

Valley Views

Edition: December 2023



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Cross-Country Success

Last month, pupils from Years 5 and 6 took part in the Bromley Schools' cross-country competition at Crystal Palace Park. Many of those who took part succeeded on improving on their previous best but, on the day, there was one stand out performance from one of our Yr 6 boys. Our congratulations go to Emery who came first in the Year 6 race. His confident running style was clear for all to see and he maintained a substantial lead throughout the race.



Curriculum Round-Up

It has been another busy term at Valley with the pupils studying a broad, balanced curriculum across all subject areas. From our core spine of texts, pupils have been exposed to theme of Ambition and Aspiration. In Design and Technology, Yr 2 have been busy making puppets while pupils in Yrs 1 and 4, have put their culinary skills to the test by making soup and bread respectively. In History and Geography, learning has ranged from identifying human and physical features to the land of Ancient Egypt.





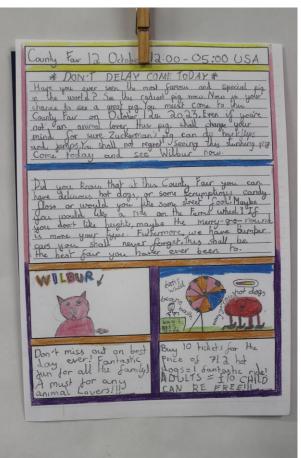


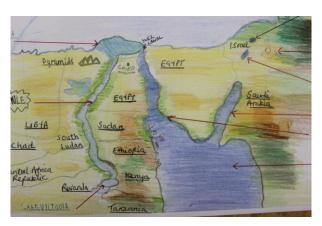


















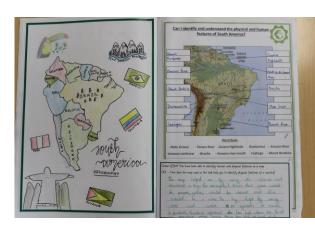
















Christmas Fair



Our thanks, once again, go to the PTA for organising another fundraising event. On Friday 8th December, the Christmas Fair took lace in the school hall. There was festive cheer aplenty with various stalls, craft stations and food and drink. The school choir opened this year's event with a rousing rendition of Kuyimbah, a song from Malawi followed by a cheerful crowd-pleaser, Seven Feet

of Snow. Initial figures show that over £3,500 was raised so a big thank you to all the families who came along to support and to those who bought a Christmas tree from the PTA this year.

Poppy Appeal 2023



Thank you to all who contributed to this year's poppy appeal at Valley. A total of £365 was raised for the Royal British Legion.

Carols and Christmas Nativities

A big well done to all the pupils who have delivered the message of Christmas this week. The performance began on Tuesday with pupils in Key Stage 2 telling the Christmas Story through readings, poems and song. A special thank you to Rev'd Harratt for once again allowing the school to use Bromley Parish Church and to Mr Mussard who played the piano and organ.

On Wednesday and Thursday morning it was the turn of Key Stage 1 who presented their nativity play, Prickly Hay.

For many, Christmas doesn't really begin, until our youngest pupils have performed their nativity play and this year's cohort of four and five year olds did not disappoint with their performance of A Wriggly Nativity.







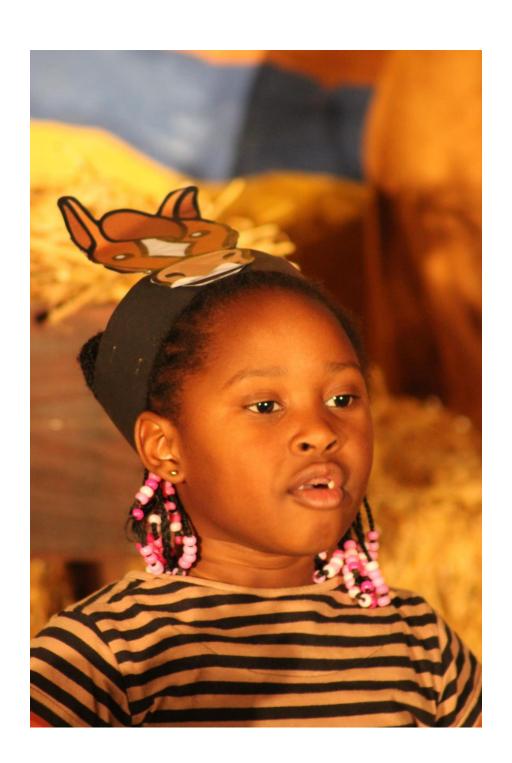


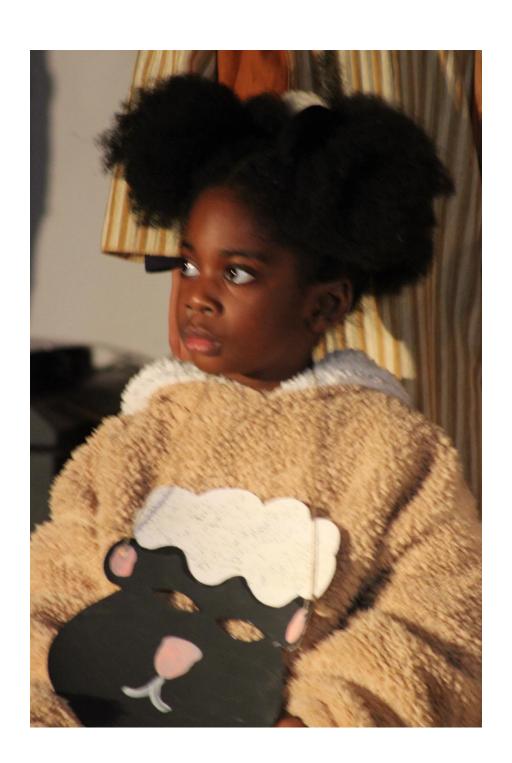


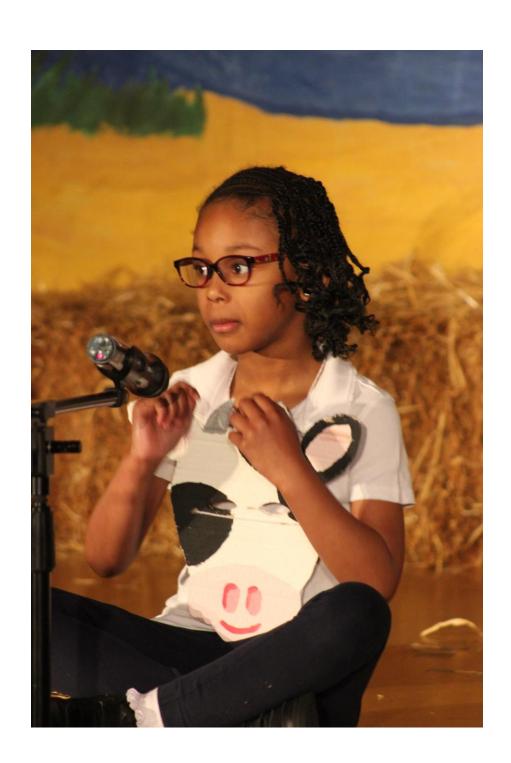




















eSafety update

Here are a few ideas to help you and your family with screen time

- 1. Agree on a clear set of rules with your child on screen time in the home. Talk to your child about when you think it is appropriate and inappropriate to use screens. Agree times when screens are allowed and not allowed in the home. For example: no screens before school, at dinner time, nor bedtime.
- 2. Do as you say. Modelling behaviour is THE most powerful way you can influence your child's behaviour so let them see you limiting your own screen time.

3. Restrict the use of computers/devices in the bedroom. Depending on the age of your child you may want to set a curfew or ban devices from the bedroom completely. It is important that we encourage openness and mentor

alongside our children and whilst it is important to respect privacy, we must always be mindful of stranger danger as a digital problem.

4. Pick one evening a week where you do a family activity together, whether it's movie night, games night or something else. Doing activities together as a family will help implement screen time guidelines and offer fun alternatives.



For the latest guidance fop parents visit: https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides

Agents for Change





As part of the ongoing work at Valley relating to equality and diversity, six members of Year 5 have been chosen to act as the school's Agents for Change. The pupils recently attended a whole-day

workshop in Gravesend run by Equaliteach where they further developed their understanding of the different forms of identity-based bullying. The first job for our newly appointed Agents for Change is to finalise the school's action plan and to plan some whole-school assemblies on different aspects of inclusion.

Peer Mediators

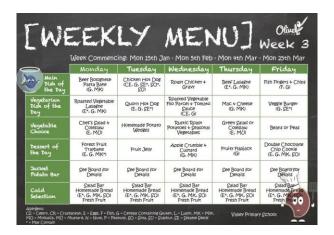
In November, the Year 5 Peer Mediators completed their 4-week training programme with Behaviour Matters Ltd. They now join the Year 6 Mediators to carry out their duties on the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds. They perform an important role of helping their peers with minor disputes or friendship problems. They have been trained to use a Restorative Approach to help the children to resolve the issue through talking and listening, and achieve a 'win-win' solution.



Spring Term Menus







And finally.....are your hands cold?



A parent, friend or family member who attended last week's Key Stage 2 Carol Service at the church left a pair of gloves behind. They were found near the front of the church on the right-hand side pews. If you attended the service and lost a pair of gloves, please come along to the Main Office to reclaim them.

Parking



Once again, can I please remind parents of the need to need to park safely and responsibly on the surrounding roads. Sadly, there have been two more incidents recently of Valley parents parking irresponsibly and then being verbally abusive to our neighbours, members of the public or indeed fellow parents. Parents should not mount pavements when dropping off or collecting children from school and parents are NOT PERMITTED to park their cars in Shelby Court on Farnaby Road. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Save the date



Upcoming dates for diary:

- 19th December at 3.30pm End of Term
- 3rd January 2024 INSET Day (School Closed to Pupils)
- 4th January 2024 First Day of Spring Term

Thank you for reading!