



Ms Helen Tantouri
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Dear Families,

End of Autumn Term 2025 - Letter from Ms Tantouri

I hope that my letter finds you all well. I am sure you are all ready for a well-earned break from school drop-offs and pick-ups, after the longest term of the school year!

Thank you to our families and PTA...

What a full-on, productive and exciting Autumn term we have all enjoyed at Valewood! These past few weeks have been particularly busy and I want to extend my heart-felt thanks to you all, for your continued support and commitment to our school. Thank you for your kind donations to our needs & wants, reverse advent calendars and for all of your donations leading up to our PTA Christmas Fair. All your kind gifts will be distributed to families who access our local food bank and also to new mums who are supported by Sefton Baby Baskets. Thank you to our busy, hard-working families who also find time to lead on supporting others and who make a huge difference in our community with their kindness, care and generosity. A big shout-out to Mrs Duffy and her trusty team of PTA volunteers too!

Thank you to our Valewood team...

Stepping away from Valewood, for three days a week, in my new Mersey View Learning Trust role, has been humbling. I feel very privileged to have worked full-time with all of our Valewood staff (for 16+ years) and I have felt equally grateful to have been welcomed into all of our other trust schools, as part of the MVLT school improvement team. What our MVLT children experience is a great, high class education and to be able to strengthen this, even more, has really driven our own school improvement work at Valewood this term. A huge, heart-felt thank you to all of our amazing staff: from the Breakfast Club team to the After-School Club team...and all the office and site staff; teachers; TAs; support staff; kitchen and lunchtime supervisors and to all of our governors and external partners, in between! I am grateful to Mrs Parr, Mrs O'Hara and Miss Metcalfe and to all of our dedicated staff who have been doing a great job, as always. There has been well-deserved, high praise when MVLT colleagues have been into school.

Staffing changes from Spring Term 2...

From Spring Term 2, I have been asked to work full-time for MVLT and so Mrs Parr will be out of class, full-time, as the Acting Headteacher. We will be appointing a full-time teacher in the new year and Y2 families will have more information in January, post appointment. Please be assured that our school is in very safe hands and I have every confidence of Valewood's continued success. More information will be shared in the new year.

Wishing you all: families, staff, governors, children and external partners a wonderful Christmas time and a happy and healthy 2026.

See you all tomorrow for breakfast with Santa!
Best wishes,

Helen Tantouri
