

**Miss Cartwright's Weekly Message**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to start by saying a huge thank you to parents and children for such an amazing year. I was at another of our academies in the Autumn Term but my time here this academic year has been very special.

This newsletter will mostly focus on key messages for September as well as a few highlights from this week, and the end of last week. Please do follow our X (Twitter) [@Vale\\_Primary](#) for photos and updates on some other highlights from classes.

Celebrations

I want to start by saying thank you to everyone who supported and attended our summer fair last Friday. It may have drizzled but that did not take away the smiles on faces. We raised a whopping £1169.22 which will go directly back into our school. We have some fabulous Reading Ambassadors, Eco Rangers, Pupil Parliament and Playground Buddies that may decide they want something to enhance what they do.

Our sports day was a huge success. The children had a great time and thoroughly enjoyed their ice pop treat at the end. The sun shone for us, which made it even better. Medals were handed out in class and celebrated. Our wonderful Eco Rangers visited a local nursing home to ask for advice on what is best to plant and when, as well as asking the residents what they would recommend planting. They were amazing and they really made a difference to their day.

We had another successful careers visit from a parent, who is a scrub nurse. She discussed her career working in orthopedic surgery as well as showing the children some knee and hip replacements. An amazing engaging workshop for Year 5 and Year 6.

September Updates

As you are aware from a previous letter, as of August 19<sup>th</sup> 2024, the Department for Education have released new Working Together to Improve School Attendance. To further support attendance we will continue with our rewards, introduce new fun and exciting rewards within school and we will increase the profile of attendance giving it its own assembly. We hope to involve our children more and continue to promote the reasons why good attendance is so important.

A number of children, nationally, locally, and within our academy struggle with the anxiety of entering school. **In response to this we will begin September with 'soft starts'**. This means we will no longer line up in classes but begin entering the building as soon as the doors open. In doing this, it will reduce the anxiety of larger crowds on the yard, something we know a number of our children struggle with. We know many of you love your morning message as an insight to what your child will be learning. We are working on increasing our use of X (Twitter) so you can see all the amazing things your children learn and experience. Support staff will be on the yard to pass on any messages to teachers, who will be in class with the children beginning their learning.

**We love inviting parents in for our reading sessions and want this to continue. However, we will be moving this to a Wednesday afternoon 14:50 due to timetabling.** This session will continue to be a special time for parents to enjoy books and stories with their children.

From September the price of school dinners will increase to £2.35. *"As a trust we have worked hard to ensure consistency across our school meal offering, asking our contractors to source fresh ingredients from local butchers, greengrocers, etc, improving the quality of our offering over the past few years. Menus are seasonal and we always seek feedback on what pupils would like to see on upcoming menus. School meal charges have remained the same for the last two years however due to a number of price increases across our contractors, we have no alternative but to increase the cost of our school meals moving forwards."*

Breakfast club will open at the same time of 08:00 and cost £1.75 per session. This is to be paid electronically via MCAS as usual.

We are very excited to announce that our next phase of building will begin over the summer holidays. This phase of works will improve the Year 2, 3 and 6 classrooms, and fully renovate the toilets between the Year 2 and 3 classrooms. In September, Year 2 will be in the temporary classroom (which Year 5 currently use) and return to their newly updated classroom in the Autumn Term. I will update children and parents as I get updates from Core Facilities and the builders.

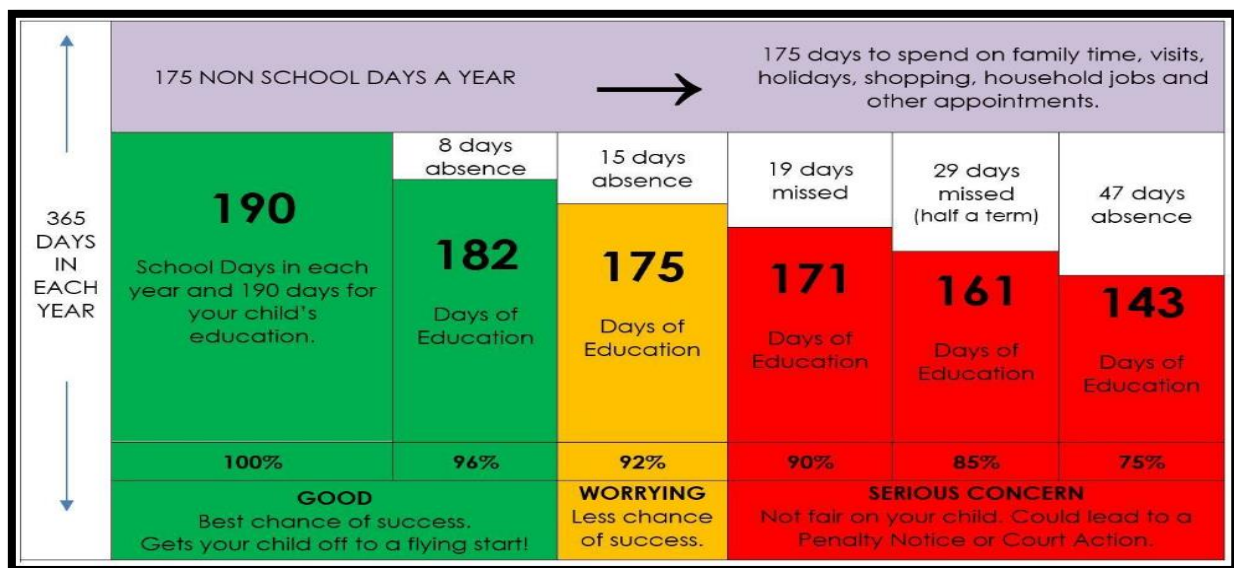
School start and end times will remain the same 08:45-15:15 Reception to Year 6.

I would like to end by saying goodbye to some of our nursery children who will be starting reception in another school, we look forward to welcoming new children into our Reception class with Mrs Pearson. We also say goodbye to our amazing Year 6 children who start their journey into high school.

We say a sad farewell to Miss Emmerson, Mrs Wallis and Miss Tiplady. We wish them the absolute best heading into their new jobs. We look forward to welcoming Miss Capper into Year 4 and Ms Meister, who will be joining our Early Years team.

A final thank you for making first two terms as Head a thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding one. I cannot wait to see what else we achieve next year. **We welcome children back into school on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.** Our website has been updated with our term dates for next academic year.

Miss S Cartwright



<b>PUPIL OF THE WEEK</b>	
CATERPILLARS	The whole of Nursery
BUTTERFLIES	The whole of Reception
PANDAS	The whole of Year 1
TIGERS	The whole of Year 2
GAZELLES	The whole of Year 3
ELEPHANTS	The whole of Year 4
PENGUINS	The whole of Year 5
SNOW LEOPARDS	The whole of Year 6

<b>Attendance</b>	
CATERPILLARS	95.3%
BUTTERFLIES	96%
PANDAS	92.8%
TIGERS	95.8%

GAZELLES	96.4%
ELEPHANTS	92.5%
PENGUINS	90%
SNOW LEOPARDS	96.7%

HOUSE POINTS			
WHARF	SWALE	DERWENT	AIRE
925	938	894	986

