



Dear Parents/Carers

Staff News

We are very pleased to welcome the following new members of staff to our school over the next couple of weeks:

Miss Karis Hooke - Teaching Assistant in Year 3 (to replace Mrs Pinn who is now a Midday Play Supervisor)

Mrs Michelle Thomas, Mr Tom Bryant, Mrs Mandy Mugridge and Mrs Julie Heavin who have been appointed as part-time Teaching Assistants to work with individual children across the school.

Governing Body News

Unfortunately due to work commitments Mr Colin Dand has had to resign from his position of Parent Governor and Vice Chair from the Governing Body. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Dand for his support, contribution and commitment to the school whilst undertaking this role.

I am delighted to confirm that Mrs Carol Hayes, Co-opted Governor, has agreed to take on the role of Vice Chair, which was approved at our recent Full Governing Body Meeting.

Details regarding the appointment of a new Parent Governor will be communicated in due course. Please do consider whether this is something you would like to do to help the school.

After School Clubs

For your information, our policy when cancelling a club on any particular day is as follows:

- The individual club leader makes the decision to cancel no later than 1.30pm on that the day
- A text message is sent to parents/carers whose children are registered for that club, once the decision is made
- If there is a reason to change a club after 1.30pm on the day (ie bad weather) then alternative arrangements and supervision will be made for the children until the expected finish time for that club.

Please can we ask that you let the Front Office know if your child is not attending a club on a particular day. Messages given to other members of staff don't always reach the office and our policy is to call parents/carers of any non-attendees to ensure they are safe - advance notice would save unnecessary calls. Thank you for your co-operation.

Vale School Showcase 2018

Our annual 'Showcase' will be taking place on **Tuesday 6th February** and **Wednesday 7th February** at **6.30pm** in the school hall. This year's theme is 'Intergalactic' and, as always, we have a variety of fantastic acts performing with this theme in mind. The show should last approximately 1½ hours, including an interval. During the interval, Friends of the Vale will be selling refreshments to raise funds for the school. If you'd like to come and watch the show, tickets are free and will be available from the school office next week.



FVRA Logo Competition

The Findon Valley Residents' Association are running a competition for children to design a new logo for them. We will be talking to the children about this exciting opportunity in assembly and have attached a copy of the entry form to this Bulletin. Alternatively a copy can be collected from Reception.

Friends of Vale - Lou Budd

A reminder that we have our Cake Sale on Friday 2nd February where children can buy cakes ranging between 20p and £1.

Children will need to bring in a named purse or wallet and a container to take home any cakes they buy.

The Cake Sale would not be possible without the wonderful donations from you - please bring any shop bought or homemade cakes to school on the morning of the sale, where they will be collected at the school gates (please note that cakes MUST NOT contain nuts due to children in school with severe allergies).

We would greatly appreciate as much help on the day as possible, so if you have any time to spare please contact friendsofvale@gmail.com.

Another date for your diary: Friday 16th March – DISCO!! (*More details to follow nearer the time!*)

Thank you again for your continued support to help raise much needed funds for our school.

Hot Meals

Please be reminded that if your child has any special dietary needs or that their needs have changed, you must notify Chartwells, our hot meals provider, directly. Please visit www.mealselector.co.uk or call 0845 603 7998 to do this.

Safeguarding Children

Our School Council are focussing this year on supporting the children to help them stay safe online. Can I remind parents that there is no need for children to bring phones or other electronic devices to school. If they do need a phone for their walk home then it must be turned off and should be stored in their bag throughout the school day.

Safer Internet Day 2018

With the digital world changing so rapidly, we need to teach children how to stay safe and positive online. On Tuesday 6th February 2018 Safer Internet Day is being celebrated globally with the slogan "Create, Connect and Share Respect: A better internet starts with you".

We will be getting involved during that week and lessons/assemblies will be carefully planned to support your child to use the internet safely and responsibly. We will be highlighting the positive uses of technology as well as exploring how online behaviours can make us feel.

If you would like to get involved, The UK Safer Internet Centre has a great bank of resources for parents and carers <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2018/sid2018-education-packs/education-pack-parents-and-carers>.

ParentMail Contacts

It has been brought to our attention that some parents are not receiving trip consent forms for their child/ren when sent via ParentMail. Any 'forms' sent are automatically directed to the child's 'Primary Contact' - this is the parent/carer who is listed as the first person to contact if your child is unwell etc, as indicated on your child's Data Collection Sheet/Admission Form. If you are not currently the first person, and would like to receive these forms, please let the school know and this can be changed.

Pierced Ears

If your child has pierced ears, earrings must be removed for PE lessons. If your child is unable to remove their earrings then either remove them for the days they have PE/Games or please provide them with micropore tape so they can be covered during these sessions. Thank you in advance for your support.

Other News.....

NEWS FROM THE FINDON VALLEY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (FVRA)

FVRA Logo Design Competition

Our new School Liaison Officer, Paula Barnes, has organised this competition to design a new FVRA logo to appear on their website and publicity materials. More details can be read in this bulletin so Vale School children have until Friday, 23 February to return their design sheet to the school office. The current one was the first ever logo for the FVRA, a winning design by Anna Campbell at Vale School in August 2010.



2018 Findon Valley Calendar

There is still time to buy our limited edition 2018 Findon Valley Calendar for only £5. All the money raised from the calendar will go to Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice. There are not many left so please visit either of our sponsors, Curtis & Son and Keen & Betts, or visit the Findon Valley Post Office. With 12 amazing photographs taken by local residents, the calendar is an ideal gift for your family, friends and neighbours. So get one or more now, as only 250 were produced!

Residents' Surgery

The next monthly Residents' Surgery will take place on Saturday 3 February, 10am to 12 noon, in Findon Valley Library. It gives you the chance to 'have your say' on any issue or concern. Members of our committee will be there for assistance and advice. Future surgeries will be held on the first Saturday of each month from 10am – 12 noon.

FVRA Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM will take place on Friday, 20 April, 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start at Findon Valley Free Church Hall

New Outdoor Gym

Thanks to an idea that was made by local resident Jeff Swann at the 2016 AGM a new outdoor gym with a variety of equipment is now sited on The Gallops. So when the weather gets warmer, take advantage of this! Jeff now sits on the FVRA committee as Highways Environment Officer.

Green Fingered Gardeners needed!

The FVRA has a licence to tidy up the overgrown area between the library and the bus shelter. Keen gardeners are needed to 'make a difference' with ideas and work with us on the makeover of this bedding area. Please contact Maggie Winter on 01903 263038 or email chairman@findonvalley.org.

2018 Membership Renewals

Annual subscriptions are now £3 per household and £1.50 for single occupancy. Please pay your subscription at the Post Office. For details of standing orders or payment by bank transfer contact Jim Booth on 07757 703127 or email membership@findonvalley.org. It would be appreciated if you could pay your annual subscription by 31 March 2018.

Get to meet a broad cross-section of our local community!

Help is needed for more subscription collectors in our team calling on local residents for their membership payment during early summer. For more details of the roads where collectors are needed please contact Jim Booth, FVRA Membership Secretary – details in the paragraph above.

Please visit www.findonvalley.org to read more about the Valley and your Residents' Association.

Frequently Asked Questions.....

Q: If my child has sickness or diarrhoea, how long must they stay off school?

A: All children must remain absent from school for a total of 48 hours following the last bout. This is to help reduce the risk of bugs spreading further within the school.

Q: What do I do if my child is prescribed medication?

A: Any medication that is prescribed 4 times a day can be administered in school - there is paperwork that must be completed at the front office. If it is prescribed 3 times a day, this must be given around the school day (ie before and after school and at bedtime). If your child requires inhalers, two must be provided (with spacers) in the correct packaging - paperwork must also be completed for this.

Q: What do I do if my child isn't attending a club on a particular day?

A: Please call the school office to record their absence, this prevents any unnecessary calls home.

Q: Do clubs take place in the last week of term?

A: Clubs don't run during the first and last weeks of a full term (two weeks at the start of a new academic year). They do, however, run right up to and straight after each half term break.

Q: How do I report bad parking or driving in the surrounding roads?

A: Any issues should be logged via www.operationcrackdown.org. The school cannot police any issues.

Dates to Remember.....

Monday 12th - Friday 16th February 2018	Half Term Break
Wednesday 28th March 2018	Last Day of Spring Term
Thursday 29th March 2018	Inset Day 3
Friday 30th March - Friday 13th April 2018	Easter Break
Monday 16th April 2018	First Day of the Summer Term
Monday 7th May 2018	Bank Holiday
Monday 28th May - Friday 1st June 2018	Half Term Break
Friday 20th July 2018	Last Day of the 2017/2018 Academic Year
Monday 23rd July 2018	Inset Day 4
Tuesday 24th July 2018	Inset Day 5
2018/2019 Academic Year	
Monday 3rd September 2018	Inset Day 1
Tuesday 4th September 2018	First Day of the 2018/19 Academic Year
Friday 19th October 2018	Inset Day 2
Monday 22nd - Friday 26th October 2018	Half Term Break
Wednesday 19th December 2018	Last Day of Autumn Term
Thursday 3rd January 2019	First Day of the Spring Term
Friday 15th February 2019	Inset Day 3
Monday 18th - Friday 22nd February 2019	Half Term Break
Friday 5th April 2019	Last Day of Spring Term
Tuesday 23rd April 2019	First Day of the Summer Term
Monday 6th May 2019	Bank Holiday
Monday 27th - Friday 31st May 2019	Half Term Break
Friday 19th July 2019	Last Day of Summer Term
Monday 22nd July 2019	Inset Day 4
Tuesday 23rd July 2019	Inset Day 5

Access our Public Calendar by clicking [here](#).



Findon Valley Residents' Association

Logo Design Competition

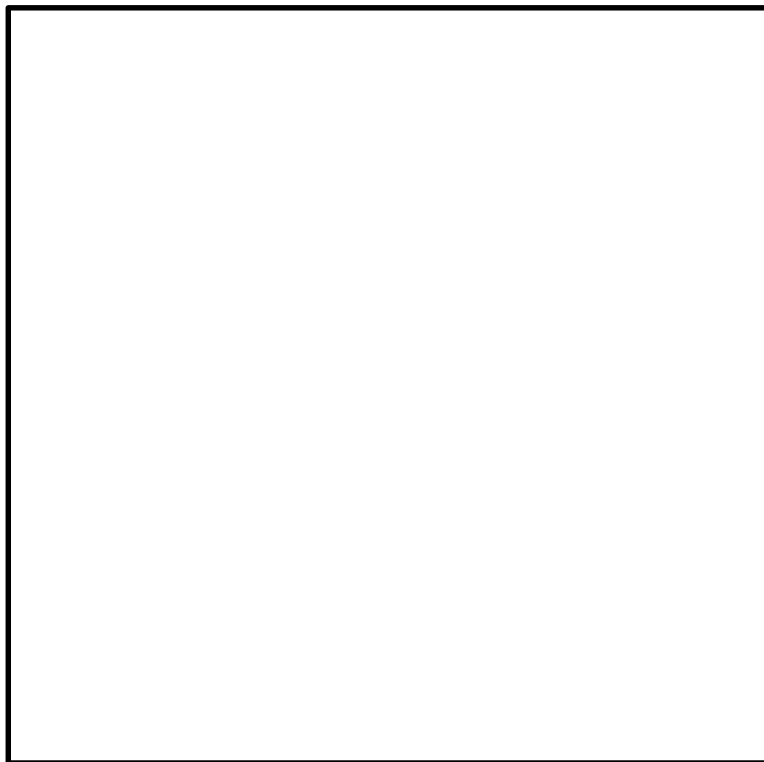


Use the local environment and community as inspiration.

Use pencil and colouring pencils.

Name: _____

Class: _____ Year Group: _____



Closing Date: Friday 23rd February 2018

Return to the school office