



**4th March 2021**

Hasn't it been lovely to see the sunshine this week - let's hope it's a positive sign of better times ahead!

We are looking forward to the return of all the children on Monday. Please see below the key information to help us get everyone back as safely as we can. Now that we have all pupils returning to school, teachers will not be monitoring Google Classroom as much. Therefore, can I ask that all communications with the teachers return to being sent via the school office email. This will ensure your message gets to the correct people. We are going to continue to use Google Classroom for home learning and for any school work, if children are self-isolating.

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## **Staggered Start to the Day**

We are going to try something new. We will run this system for the first week and then review it. You will have a time slot to arrive in the mornings depending on your child's surname. *[If you have children with different surnames, please choose just one slot]:*

- 8.35am Surnames **A to F**
- 8.45am Surnames **G to M**
- 8.55am Surnames **N to Z**

As children arrive, they can walk straight into school:

- Early Years, Years 1, 5 & 6 to enter via the back drive
- Year 3 to enter up the ramp from the main playground
- Year 4 to enter via the steps on the main playground
- Year 2 to enter via the side door *[Access between the Hall and the Year 6 Wing - we will be around to show you where to go]*

## **Staggered End to the Day**

- 2.50pm Early Years
- 2.55pm Years 2 & 5
- 3.00pm Years 1 & 3
- 3.05pm Years 4 & 6

Please collect your child/ren as follows:

- Early Years and Year 1 - please go to the Early Years playground
- Years 2, 3 & 4 - please wait on the main playground
- Years 5 & 6 - children will make their own way from the classrooms to the front gate

Please wear face masks when you are on the school site and keep socially distanced from other families.

To communicate with the school, please try and use email or phone as much as possible to reduce the number of people entering the school site.

## **If Your Child is Unwell**

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home and let us know. If they have one of the COVID-19 symptoms, please get them tested and let us know the outcome of the test.

If a member of your household has symptoms and is getting a test, please keep your child at home until the outcome of the test is known. If it is positive the whole household will need to isolate for 10 days.

If we have a confirmed case within a Year Group, we will identify who needs to self-isolate and let you know. This could include everyone within the Year Group bubble.

## Arrangements in School

- The children will be in Year Group bubbles. This means they will be able to play together at break and lunchtimes and also mix between classes for some lessons.
- Playtimes and lunchtimes are staggered so year groups remain separate.
- The teaching teams are going to work within one year group bubble.
- Children will be encouraged to wash their hands regularly.
- Hot meals will be available for all Early Years and Years 1 & 2 pupils and children in Years 3 to 6 who are in receipt of Free School Meals.
- Unfortunately, we are not able to offer hot meals to other pupils in Years 3 to 6 at the moment, but hope to be able to reintroduce these after Easter. These pupils will need to bring a packed lunch to school.
- We will be using the field every day, therefore pupils can wear trainers until the end of this school year.
- Children should wear their winter school uniform, apart from the day they have PE. On that day they can wear their school PE kit. If your child has outgrown some of their uniform and you are unable to get new items, you can contact Friends of Vale who have a large selection of preloved uniform: [friendsofvale@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofvale@gmail.com). They will arrange delivery/collection via the green collection bins at the front of the school. Payment will be via electronic transfer. At the present time they are only able to provide winter uniform and PE items, further details regarding summer uniform will be advised in due course, ahead of the Easter break.
- For your information the children have PE on the following days:
  - Mondays** - Year 2 & 3HD
  - Tuesdays** - 1PW, 4CG & 4CD
  - Wednesdays** - Year 6 & 4CH
  - Thursdays** - 1SB, 1AK, 3JB & 3RG
  - Fridays** - Early Years & Year 5
- Cherrytree breakfast and after school club is running. If you would like to book a session please contact them: 07900 900384. In the latest guidance parents are asked to limit any before and after school provision to one provider to limit transmission.
- The children's teachers will let them know if they need to bring any books back to school once everyone is back.
- If your child usually has medication in school, please ensure this is brought to Reception on 8th March - do not send it in with your child. You will have received a ParentMail message if the medication currently in school has expired.

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## School News

- **School Photos:** We are delighted to let you know that our school photographer, Yellow, will be in school on *Monday 15th March 2021* to take the children's individual school photos. This will be for all children. The photos are taken on a light background so we would urge you to send your child in with their school jumper or cardigan and wear their winter uniform if possible. There will be no PE on this day. Unfortunately, due to timing and Yellow's availability, we are unable to have the usual sibling photos taken at this time.
- **Contact Information:** Please may we remind you that it is vital we have the correct contact details on file for your child. If any of your telephone numbers or email addresses have changed, or if you have moved house, please do send an email to [office@valeschool.org](mailto:office@valeschool.org) to let us know. Please also ensure you update your ParentMail account as well. Many thanks.

## Important Dates to Remember.....

2020/2021 Academic Year	
Monday 15th March 2021	School Photographer Taking Individual Photos
Thursday 1st April 2021	Last Day of the Spring Term
Monday 19th April 2021	First Day of the Summer Term
Monday 3rd May 2021	Bank Holiday
Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June 2021	Half Term Break
Friday 23rd July 2021	Last of the Summer Term/Academic Year
2021/2022 Academic Year	
Thursday 2nd September 2021	Inset Day 1
Friday 3rd September 2021	Inset Day 2
Monday 6th September 2021	First Day of the New Academic Year
Monday 25th - Friday 29th October 2021	Half Term Break
Monday 1st November 2021	Inset Day 3
Friday 17th December 2021	Last Day of the Autumn Term
Tuesday 4th January 2022	Inset Day 4
Wednesday 5th January 2022	First Day of the Spring Term
Monday 31st January 2022	Inset Day 5
Monday 21st - Friday 25th February 2022	Half Term Break
Friday 8th April 2022	Last Day of Spring Term
Monday 25th April 2022	First Day of the Summer Term
Monday 2nd May 2022	Bank Holiday
Monday 30 May - Friday 3rd June 2022	Half Term Break
Friday 22nd July 2022	Last Day of the Summer Term/Academic Year