

Headteacher's Letter

October 2019

Dear Parent

This school year is now off and running with half term already approaching quickly. Thank you for your support in these initial weeks with ensuring your child is in the correct school uniform and ready for the school day. We also value our contact with you and the support you give when any concerns do arise. Working in partnership with you to ensure the best for your child is important and sends a positive message to your child.

We have already held two parents' information evenings and it has been good to welcome a number of you to these. We have also taken on board your feedback on the questionnaires at the end of each evening to help us keep reviewing these events going forward.

Volunteers Sought!

Over the last few years we have organised days for any willing volunteers to come and join us during the school holidays to help improve our school environment for the pupils and staff. Last year this included decorating and gardening working parties in the Easter holidays. A willing group of volunteers of all ages joined us to help. We are planning to have another decorating working party again on **Thursday 31st October** in the half term week. If you or family members would like to join us, please contact Mrs Philp in our office on philpk@testvalley.hants.sch.uk to let us know to expect you. This will be from 10.00am – 15.30pm. We ask that you attend in appropriate clothing, bringing your own refreshments/lunch and any painting brushes/rollers you may have (although we can also provide these). It would be lovely if you can join us for this very practical way to support our school.

Staffing Update

As reported in my September letter we are currently fully staffed. We do, however, have some vacancies coming up. If you know anyone who may be interested, do ask them to check our website for details or contact us at school:

- Site Assistant: this vacancy has arisen due to the internal promotion of the current post-holder. It is a permanent post available from November and full details are already on our website.
- Examination Invigilators: we are always keen to increase our pool of invigilators available to supervise GCSE and internal examinations, with pupils having to sit even more formal examinations now. The dates and hours vary during the school

year and would suit applicants seeking flexibility in their hours, possibly to work around other commitments. An advert will shortly be on our website.

- Teacher of Mathematics (part-time): we do already have a teacher in this post on a temporary basis but are keen for this to be a permanent appointment going forward.

Test Valley School PTA

Our PTA continue to work hard for our school. It was lovely that PTA members were able to join us for our recent Open Evening, to enable the pool to be open for visitors and to share what they are doing. The 250 Club is now very much underway with regular monthly draws for those who have already signed up. This is a great way to support the swimming pool fundraising appeal and possibly win a monetary prize. If you would like to find out how to sign up please search 'PTA' on our school website and download an application form.

Headteacher's Coffee Morning: Tuesday 15th October 9.15 – 10.00am

Finally, a reminder of my first coffee morning on the above date. I extend a warm welcome as always if you are able to join me for this informal opportunity to meet.

Yours sincerely

Miss L Hiscock
Headteacher