



Spring Term 2, Week 5 News

Friday 27th March 2026

www.valewood.co.uk

[@ValewoodPrimary – Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/ValewoodPrimary)

Dear Families,

What a term! It has been a privilege to step up into the role of full time Acting Headteacher this half term and I have loved watching the children flourish within and beyond the classroom. Valewood is always a hive of activity and this half term has been no exception.

Neurodiversity Week

As an inclusive school we celebrate neurodiversity every day, but last week we shone a spotlight on the wonderful world of neurodiversity. The children explored how it is important to have knowledge and understanding of difference and diversity and used their knowledge of children's rights to reflect on equality, equity and justice. Our children are so reflective and understand that everyone is unique and should be respected and as stated by Article 2 of the UNCRC: Every child has the right to no discrimination.

Musical Visits

Last week Years 4, 5 and 6 supported our local high schools by being an audience for their school musical rehearsals. Year 4 and 5 visited St Michael's High to watch their performance of Shrek and Year 6 watched The Little Shop of Horrors at Chesterfield. The children loved the performances and it was great to see previous Valewood pupils still excelling and valuing their personal strengths.

Parents' Evenings

The hall was a bustle of activity on Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th March when our Parents Evening took place. The children's wonderful work was showcased and progress reports were shared. 99% of families attended over the 2 sessions which is a fantastic achievement and demonstrates the commitment that our families have to their children's education. Thank you!

Year 5 Martin Mere Educational Visit

On Friday 20th March Year 5 ventured back in history to the time of The Vikings! Martin Mere was the venue and what an experience it was! Year 5 represented Valewood with impeccable manners, fantastic knowledge and great enthusiasm. Thank you to Miss Eglin for organising the visit and thanks also go to Mrs Stoddart, Miss Chapman and our parent volunteers who immersed themselves in the day too. "Vel gert"

Manor Cup

On Monday we welcomed St Lukes' footballers to our annual Manor Cup football competition. Unfortunately, Valewood were not the victors this time, but everyone rose to the occasion and represented our school faultlessly. A big shout out goes to Mr Hutson who organised the event and a big thank you goes to Sophia and Diana our Year 6 RRSAs, who helped to sell refreshments and raise over £25 for UNICEF. There are a number of exciting football and sports events planned for the summer term. I can't wait!

Diversity Concert

On Thursday 26th March the junior choir attended the Diversity Concert. They used their voices to sing about the power of belonging and signed the lyrics to our song, "Where you belong" beautifully. I would like to say a huge thank to Mrs Salzano who dedicates her time every Wednesday after school to lead the choir with me and to Miss Eglin and Mrs Parry who supported the children on the evening too.

The term ended with our annual Easter/Spring Hat parade and this year was another example of how creative and imaginative our children (and families) are! Thank you to everyone for all your hard work and support this term. I hope you all have a wonderful break and I will look forward to seeing you all in April for an exciting and productive final term of 2025/26.

**Best wishes,
Danielle Parr**

Awards

Our Spring 2 awards assembly took place this afternoon with all classes coming together to celebrate the successes of pupils from Reception to Year 5.

Congratulations to all our award winners!

Take Notice: Aiden, Harriet, Pearl, Frankie, Jordan, Louis, Henry

Keep learning: Harry, Finley, Jack, Fox, Mikey, Oliver, Tyler

Connect: Hayden, Lucy, Arlo, Max, Constance, Olive, Teddy

Give: Ivy, Jamie, Faye, Xander, Autumn, Eliza, Zayn

Stay active: Aether, George, Maggie, Oscar, George, Jos, Noah

RRS: Ada, Mabel, Caitlin, Frankie, Ellie, Alayjah, Hugo

Yellow star: Sofia, Arthur, Benjamin, Archie, Edgar, Louis, Joshua

Vonnie's smoothies

Vonnie's smoothies is closing so next term is your last chance to sign up for a healthy milkshake or smoothie. Sign up online to book a Friday smoothie

<https://bookwhen.com/vonniessmoothies>

Attendance Data: Whole School Target 97%

Last Week- School:

	Attendance	No. of late marks
Reception	96.3%	4
Team 1	96.4%	2
Team 2	92.7%	2
Team 3	96.5%	3
Team 4	97%	4
Team 5	99.3%	1 least lates
Team 6	98%	3

Attendance Cup Goes to...

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

Attendance & Punctuality – WE CANNOT TEACH AN EMPTY SEAT!

Miss Chapman, Mrs Harding and I monitor and analyse the attendance of every pupil in school. This term we have looked at which children, across the school, have improved their attendance the most since Christmas. Well done to: Aether, Lauranne, Florence, Isaac, Iyla, Byron, Oscar, Kit, Autumn, Ellie, Alayjah, Belle, Finley and Ethan W! Keep up the good work.

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'.

PARKING

Unfortunately, we have had a number of complaints this week about families parking over our neighbours drives in Sherwood Avenue. Please be reminded that it is illegal to park over someone's drive. Please remember to be careful and courteous when parking around school.

	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

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

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 April	Return for Summer 1
16 th April	Y4 Parent CHET Meeting 4pm
17 th April	Year 5 Forest School
17 th April	Year 6 Come Dine with Me
24 th April	Year 5 Forest School
24 th April	Reception Come Dine with Me
1 st May	Year 3 Forest School
1 st May	Year 5 Come Dine with Me
4 th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
7 th May	Class photographs and Y6 Aspirations
8 th May	Year 3 Forest School
11 th May	SATS week
13 th May	Y4 residential trip to CHET
15 th May	Year 3 Forest School
18 th May	Valefest Week
18 th May	Y3 Trip to Deva Roman Experience, Chester
21 st May	Spanish Day – wear traditional dress or colours of the Spanish flag
22 nd May	Year 3 Forest School
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
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