Valley View Voice

Friday 18th September 2026

The start of this school year has felt incredibly smooth as children, staff and families have settled back into the routines of school life. While the novelty of a new school year may be beginning to wear off for some, it remains a genuine joy to walk around school and see our children so engaged in their learning, friendships and wider school experiences.

Playtimes continue to be a real strength. Children are making the most of our fields and OPAL provision every day, with access to crates, tunnels, tyres, digging areas and small world resources that encourage creativity, teamwork and imaginative play. It is wonderful to see children of all ages immersed in purposeful play, developing important life skills alongside having great fun.

As we move further into autumn, wellies will become increasingly important. The recent damp mornings have already made parts of the field a little muddy, and wellies help ensure children can continue to enjoy outdoor play for as long as possible. I have enjoyed seeing our wellington boot stores gradually filling up again. We have also uncovered a number of spare pairs in school, which will be available outside the front entrance on a first come, first served basis for any families who may find them useful.

One of the things that strikes me most at this time of year is the strength of our school community. There is a well-known quote from Steve Jobs: *"It's not faith in technology. It's faith in people."* That sentiment resonates strongly with me. Schools are not defined by their buildings, resources or equipment alone. What makes a school special is its people: the children who come eager to learn, the staff who work tirelessly to support them, and the families who partner with us every day.

I feel incredibly fortunate to be part of such a special community. I have the utmost faith in our children, our staff and our families, and I know that together we are united by a shared commitment to provide the very best opportunities for every child. Thank you for the part you play in making Valley View such a welcoming, supportive and thriving school community.

Mrs Claire Griffiths, Headteacher

Attendance

<u>Well done for a fantastic start to the year, let's keep it up!</u>

Nursery - 97%
Reception - 99%
Year 1 - 95%
Year 2 - 90%
Year 3 - 96%
Year 4 - 96%
Year 5 - 97%
Year 6 - 96%

The classes with the highest attendance last week were Ribble and Arram, who have won themselves and extra playtime!

Jobs in the Community

As part of their learning about *People and Communities*, the Reception children are learning about the kinds of jobs people do in our local area. Are you a police officer, doctor, vet, dental nurse, farmer, shop assistant, hairdresser, builder, or something we haven't thought of?! We would love some of our Valley View families to come in and talk to the children about the work they do. Please talk to Mrs Cullen or Mrs Fennelly or telephone the school office if you could spare half an hour to come into school. Thank you!

Santa is Returning to Valley View!

We are happy to announce that Santa will be back at the lodge again this year! Tickets will be on sale after the half term holiday. Watch this space!

PTA Meeting

The first PTA meeting of the new school year is next Monday (21st Sept) at Stanningley Rugby Club at 6.00pm. Please come along, all welcome!

Sponsored Colour Run

Reminder to all our community that you can still sign up for the sponsored colour run on ParentPay the event is happening soon (1st Oct), so please sign up if you or any of your family are interested!

Government Screen Guidance for under 5s

The government has released new guidance about screen time for children under five. There has been research carried out about screen time and the effects that too much screen time has on developing brains. This short BBC clip is a fascinating watch. You can read more here on the *Best Start in Life* UK Government advice.

Reception Outdoor Learning Area

We need your help! The Reception staff set up the Outdoor Learning Area in the morning, ready for the children to learn. Please do not allow your child or younger siblings to enter the Outdoor Area until a member of staff has opened the gate. Many thanks.

Cross Country News

On Tuesday two teams of children from Year 4 took part in our first event of the year, a fun run at Leeds West Academy. The children all showed great resilience to complete the long course. We had some fantastic results and we are looking forward to more cross country events this term.

Dogs in School and on the School Grounds

A reminder that dogs are not permitted on school grounds, unless they are service or assistance dogs. Please be aware that there may, at times, be service/assistance dogs in school or on the school grounds. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please contact the school.

Valley View Community Primary School, Coal Hill Drive, Rodley, Leeds LS13 1DD
Tel: 0113 255 4972 email: office@valleyviewschool.org.uk

Diary Dates

Sept

Mon 21st	PTA meeting 6-7pm
Wed 23rd	Flu Vaccination day

Oct

Thurs 1st	Sponsored Colour Run
Thurs 15th	Open Evening for Reception 2027 intake 5.00pm
Mon 19th	Training Day (school closed to all pupils)
Tues 20th	Individual school photos
Wed 21st	Open Morning for Reception 2027 intake 9.15am
Fri 23rd	Yr6 Height & Weight check. Break up for half term.

Nov

Mon 2nd	Back to school
Tues 3rd	Open Evening for Reception 2027 intake 5.00pm
Thurs 12th	Open Morning for Reception 2027 intake 9.15am

Secondary School Open Evenings - Year 6 families only

Leeds West Academy are holding their open evening on Wednesday 23rd September between 6.00pm-8.00pm.

St Mary's Menston open day is on Saturday 26th September between 11.00am-2.00pm.

Horsforth School open evening is Thursday 1st October and is a bookable event. Please click here for more information.

Benton Park open evening is on Saturday 3rd October and is a bookable event. Please click here for more information.

Reminder - Going Home Arrangements

Please can remind all families to complete the form below. For families with children in Years 5 and 6 you are able to give permission for your child to walk home on this form should you wish to.

Going Home Arrangement Form

Star of the Week

Calder Class: Cornell Blood Cornell is such a kind and considerate friend. He always looks out for his peers and takes into account how they are feeling. Cornell often checks in on people and always makes sure that others are included. Well done, Cornell!

Crimple Class: Tairah Speight Tairah has settled into Year 1 beautifully. She is a shining role model who always puts in 100% effort. This week, she has impressed Year 1 staff with her resilience in tricky computing work. She persevered through it, and even offered help to her friends. Keep up the amazing work, Tairah!

Deepdale Class: We have celebrated Deepdale star of the week privately in class this week.

Derwent Class: Rupert Forde Rupert has amazed us this week with his thirst for knowledge and wonderful attitude towards his learning. He has a genuine desire to learn and do his best which is wonderful to see, especially when he is only in Year 2.

Hebble Class: Maisie Baker Maisie has made a fantastic start to Year 3. She is always well organised and ready for her learning. She has some great ideas and she works hard and tries her best. Maisie has also impressed us with her PE work - especially her running and athletics skills! Well done Maisie!

Humber Class: Lydia Morris Lydia is a wonderful role model and friend to everyone in the class. She adapts to the different challenges in Year 3 very well and always does her best. We were very pleased when she overcame a few nervous feelings in swimming and ended our first swimming session with a huge smile on her face. Well done Lydia!

Limley Class: Benji Thomas Benji has had a fabulous start to life in Year 4! He has impressed all adults with his genuine enthusiasm for learning. He's also blown us away with his superb writing, where his sentences open in different ways and he uses amazing vocabulary. Keep it up, Benji!

Loxley Class: Summer-Rae Edmondson Summer has shown incredible effort this week in all subjects. She has shown great resilience whilst working and has continued to develop her own independence. Fantastic start to Year 4, Summer— keep it up!

Ribble Class: Iona Iona has been making wonderful contributions to classroom discussions this week. She has shown great confidence when sharing her ideas and has given some insightful responses. Iona always listens carefully to what others have to say and shows respect for everyone's opinions. She is a real credit to Ribble Class. Well done, Iona!

Ryburn Class: Isabella Brock Isabella is such a hard worker. In everything she does, she puts in 100%, understanding that hard work brings success. Mistakes have not phased her at all as these are a part of learning. Keep this up!

Washburn Class: Penny Fellows Penny is a valued member of Washburn Class who consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic. She has particularly impressed us with her progress in maths, confidently tackling challenging problems and working with increasing accuracy and methodical thought. Well done, Penny!

Wenning Class: Dexter Berry Dexter is such a hard-working, mature and kind boy; he is an absolute pleasure to teach. In every lesson, Dexter always has something interesting to say. He listens carefully, is extremely respectful of others and always gives 100% effort in everything he does. We are all extremely proud of you Dexter - keep up the hard work!