



Welcome Back To Everyone

Welcome everyone to another busy, exciting and rewarding school year. All children arrived yesterday full of enthusiasm, looking so smart in their new school clothes and shoes. Many thanks to all the families who prepared their children so well for start of a new year.

A special welcome to all our new families. We hope you settle in well. Please don't hesitate to ask questions if you are unsure of anything. Valewood staff and families are very friendly and will be glad to help.

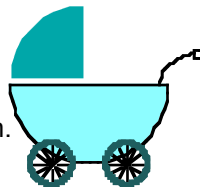
Coffee Morning - All Welcome

Valewood is run by a board of school governors made up of parents, school staff, education officials and community advisers. The governors invite all parents and guardians to an informal coffee morning, to be held in the school hall on Thursday 14th September at 9am.

Please come along, if you can, and meet the governors in person. Refreshments will be provided and you will have the chance to ask questions and find out about school development for the coming year.

Toddler Group

Our Toddler Group meet in the school hall on Tuesdays between 9am and 10am. All welcome.



Parents without toddlers are welcome to come along to socialise, help make drinks and play with the children. Many thanks to Louise Collins, who organises this group for the benefit of the whole school community.

Spanish

Spanish will be taught by Mrs Esperanza Davis-Guzman again this year. Children in years 1 - 6 will all have Spanish lessons on Mondays.



Swimming Lessons

Year 6 will go swimming on Wednesday mornings this half term. All year 6 pupils should bring a towel, swimming costume, no shorts or bikinis please, and a swimming hat. No jewellery should be worn. Year 6 pupils are asked to bring a donation of £3 to cover the cost of their swimming coaches this term. This can be paid to class teachers or to the school office. Any children with inhalers must take them to the baths with them. Many thanks.



A Message From Mrs Jones

"I want to thank you all for your kind messages and wonderful presents on my retirement. I had absolutely no idea and was overwhelmed by your generosity. We are currently going through the brochures planning a mid-week break which I am sure will help counter my school withdrawal symptoms. I hope you all enjoy a good new school year and once again, thank you for making my retirement so special."

Best wishes, Mrs Linda Jones

Autumn Fair - 16th September

St. Michael's High School are holding an Autumn Fair on Saturday 16th September between 10am and 2pm. Local primary schools are invited to arrange and run their own stalls at the fair and keep all money raised for their own school. Valewood staff will be running a number of stalls and would welcome donations for tombolas and raffles.

Valewood's PTA are also invited to run any number of stalls. Anyone interested? Please speak to Mrs Rigby or Mrs Castellain.



Healthy Food Only Please

In an attempt to reverse the growing health problems of children in the UK, the government have brought out new healthy food regulations for schools.

School meals must now include a wide and plentiful selection of fruit and vegetables and only quality meat, fish and potato products may be served.

Crisps, sweets and fizzy drinks are no longer to be consumed on school premises during the school day and parents who send their children with packed lunches should choose alternatives to crisps and sweets. Our tuck shop will sell only cereal bars, fruit juice and dried fruit. Many of our families are very generous when their children have a birthday and send sweets for the children in their child's class. Thank you for your past generosity, but please do not send sweets for special occasions in future. These regulations have been put in place to improve our children's health and give them a brighter future.

Dates List

2006/2007



Staff Training Day	Monday	4th September	2006
Children return	Tuesday	5th September	2006
Half Term Holiday begins	Monday	23rd October	2006
Half Term Holiday ends	Friday	27th October	2006
Break up for Christmas Holidays	Thursday	21st December	2006
Children return	Wednesday	3rd January	2007
Half Term Holiday begins	Monday	12th February	2007
Half Term Holiday ends	Friday	16th February	2007
Break up for Easter Holidays	Friday	30th March	2007
Children return	Monday	16th April	2007
Half Term Holidays begin	Monday	28th May	2007
Half Term Holiday ends	Friday	8th June	2007
Break up for Summer Holidays	Friday	20th July	2007
Staff Training Day	Monday	3rd September	2007
Children return	Tuesday	4th September	2007
Half Term Holiday begins	Monday	22nd October	2007
Half Term Holiday ends	Friday	26th October	2007
Break up for Christmas Holidays	Friday	21st December	2007

Please use school holidays to go away. Please think very carefully before you take children out of school to go on holiday. If you feel you have to take children out of school in school time, please send a letter of explanation to the education welfare officer, Mrs Rachael Clague. Letters can be left at the school office. If children are absent due to illness, please ring the school office between 8.30am and 9.30am on 0151 924 0483. Many thanks.

Children who attend achieve.

Advance Notice

Sunday 5th November Firework Display 7pm
 Monday 6th November Parents' Evening
 Tuesday 7th November Parents' Evening

Monday 11th December Infant Concert 7pm
 Tuesday 12th December Infant Concert 7pm
 Wednesday 13th December Junior Concert 7pm
 Thursday 14th December Junior Concert 7pm

All children will have parts in the school concerts. Please keep the dates free.



Children's University

Valewood School is a Children's University offering a wide range of extra curricular activities or clubs at lunchtimes and after school. All children will receive a list of clubs available this term on Friday. They may then choose which ones they would like to take part in over the weekend and hand their choices in on Monday. Clubs will start next week.

Harvest Festival Dates

Our school harvest festivals will take place on Friday 20th October. The infant festival will start at 10am and the junior festival will start at 2.30pm. Both festivals will last approximately 45 minutes. All children will be involved in songs, dances and presentations. Parents who are available are very welcome to attend.

Children are invited to bring decorated harvest baskets, to be distributed to local pensioners, on the day. Many thanks for your support.



Year 6 News

Mrs Higgins has been unwell during the Summer holidays, but is now on the mend. She will return to work as soon as possible. Mr Ash will work alongside Mr Rigby delivering the planned curriculum until she returns.