



# Kennet Valley C of E VA Primary School

## Curiosity, Compassion, Courage

### Monday 4th October 2021

Good afternoon Kennet Valley Community.

Term 1 at Kennet Valley has continued to be very busy. The children are working really hard in their class sessions and have continued to build relationships with each other. It is wonderful to see the Year 6 Buddies working with the new Reception children each week and I know that they are being fantastic role models.

We have been busy with enrichment activities too. The children had wonderful sessions visiting the Science Dome on Friday, and came back



bubbling with excitement and knowledge. Year 5 and 6 also went to hear Tom Palmer speak at the Marlborough Literature Festival on the same day. In the coming weeks Year 6 have a day trip to Go Ape for team building activities, while Wrens class (Year R/I) are visiting The Look Out Discovery Centre for a day of science activities.



The Term 2 clubs list will be sent out to you all shortly - we are pleased that we are able to offer a wider range of clubs again, which include football, rugby, cookery and science. Most of these clubs can be booked through school, but the Mad Science Club will need to be booked through their website (see information below)

We were very lucky to be visited by Dominic Muns, who is a Wiltshire County Councillor, who is the Portfolio Holder for Education in Wiltshire.

Councillor Muns enjoyed a tour of the school, before talking with the School Council members from Years 4, 5 and 6. He also had time with the co-chairs of the Governing Body and the staff team. Mrs Hues and Mrs Bushnell worked with the school council to prepare questions for their sessions, and I know that they were very proud of their thoughtfulness.

I was very pleased to welcome him to the school and to have the opportunity to talk about all of our



successes and the next steps for the school. We also discussed how we thought Wiltshire Council could best support us, as a small school, going forward. I would like to take this opportunity to say a HUGE thank you to Councillor Muns for his time and I hope that he will come to the school again in the future.

As you know my newsletter usually contains a dates list. This is now going to be sent out separately on a Thursday via ParentMail by Ruthie in the office.

I hope that you all have a fantastic fortnight

Many thanks - Mrs Russell





On Friday 1st October the children in Year 5 and 6 went to Marlborough Town Hall to listen to author Tom Palmer talk about his books and the process he goes through when writing a book. They have talked to me about how inspiring he was, especially as he talked about how he found the writing process tricky and that he had to keep working on it, rather than giving up when it became difficult. Thank you to the Marlborough Lit Fest for inviting us to attend this talk.



We would like to invite you to join our Governors for Coffee, Tea and Pastries on **Monday 18th October** 8.45am to 9.30am in our school hall.

This is a chance to get to know members of our Governing body and find out about their important role within the school.

They look forward to seeing you on the 18th!



*Good Morning!*

## AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Complement Your Child's Learning Experience with a Mad Science After-School Club. Our unique approach gives children a solid scientific foundation that goes beyond the classroom, through hands-on activities and spectacular demonstrations.

### SIGN UP FOR YOUR COURSE TODAY KENNET VALLEY SCHOOL

**Day and Time: Thursday 3.15pm-4.15pm**  
**Dates: 4<sup>th</sup> November – 9<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Programme Duration: 6 x 1-hour sessions**  
**Cost: £48**  
**Please register by: 20<sup>th</sup> October 21**

### REGISTER ONLINE

Visit [Wessex.madscience.org](http://Wessex.madscience.org) click **REGISTER HERE**  
 Search "Kennet" in the 'Location drop down' and click **SELECT**

If you are unable to access the internet, please call us to register by phone 01980 611807. Registration will be available until **20<sup>th</sup> October 21**. Please ensure you register by this date to secure your child a place. In the interest of fairness places are allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

**Please note:** successful online registration with full payment secures your child's place on our After-School Club programme unless you are otherwise contacted. For further information or if you encounter any problems please don't hesitate to contact us: [schools@madsciencewessex.co.uk](mailto:schools@madsciencewessex.co.uk)

Due to the nature of this After School Club, all students will be expected to behave in an appropriate manner and adhere to the rules of the school and of Mad Science. Any child who consistently does not behave will be asked to leave the After School Club and will not be entitled to a refund.

**wessex.madscience.org**      **01980 611807**

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS
BIRTHDAY PARTIES
CAMPS
SPECIAL EVENTS
WORKSHOPS

### What if my child develops Covid-19 symptoms?

Anyone, including children, who develops symptoms of Covid-19 should stay at home and self-isolate. You should then arrange to have a PCR test as soon as possible. Do not send your child to school with Covid-19 symptoms. If your child receives a negative result, they may return to school.

### What if a member of the household develops symptoms?

If another household member, such as mum or dad, displays symptoms then they should self-isolate and seek a PCR test. Children however can attend school even if a household member has tested positive for the virus- assuming they are not displaying symptoms themselves.

This is clarified in the latest guidance which states: From 16th August, you will not be required to self-isolate if you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 and any of the following apply:

- You are fully vaccinated
- You are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- You have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- You are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons



Just a quick **THANK YOU** to all the staff at the school, who have made the start of the school year a great success. I am very grateful to every one of you.



**Volunteers** - Thank you to all the volunteers that have been coming into school since we restarted in September - it has been great to see you and we all really appreciate your help and support. Most of the volunteers are parents of children at school, but we have got several members of the local community coming in to help too.

Most of these fantastic people listen to children read - this is such an important role - while we have others who are helping with maths or other specialist subjects. If you would be interested in coming in to help, please let me know directly.



On Friday 8th October we are looking forward to a day with Slater Music Schools (SMS) tutors. They will be coming in to give every child several taster sessions - ukulele, guitar and drums. The children will also have the



opportunity to listen to the tutors playing these instruments and we hope that this inspires them to want to learn more in music. From Term 2 the Year 4 children will be having a weekly Ukulele lesson with Sean from SMS, and later in the year we are also hoping to have an afterschool music club too.

After school on Friday, parents are also invited to come into school to try out the instruments too - and hope that many of you will choose to pop in and have a go.

If you would like your children to have lessons on any of the above instruments, please contact Ruthie in the office or SMS directly.

**PE Reminders** - We are continuing to enjoy going to the Kennet Valley Hall for PE on a Wednesday. Although I would advise that children bring these things everyday, it is essential that all children bring a wet weather coat to school for PE sessions. They also need to bring a water bottle and their high viz jackets for the walk up to the hall. Could I also remind all parents that children should wear the correct PE kit. This is dark blue shorts, a plain white t-shirt, trainers and a blue hoody. We have more and more coloured t-shirts/shorts being worn which is not acceptable. In August I wrote to remind you that earrings should not be worn on a Wednesday (or on your child's other PE day). This is for the safety of your child.



**Collective Worship** - This term we are able to have Collective Worship as a whole school again. Each Collective worship has a focus linked to the term's value. This term we are looking at Courage. We have a Celebration service on a Friday and hope to be able to invite you to join us for this in the coming weeks - I will send you out more information soon.

Harvest Festival will be on Friday 15th October at West Overton Church. More information will be sent to you in the coming days.

