

Dear Families,

I can't believe we are at the end of Spring 1 and half way through the year! But as they say, "Time flies when you're having fun!"

Adventures in Pantoland

On Tuesday 10th February Year 1 and Year 2 shone on the stage in the Infant's pantomime. They were outstanding! Beautiful singing, groovy moves and lots of laughter resonated around the hall. A huge well done to all the children (and their families) who worked tirelessly to learn all their lines. A huge thank you from me also goes to all the staff in Team 1 and 2 – I couldn't have done it without you!

Book and a Brew 2

Today we hosted our second Book and a Brew of the school year. This session's focus was all about 'Love' – well we do love reading at Valewood! It was lovely to see so many of our families spending time together and enjoying a good book. Don't forget this half term there are lots of events across the country celebrating the National Year of Reading - check out the website below for more details.

<https://goallin.org.uk/whats-on>

Awards

This week we celebrated the achievements of both our Infants and Juniors. It's lovely to hear how the children are demonstrating the five ways to wellbeing, respecting their rights and achieving personal recognition for their successes.

Congratulations to all our award winners:

Take Notice: Sylvie, Florence, Zolah, Emma, Edie, Ciara, Lachlan

Connect: Cecilia, Alfie, Harriet, Oscar, Deacon, Ernie, Scarlett

Keep Learning: Felix, Evelyn, Kathryn, Archie, Elias, Alayjah, Erin

Stay Active: Lucas, Seb, Steven, Isla, Corinne, Teddy, Simon

Give: Isaac, Aoibhean, Iyla, Cian, Charlie, Izabel, Freddy

RRS: Thomas, Alex, Byron, Finlay, Dougie, Oliver, Harrison

Yellow Star: Lottie, Nora, Caitlin, Oliver, Felix, Maili, Leo

PTA Disco

The PTA disco takes place this evening 5pm-7pm. Thank you to all the volunteers who make this such a successful event. Don't forget your tickets!

Finally, I would like to wish Ms Tantouri good luck as she moves to working full time for Mersey View Learning Trust and thank her on behalf of all the children, staff and families for all her hard work, commitment and support.

I hope you all have a lovely half term and I cannot wait to welcome you all back to school on Monday 23rd February.

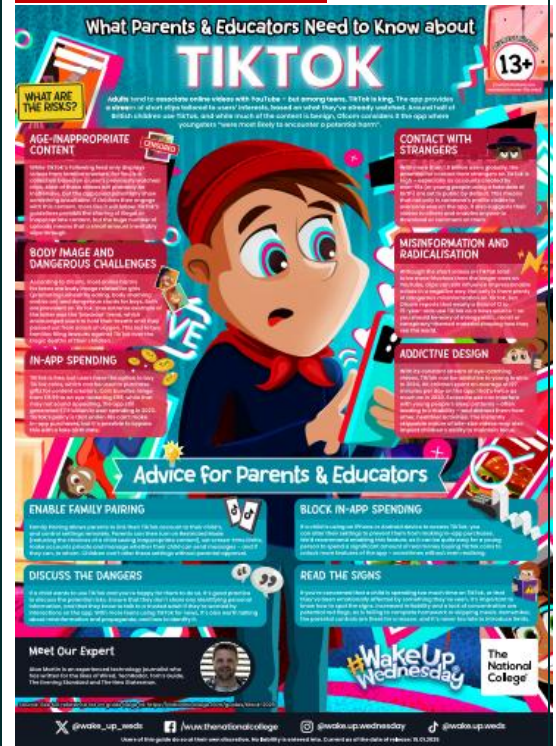
Best wishes,
Danielle Parr

Safeguarding – Keeping safe online

On Tuesday 10th February, as part of Internet Safety Day, Mrs O'Hara set the children in Years 2 – 6 an internet safety challenge. Teaching the children about how to stay safe online is such an important part of our work in school and yours at home too so well done to all the children and families who undertook this challenge.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026/quiz-for-7-11s>

This week's focus is on Tiktok – check out the attached guide.



UNCRC Article 17: Every child has the right to reliable information.

Walk in White

The Walk in White event was a great success with the children requesting, "Can we do this every month?" It was lovely to see all the children chatting away as they walked the route around school. Thank you everyone for your contributions, we raised a grand total of £247.80 for the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Charity.

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

	Attendance	No. of late marks
Reception	95.7%	3
Team 1	91.2%	1
Team 2	93.7%	9
Team 3	99.6%	1
Team 4	95.7%	2
Team 5	94%	0 least lates
Team 6	95.3%	5

Attendance Cup Goes to...

Spring Term 1, Week 1: Team 2
 Spring Term 1, Week 2: Team R
 Spring Term 1, Week 3: Team 1
 Spring Term 1, Week 4: Team 5
 Spring Term 1, Week 5: Team 5
 Spring Term 1, Week 6: Team 3

Attendance & Punctuality – WE CANNOT TEACH AN EMPTY SEAT!

Medical appointments in school time. We understand that sometimes it is not possible to make medical appointments out of school hours. On these occasions it is school policy to provide us with evidence of these appointments. This may be a screenshot, an appointment letter or email confirmation. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

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.

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 so please ensure your contact details are up to date on Arbor.

Holidays in Term Time

Holidays in term time will not be authorised. If you are planning to take your child out of school during term time a 'Request for leave of absence' form must be completed (the orange form) and returned to school so attendance processes can be followed. 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...

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

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

INSET Days: Monday 1st September 2025
 Tuesday 2nd September 2025
 Monday 1st June 2026
 Tuesday 2nd June 2026
 Friday 17th July 2026
 Monday 20th July 2026

Important Dates (*subject to change)

13 th February	Finish for Half Term 3.15pm
23 rd February	Return for Spring 2
25 th February	Y6 residential trip to Robinwood
26 th February	Y6 residential trip to Robinwood
27 th February	Y6 residential trip to Robinwood
27 th February	Year 4 Come Dine with Me
5 th March	World Book Day
6 th March	Year 3 Come Dine with Me
13 th March	Year 2 Come Dine with Me
16 th March	Big Walk & Wheel – 2 weeks
17 th March	Parents Evening 3.20pm – 6pm
19 th March	Parents Evening 2.20pm – 5.30pm
20 th March	5 Trip to Martin Mere
20 th March	Year 1 Come Dine with Me
26 th March	Last After School Club session
27 th March	Finish for Easter Holidays 1.30pm
27 th March	After School Club is closed
13 th April	Return for Summer 1
17 th April	Year 6 Come Dine with Me
24 th April	Year 5 Come Dine with Me
1 st May	Reception Come Dine with Me
4 th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
13 th May	Y4 residential trip to CHET
18 th May	Y3 Trip to Deva Roman Experience, Chester
21 st May	Spanish Day
22 nd May	Finish for Half Term 3.15pm
1 st June	Inset Day
2 nd June	Inset Day
3 rd June	Return for Summer 2
12 th June	Forest School Book & Brew 9 - 10am
15 th July	Last After School Club session
16 th July	Finish for Summer Holidays 1.30pm
16 th July	After School Club is closed
17 th July	INSET Day – Staff only to attend
20 th July	INSET Day – Staff only to attend