27th November 2026 / Series 32/ Issue no 13

Valence News

As the darker evenings draw in and December approaches, Christmas has certainly arrived early at Valence this year! I have noticed decorations appearing across the school, with many classrooms and bungalows already looking wonderfully festive. Judging by what we are seeing in our local communities, we are certainly not alone in getting into the Christmas spirit a little earlier than usual this year!

This week also saw the arrival of the school Christmas trees, kindly funded by the Friends of Valence. Alongside the trees for school, a special tree has been sent to St Mary's Church, Westerham, to be displayed as part of the annual Festival of Christmas Trees. Our tree was beautifully decorated by the team from Valence on the Green, with decorations reflecting the life and spirit of our school community.



The Festival of Christmas Trees opens this evening (27 November) at 5.00pm and features trees created by local community groups and businesses. The festival will be open to visitors daily from 10.00am to 5.00pm until 7 December. If you are able to visit, see if you can spot the Valence tree and send us your photos!

While you are in town, remember that Valence on the Green will be open until 7.30pm this evening for Westerham's late-night shopping and Christmas lights switch-on, with special offers available on hot drinks.

Looking ahead to the remainder of the term, a reminder of some key activities:

- 8 & 9 December – Primary Nativity
- 15 December – Christmas Dinner
- 18 December – School Carol Service

A reminder also that, as usual, school will finish at 2.00pm on the final day of term, in line with our normal Friday arrangements.

Have a wonderful weekend, wrap up warm, and enjoy what I am sure will be the start of the festive season!

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

News from Fox Class

Fox class have been very happy to welcome three new students, Leon, Cohen and Ava. They have all settled in well and they are enjoying making new friends and joining in with all activities.

In Term 1 we explored a wide variety of activities linked to the topic 'Marvellous Me'. These included using mirrors to look closely at our faces before painting self-portraits, singing action songs to learn parts of the body, exploring feelings and talking about what makes us happy.

This term we have enjoyed observing seasonal changes and exploring autumn crafts, as well as learning about winter festivals. We also had an exciting visit to the science lab where we were involved in making fireworks and sparklers using Bunsen burners.







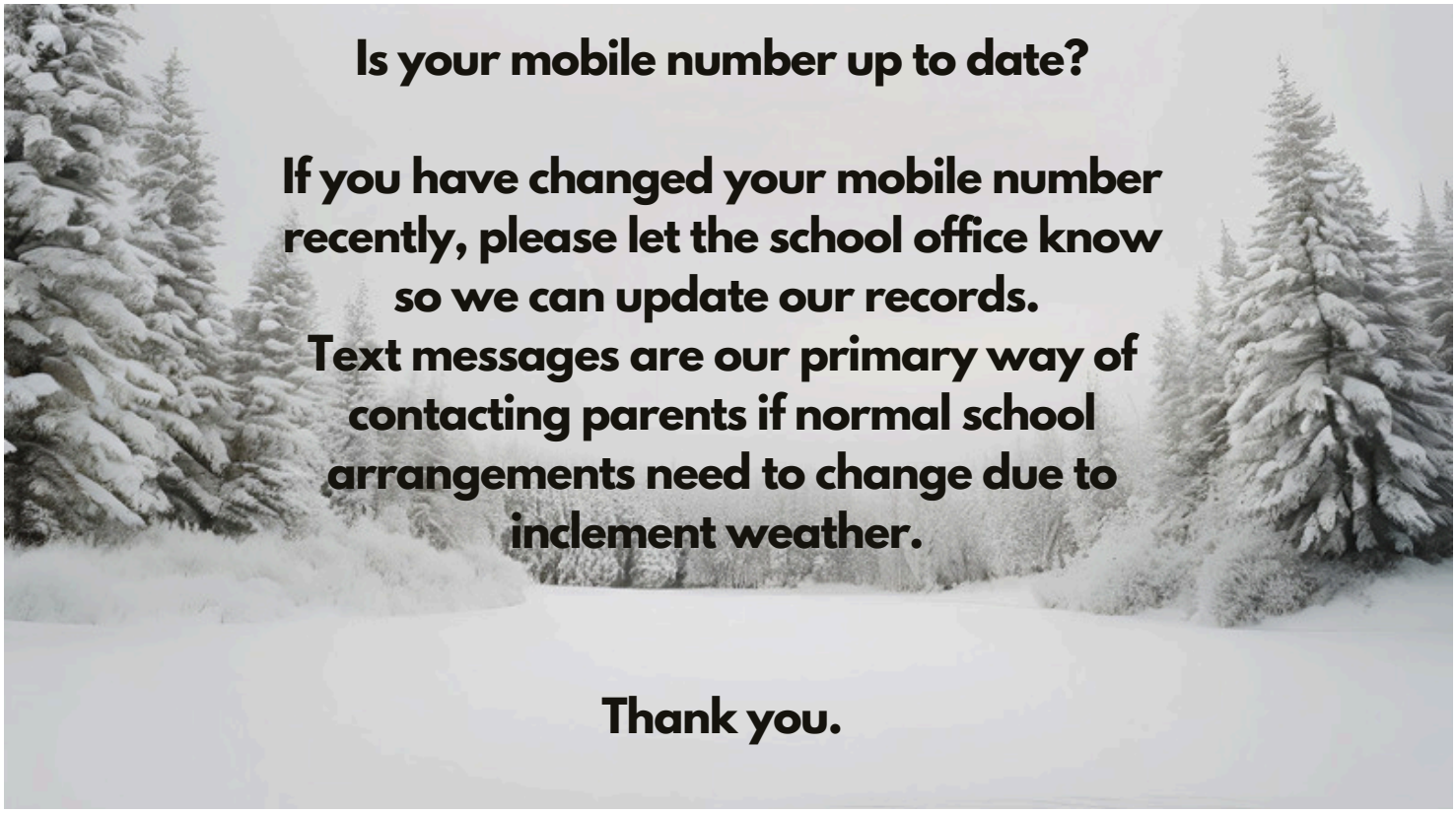
On Friday 27th November Valence on the Green will be open until 7.30 pm as Westerham has their late night shopping, switching on of their Christmas Lights and we have Christmas trees displayed in the Festival of Lights...

Visit us at the Shop and join in the celebrations

Senior Staff On-call Rota from 30th November 2026

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

Date	Day	Time	DSL	DSL overnight
Nov 30, 2026	Monday	09:00 To midday	Matt Strange	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
Dec 1, 2026	Tuesday	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Matt Strange
		Midday to 4pm	Matt Strange	
Dec 2, 2026	Wednesday	09:00 To midday	Matt Strange	Kate Bayman
		Midday to 4pm	Kate Bayman	
Dec 3, 2026	Thursday	09:00 To midday	Kate Bayman	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
Dec 4, 2026	Friday	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	



Valence on the Green

Valence School in the Community

Valence on the Green is in a fantastic setting overlooking Westerham Green. The shop is located next to Vicarage car park. We sell pre-loved items and we have a spacious cafe area with hot drinks and delicious handmade cakes.

Pop in and see us!

Donations always welcome.

If you are interested in volunteering in the shop come and me at the shop.


Friends of Valence
CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
Get your tickets for the Friends of Valence Christmas raffle!! Lots of fabulous prizes to be won and a wonderful way to support the school too!
DRAW AT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY
SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER 3.45PM
Tickets on sale from Saturday 14th November at 9am
https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/fov-christmas-party-2026

CHRISTMAS HAMPER DONATIONS IN EXCHANGE FOR NON SCHOOL UNIFORM DAYS





The Friends of Valence are starting to make up Hampers to sell at the Christmas Party on Sunday 6th December



Doonation Days





Monday 2nd November
Monday 9th November
Monday 16th November
Monday 25th November





Hand in your donations to Reception



Friends raising funds



Valence School

Valence School Christmas Party

hosted by Friends of Valence

Sunday 6th December

1.00pm – 4.00pm

£3 per person in advance | **£5 per person on the day**



1.30 – 3.00 Christmas entertainment for all the family, singing, dancing and interactive games and much more

3.00 – 3.45 **Signing Choir** – with an opportunity to join in and learn to sign along

3.45 Raffle draw







Christmas stalls including Christmas toys, hampers and Valence produce.



Face painting



Refreshments including hot dogs and mince pies and beer and wine.



£3 per child to see **Father Christmas** in a low sensory environment, so all our children can take part and receive a gift.



Bring all your friends and family

Come along this social event where you can meet other parents and their families and share the one thing you have in common

Valence school

To book in advance email
friends@valence.kent.sch.uk

Last chance to pay for advanced tickets will be Friday 27th November