plans to improve the Primary playground, helping to create even more opportunities for outdoor learning and play.

continued.....

Preparations are already underway for our Primary Nativity, and we are looking forward to sharing this special event with families later in the term.

Ian Hayward – Simmonds Pathway Lead

The new academic year has got off to a fantastic start across the Simmonds Pathway.

Students have been enjoying a wide range of activities including phonics, numeracy, science, art, gardening, PE, swimming and independence learning. It has been great to see them settling into routines, building relationships and engaging so positively with their learning.

We are particularly looking forward to our end-of-term Simmonds Assembly, where we will celebrate students' achievements and recognise the effort they have put into their learning throughout the term. A Star of the Term will also be awarded in each class.

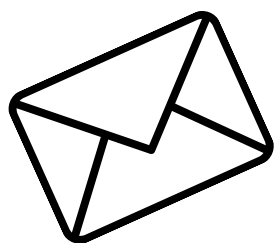
Tim Longthorne – Hawking Pathway Lead

The Hawking Pathway has made a positive start to the year, with students settling quickly into routines and embracing the opportunities available to them.

Our Year 7 students deserve a special mention for how well they have adapted to life at Valence. They have approached every new experience with enthusiasm and have become valued members of the school community in a very short time.

Students will soon be voting for their new Student Council representatives, and we would like to wish all candidates the very best of luck.

Meanwhile, students in Hawking 6 have been putting their independence skills into practice through community-based learning. A recent visit to Valence on the Green saw them purchase a pasta-making machine, and they have already begun producing their own fresh pasta. We are all looking forward to seeing what they create next!



Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, and Volunteers,

The Friends of Valence AGM will be being held on Wednesday 11th November at 7pm in the school building. As parents, carers, staff and volunteers of Valence School you are automatically members of FoV and are entitled and welcome to attend. At the meeting we will discuss the achievements of the last year and the goals set going forwards, and also nominate and vote on the committee named roles where appropriate.

The named roles of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer are all held for a two-year term. At present there are two persons acting as co-chair and two persons acting as co-secretary.

At the last AGM one co-chair and one co-secretary were voted in, and the people holding those roles are happy to continue into the second year of their term. However, the people holding the other co-chair and co-secretary roles plus the person holding the role of treasurer were all voted in two years ago. This means that their terms have reached their conclusion and that these positions are available to stand for if anyone so wishes.

If you wish to stand as co-chair, co-secretary, or treasurer you must email friends@valence.kent.sch.uk no less than 7 days before the meeting.

We hope to see you there.

**Kind regards,
FoV committee**



www.valenceschool.com



01959 562156



friends@valence.kent.sch.uk



The Christmas Card Project

This term we have decided to organise an exciting design-your-own Christmas Card project with SchoolPrintWorld.co.uk to raise funds for the school while encouraging creativity and artistic flair in our children! The Christmas Card designs will be professionally printed with your child's artwork on the front and their name on the back.

Your children are busy creating fabulous artwork as we speak which can be turned into a range of professionally printed products. Looking for gifts like personalised candles, mugs, cards, gift labels and more? Then hang fire until you get your order form through, so you can order direct. We'll let you know when your order forms are being sent out so you can know to expect them.

One of our fantastic students, Connor E has helped to design this newsletter for parents. He said 'Please support us as it will help our art department, and it has been fun for the students to do!'



School Uniform Orders



Our school uniform prices have increased slightly. Please use the Uniform Order Form and return to Reception.

The Order form is attached to this week's newsletter email and can also be found on the school website in the parents folder.

Thank you

FALL

Into giving

As the seasons change, why not pass on the items you no longer need? Whether it's;

-  books
-  toys
-  clothes
-  homeware
-  gifts

Your pre-loved items can find a new home and help raise funds for Valence School.

CLEAR OUT, GIVE BACK AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS AUTUMN

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Senior Staff On-call Rota from 12th October 2026

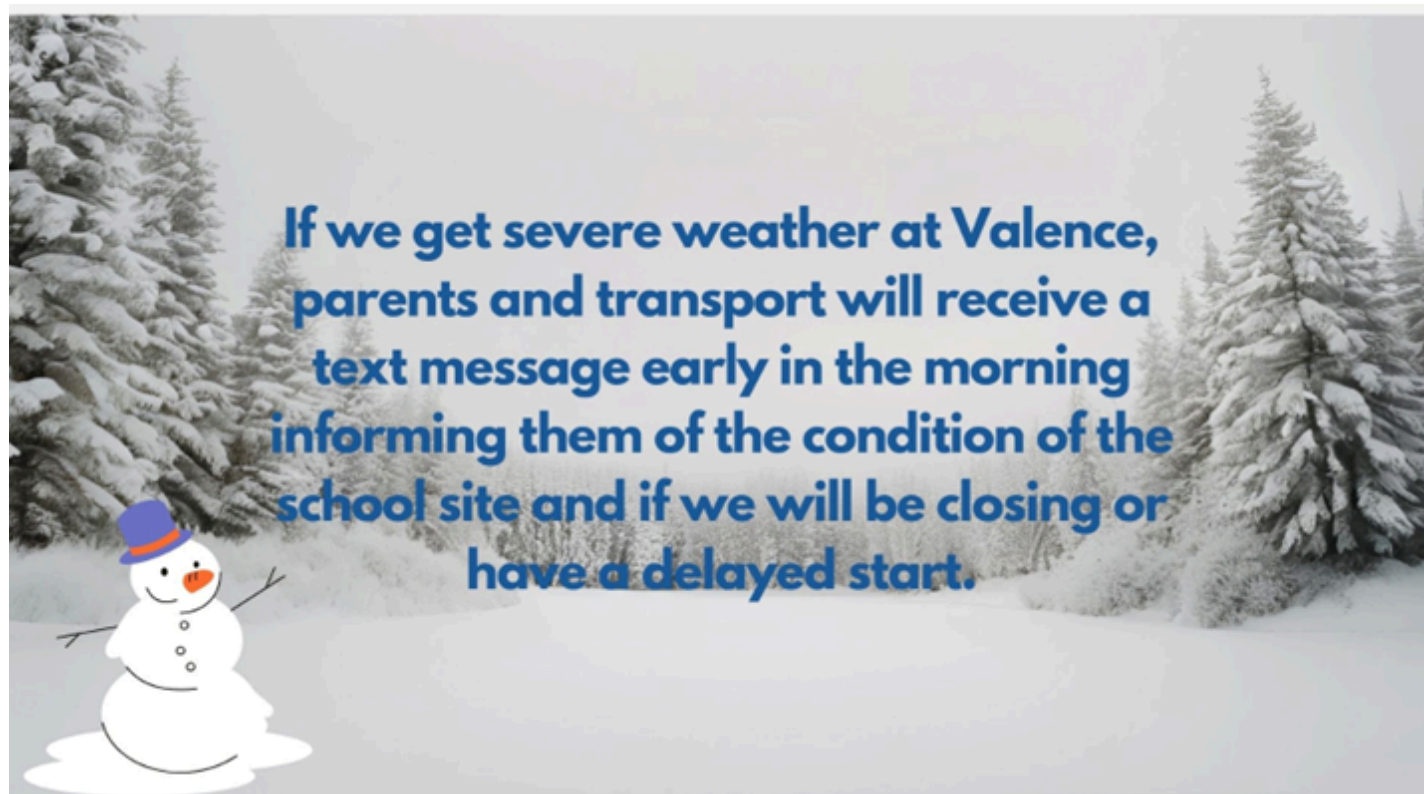
Matt Strange 07894 483673

Lisa Kavanagh 07912 124724

Kate Bayman 07827 961903

Jo Chivers 07896 905095

Date	Day	Time	DSL	DSL overnight
12/10/2026	Monday	09:00 To midday	Matt Strange	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
13/10/26	Tuesday	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
14/10/26	Wednesday	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Kate Bayman
		Midday to 4pm	Kate Bayman	
15/10/26	Thursday	09:00 To midday	Kate Bayman	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
16/10/26	Friday	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	





4.11.26

Friends of Valence Fireworks Display

For Students, Staff & Families

Valence School - Wed 4th Nov 2026

5:30pm - 7:30pm

Glow Toys

Food and Drink

Kindly Sponsored by:

Westerham Heights Garden Centre

The Shampán - Westerham



Friends of Valence Calendar of Events



Valence School

for this year

4th November

Wednesday 5.30 - 7.30pm

Bonfire and fireworks

ohhh!



6th December

1.00 - 4.00pm

Christmas party

with entertainment, games, refreshments, raffle and you can meet Father Christmas.



28th February

Sunday 2.00 - 5.00pm

Family Bingo and Quiz



1st March

Start of the

Easter raffle



20th March

Time tbc
Saturday

Easter egg hunt

on the woodland walk



19th May

Wednesday

Valence golf day



17th and 18th June

Thursday & Friday

Valence sports day(s)



27th June

Sunday

Festival of Motoring



17th July

Saturday 12.00 - 4.00pm

Valence summer fair



Come along to one of our social events
where you can meet other parents and their families
and share the one thing you have in common...

Valence School

