



# Autumn Term 2, Week 2 News

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025

[www.valewood.co.uk](http://www.valewood.co.uk)

@ValewoodPrimary – Instagram

Dear Families,

**What another busy week at VPS!**

## Remembrance

As part of their history learning, Year 4 led a powerful and thought-provoking assembly on remembrance. The children spoke with clarity, knowledge and passion. Thank you to all of Team 4 for all their hard work and dedication in creating such a wonderful assembly.

## Travelling Theatre

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November, Years 4, 5 and 6 had the opportunity to watch Tales from World War 2. Our visitors were from a travelling theatre called Trunk Theatre and the production was enjoyed by all. Thank you to Mrs Salzano for organising and the PTA who kindly funded this performance.

## Sporting Achievements

### Football

Mr Hutson continues to drive opportunities for our budding footballers to represent the school. Our Y4 and Y5 girls' teams finished 3rd in the Liverpool Community competitions and our Y5/6 team won the Premier League Primary Starts Tournament and are through to the next phase of the competition where they will compete against all the regional champions. What an achievement!

Our boys' league team is currently top of the league with a 100% win record and they have had successes in the cup too! Keep it up!

### Swimming Galas

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November, Mr Hutson, Mrs Stoddart and 10 children from Year 5 represented Valewood in the Year 5 swimming gala at Crosby baths. The competition was very competitive and there were some excellent individual performances on the day. Well done to the Year 5 swimming team!

Year 6 swimming gala took place today. Mr Burns and Miss Sullivan supported our Year 6 swimmers. This was another competitive competition and our Year 6 swimmers represented the school showing commitment and real enthusiasm for each event.

Well done to the Year 6 swimming team.

**Best wishes,  
Danielle Parr**

## Stay and Play

On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November, Valewood will host our termly Stay and Play. Families are invited to come along to school at 9:15 with their little ones to enjoy a range of exciting activities. Miss Metcalfe is already planning some wonderful winter themed activities for the children. We hope to see you there.

## Reception Admissions 2026

If you have a child due to start school at Valewood in September 2026, please inform the school office and make sure you have completed the Sefton application by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

## Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair will take place on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm.

In order to collect contributions for the fair we will hold three non-uniform Fridays.

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November – gifts

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November – bottles

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December – cakes

## Fish Tank Update

Our PTA funded fish tank will be installed on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November. The children are excited to see the different species of tropical fish that will be the new members of VPS! Once installed every class will have an opportunity to visit the tank and learn about each species.

## Safeguarding – Every Child has the Right to be Free from Harm.

As I'm sure you are aware there was an incident last week where a child was knocked over by a dog. Please can you ensure that dogs are kept on a lead during drop off and pick up times.

Reminder, mobile phones should not be used on school premises.

It has come to my attention that some children have been exposed to inappropriate language on and around our school premises. Please be mindful of the language you are using around school. Thank you.

**Attendance Data: Whole School Target 97%****Last Week- School:**

|           | Attendance | No. of late marks |
|-----------|------------|-------------------|
| Reception | 97%        | 0 (least lates)   |
| Team 1    | 95.3%      | 2                 |
| Team 2    | 98.3%      | 2                 |
| Team 3    | 96.6%      | 3                 |
| Team 4    | 97%        | 1                 |
| Team 5    | 99%        | 4                 |
| Team 6    | 99.3%      | 1                 |

**Attendance Cup Goes to...**

Autumn Term 2, Week 1: Team 5  
 Autumn Term 2, Week 2: Team 6  
 Autumn Term 2, Week 3: Team ?  
 Autumn Term 2, Week 4: Team ?  
 Autumn Term 2, Week 5: Team ?  
 Autumn Term 2, Week 6: Team ?  
 Autumn Term 2, Week 7: Team ?

**Attendance & Punctuality – WE CANNOT TEACH AN EMPTY SEAT!**UNDERSTANDING ATTENDANCE

Attendance figures can be misleading at first glance. Over a school year, 95% attendance means your child has missed 10 full days of a school in a year – that's two full weeks of learning! 90% attendance means 19 days missed – nearly a whole month. Whole 90% might sound good, it actually puts a child in the persistent absence category, which can have a real impact on progress and confident. Every day really does count and all staff will continue to monitor attendance and punctuality, after all every child has a right to their education (Article 28 UNCRC)

**N.B. School gates open at 8.35am; children are expected in class at 8.40am and gates are locked at 8.45am.**

**Please follow the one-way system.**

Holidays in Term Time

Please be aware that school staff can conduct a home visit if school is not able to contact parents/carers on a day when your child is absent from school/school has had no notification as to a child's absence.

N.B. If staff suspect a holiday in term time is the reason for absence (and especially, when an international ring tone is heard, when calling) the Headteacher has the authority to change the reason of absence to 'unauthorised'.

**TERM DATES for 2025-2026 are on our website and below...**

|                         | AUTUMN TERM<br>2025                          | SPRING TERM<br>2026                            | SUMMER TERM<br>2026                   |
|-------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| <u>Term commences</u>   | Wednesday 3 September                        | Monday 5 January                               | Monday 13 April                       |
| <b>Mid-Term Holiday</b> | Monday 27 October<br>to<br>Friday 31 October | Monday 16 February<br>to<br>Friday 20 February | Monday 25 May<br>to<br>Tuesday 2 June |
| <u>Term Ends</u>        | Friday 19 December                           | Friday 27 March                                | Thursday 16 July                      |

***Please be advised that holidays in term time will not be authorised.***

**OUR SCHOOL DAY IS FROM 8.40am to 3.15pm**

**SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2025 – 2026**

**INSET Days:** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025  
 Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025  
 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026  
 Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2026  
 Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026  
 Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026

## Important Dates (\*subject to change)

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 25 <sup>th</sup> November | School Tour for Prospective Families 9am           |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> December  | School Tour for Prospective Families 9am           |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> December  | Christmas Book & Brew (session 1) 9 - 10am         |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> December  | Christmas Book & Brew (session 2) 10 - 11am        |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> December  | PTA Christmas Fair 5pm – 7pm                       |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> December | Reception Nativity – 9am                           |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> December | School Tour for Prospective Families 1.30pm        |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> December | Christmas Jumper Day/ Santa Dash/ Christmas Dinner |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> December | Carols by Candlelight                              |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> December | Whole School Panto Trip                            |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> December | Last After School Club session                     |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> December | Finish for Christmas Holidays – 1.30pm             |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> December | After School Club is closed                        |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> January   | Children return to School for Spring Term 1        |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> February | Finish for Half Term 3.15pm                        |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> February | Return for Spring 2                                |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> February | Y6 residential trip to Robinwood                   |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> March    | Big Walk & Wheel – 2 weeks                         |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> March    | Last After School Club session                     |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> March    | Finish for Easter Holidays 1.30pm                  |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> March    | After School Club is closed                        |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> April    | Return for Summer 1                                |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> May       | Bank Holiday – School Closed                       |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> May      | Y4 residential trip to CHET                        |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> May      | Finish for Half Term 3.15pm                        |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> June      | Inset Day  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> June      | Inset Day  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> June      | Return for Summer 2                                |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> July     | Last After School Club session                     |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> July     | Finish for Summer Holidays 1.30pm                  |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> July     | After School Club is closed                        |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> July     | INSET Day – Staff only to attend                   |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> July     | INSET Day – Staff only to attend                   |