

OCTOBER 2025

NEWSLETTER



Message from the Principal

Firstly, an especially warm welcome to all new parents whose children have joined one of our schools since September. The first few weeks of a major transition are always the most challenging, but I know the children have been amazing in becoming familiar with getting used to their new surroundings, and are starting to make good progress already. Fundamental to this are the relationships that are forged and developed every day over the weeks by staff in the classes, and I want to thank teachers and teaching assistants for their dedication over this first part of the school year.

I hope you enjoy reading about the highlights of this first half term within this edition – we have been delighted to see so many of you at Parents' Evenings, and share with you some of the great work the children and young people have completed. We have had a big push around reading at both schools both before and after the summer holidays, and it has been a joy to see the curriculum being brought to life through special events and everyday practice.

Over these half termly newsletters, I want to share with you some vision statements that governors, leaders and staff have considered important as longer term aims for us. We know that we are not yet reaching all of these yet, but we feel the overall direction of travel is important to get right. Here's the first of five areas, which we consider to be of the highest importance:



*At The Vale Federation, we believe every child deserves a joyful, meaningful, and empowering education. We are committed to creating a vibrant learning environment where pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties thrive through an exciting and innovative curriculum, delivered by passionate staff with deep subject and SEND expertise. Our schools are places of celebration and connection—where enriching events, purposeful community visits, and inclusive experiences foster personal development, positive behaviour, and a strong sense of belonging. Our premises are thoughtfully designed to support sensory, physical, and emotional needs, ensuring every child feels safe, inspired, and valued as they grow into confident and curious learners. **Where Every Child Belongs and Flourishes.***

If the date is not already in your diary, we'd love to see you on **Saturday 29th November** for our **Christmas Fayre**, raising money for MASKS. Lots more communication on this to follow. Enjoy the half term week.

Bradley

Enjoy our newsletter offering this time around and please do give us feedback for how you might like to see it develop. Please send all feedback to either office@bookerpark.bucks.sch.uk or office@stocklakepark.bucks.sch.uk



Bradley Taylor
Principal

School Meals Reminder

Meals Payments in advance

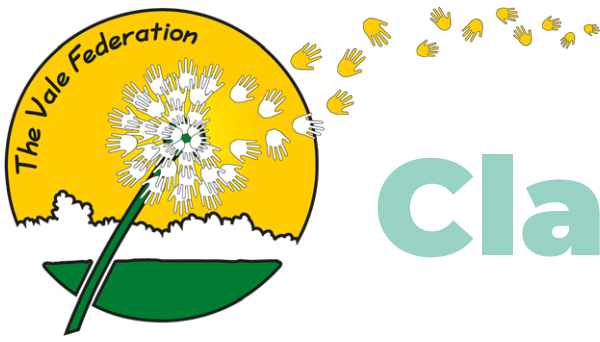
Can we please ask that all parents are up to date with your meals payments as we go into the next half term. The school policy is that all meals should be paid for in advance, unless there are specific circumstances where this may not be possible. In those cases, could you please contact the Admin office or myself (Maurice Williams - Finance Manager) to discuss alternative payment arrangements.

There will be changes coming to the meal ordering system in the new year that may require payment of meals PRIOR to ordering, in order to keep all student meal balances in credit. Any changes will be notified to you well in advance.

We appreciate your assistance with this and are happy to discuss individual cases.

Kind Regards,

The Vale Federation



Class Updates

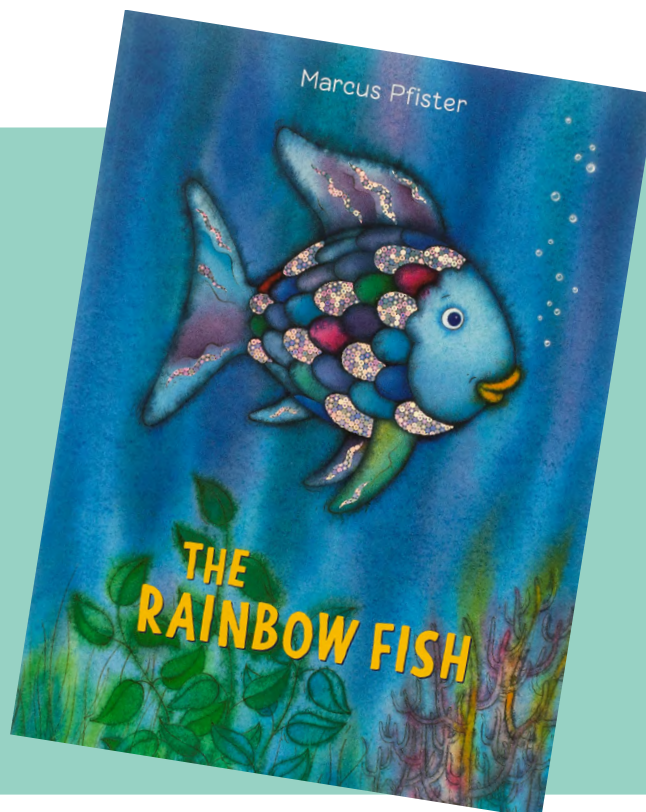
Chaffinch Class

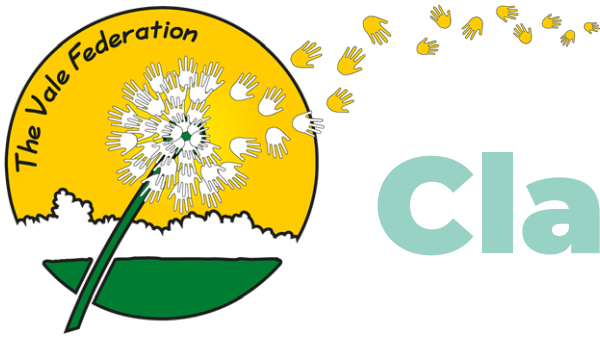
Rainbow Fish sensory activities and treasure baskets.

Chaffinch class have been enjoying attending to and engaging with sensory and creative experiences, inspired by 'The Rainbow Fish' book. The children have been exploring colours and textures as they created their own colourful fish, seaweed and the sea using glitter and paint. Through these hands-on and child led experiences, they have been developing their fine motor skills, communication skills and self-confidence. It's been a lovely way to bring the story to life!

We have continued to investigate treasure baskets, especially enjoying our Rainbow Fish and phonics basket. Resources include a variety of textured fabric, instruments, items that make noises e.g. a bunch of keys and some jingle bells, colourful streamers and an echo mic. This child led play allows children to explore open ended provision which also provides adults with opportunities to initiate and respond to social interactions, engage in reciprocal play and imitate children's actions and sounds back to them. If you have any questions about treasure baskets, or our new loose parts play, please let me know.

Emma
Class Teacher





Class Updates

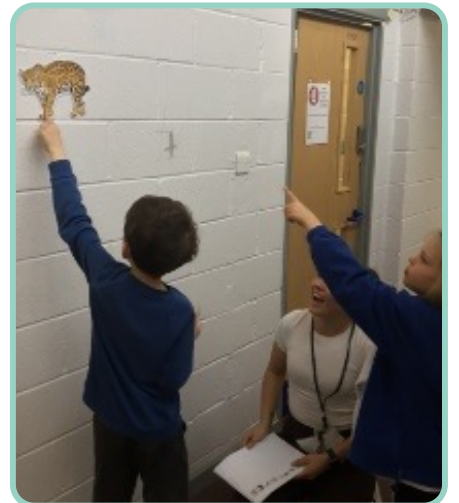
Swift Class

In Swift class this term we have been reading the story 'Rainforest Explorers'.

Everyone in Swift class has been sitting happily and engaging with the story. During the story we have explored different props, and Swift class have become very familiar with the story and have answered questions throughout.

Each week we completed a different activity. In the pictures you can see some of our children exploring the props, and some of us using the binoculars we made ourselves to go on an eye spy around the school.

Kaia
Class Teacher





Class Updates

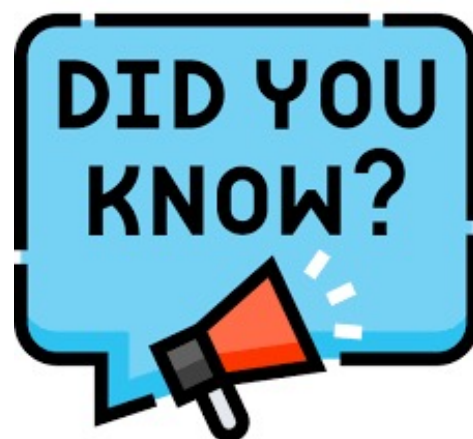
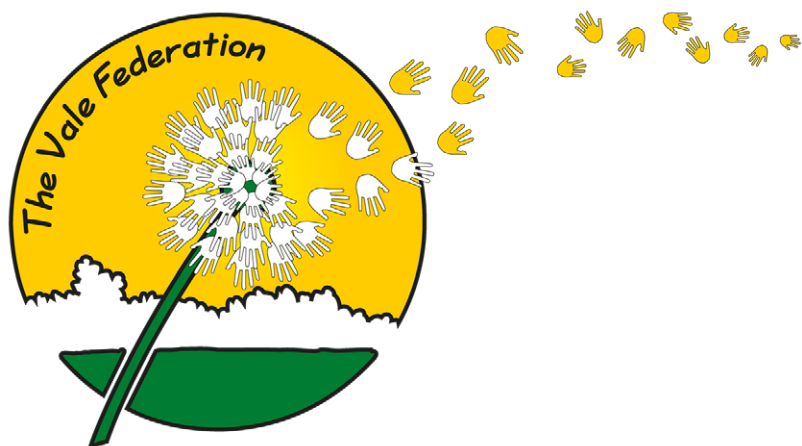
Blackbird Class

In Blackbird class we have been diving into our 'We are Explorers' topic, exploring under the sea, enjoying sensory stories, water play activities and sea themed focused learning sessions. In Creativity, we have been developing different painting and modelling techniques in preparation for making our own under water sensory dioramas. The children have engaged brilliantly in these activities and made beautiful and unique dioramas.

Sophie

Class Teacher





We offer exclusive hire of our soft play centre!

Soft Play - 3 hour hire time

Mon- Fri £100 plus VAT - School holidays only

Sat - Sun £112.50 plus VAT

Additional hours on request

Capacity: up to 20, Maximum number of children on the equipment at one time is 5. No children over 8 years old

Includes: Exclusive Use/Toilets/Tables & Chairs

For further information please contact
facilitiesbookings@thevalefederation.com



ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

ASK ITALIAN

Kids under 10 eat for £1 during school holidays

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main

BILLS

Kids Eat Free weekdays, 27th - 31st October 2025

BREWDOG

1 Kid eats free with 1 adult. Scotland 13th - 17th Oct
England & Wales 27th - 31st Oct

BURGER KING

From 13th Oct - 2nd Nov, Kids Eat Free (via app)

CHIQUITO

Kids eat FREE Daily 27th - 31st October

COCONUT TREE

Kids eat FREE Daily Mon 27th Oct - Sun 9th Nov 2025

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

FARMHOUSE INNS

2 Kids eat free From Mon 6th - Fri 17 Oct
(Scotland) & Fri 17th - Fri 31 Oct (England & Wales),

FLAMING GRILL

1 Kids eats free, Mon 13th - 20th Oct (Scotland) &
Mon 20th - Fri 31 Oct (England & Wales)

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

HARVESTER

Kids eat for £1 until October 31st 2025 via App

HUNGRY HORSE

2 Kids eat for £1 From Mon 6th - Fri 17 Oct
(Scotland) & Fri 17th - Fri 31 Oct (England & Wales),

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

MARCO PIERRE WHITE

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

MARSTON PUBS

kids eat for £1 during the october half term

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

PUREZZA

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

SIZZLING PUBS

Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

TRAVELODGE

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

WHITBREAD INNS

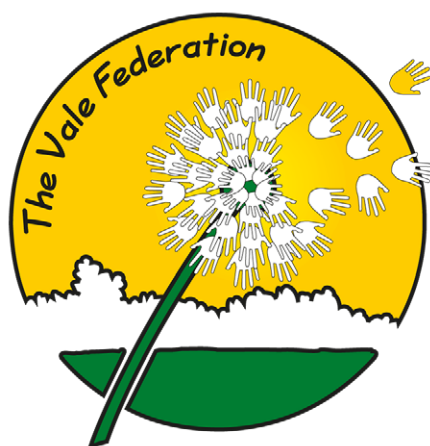
2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays

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Source - www.moneysavingcentral.co.uk. Correct at time of publication.



Discounts

for young people with SEND



There are various schemes and charities which can help save money if your child has an additional or special need.

Max Card

[Max Card](#) is a national, local authority-commissioned discount initiative for looked after children and children with additional needs aged 0 to 19 years. The scheme enables families to visit hundreds of attractions across the UK at a free or discounted rate.

[Sign up](#) to the Disabled Children Register to receive a card for free.

Merlin's Magic Wand

[Merlin's Magic Wand](#) offers magical days out at Merlin Entertainments attractions such as Legoland, Sea Life Centres and Madame Tussauds. They welcome applications on behalf of children aged 2 to 18 years with a confirmed serious illness/long term illness, disability or disadvantage.

CEA Card

[CEA Card](#) enables a disabled cinema guest to receive a complimentary ticket for someone to go with them when they visit a participating cinema.

Access Card

The [Access Card](#) translates your disability/impairment into symbols that highlight the barriers you face and the reasonable adjustments you might need. It then informs providers quickly and discreetly about the support you need and may gain you access to things like concessionary ticket prices and complex reasonable adjustments without having to go into loads of personal detail.

It costs £15 for three years.

For more local and national discount schemes visit the [Discounted sport, entertainment and travel page](#).



Foodbanks

and food sharing

Here is a list of Foodbanks in Buckinghamshire. To get a foodbank referral and vouchers speak to your Family Centre, Health Visitor or Social Worker or local Citizens Advice office.

You can also use the [Trussell Trust's website](#) to find its 400-strong network of Foodbanks.

Aylesbury - Store House

[Storehouse](#) helps anyone in need by providing food and other items like furniture and clothing to people on low incomes, benefits or who are in temporary hardship.

Areas covered: Aylesbury Vale area.

Referral or voucher needed.

Aylesbury Foodbank

[Aylesbury Foodbank](#) provides three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to people with a voucher or referral.

Areas covered: Aylesbury.

Referral or voucher needed.

FoodCycle Aylesbury

[FoodCycle](#) Aylesbury welcomes anyone to attend as a guest and enjoy a FREE hot meal. No need to book. Just turn up on the day!

Come and enjoy company and conversation with others from your local area over a delicious meal, prepared with care by FoodCycle volunteers.

Areas covered: Aylesbury and the surrounding areas.

No Referral or voucher needed.

Berryfields Community Store

Berryfields Community Store is open each Thursday morning from 10.30am for anyone in a financial crisis. For a £5 donation, you can choose 25 items of food including fresh meat, vegetables and household items (depending on available stock).

The address is Roman Park, Sir Henry Lee Crescent, HP18 0YT. For further information please contact help@romanparktrust.org.uk.

Areas covered: Aylesbury

No referral or voucher needed

Beaconsfield - Hope Community Drop-in

[Hope Community Drop-in](#) is a drop-in service where local people referred by doctors or social services can receive an emergency food package. The drop-in runs every Friday at the Holts spur Youth Club building from 8:45 am to midday.

Areas covered: Beaconsfield and neighbouring villages.

Referral or voucher needed.

Burnham - Care and Share Food Distribution Project

Burnham Health Promotion Trust (BHPT) [Care and Share food distribution project](#) is a collaborative community initiative which offers pre-filled food bags and a voucher to buy fresh fruit and vegetables.

Voucher needed.



Foodbanks

and food sharing

Chiltern - Chiltern Foodbank

Chiltern Foodbank provides three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to people with a voucher or referral.

Areas covered: *The Chiltern District and nearby surrounding areas such as Wendover.*
Referral or voucher needed.

Chesham Community Fridge

Chesham Community Fridge distributes free surplus food that is good to eat to anyone who comes to the Fridge. There is no referral or voucher needed. Chesham Community Fridge is open Wednesday and Saturday mornings in the yard behind Broadway Baptist Church, Chesham.

Areas covered: *Chesham.*
No referral or voucher needed.

High Wycombe - One Can

One Can provide free, nutritious food parcels to those deemed 'in crisis' by their partner organisations.

Areas served: *High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire and surrounding areas.*
Referral or voucher needed.

Wycombe Community Fridge

Wycombe Community Fridge shares food locally with anyone and everyone regardless of income or means. No referrals are needed.

No referral or voucher needed.

Wycombe Food Hub

Wycombe Food Hub collects crates of unsold food like bread, fruit, vegetables, chilled and frozen foods every week from supermarkets, farms and shops. The products are then made available to people unable to buy food.

No referral or voucher needed but food is available for a small donation.

Milton Keynes - The MK Foodbank

The MK Foodbank provide food parcels that can be picked up from one of their serving sessions located around the city. Clients can receive a food parcel 5 times within a rolling 12-month period.

Areas served: *Milton Keynes.*
Referral or voucher needed.

Thame Food Bank

Thame foodbank provides emergency supplies of essential food items to those in the community who are struggling financially.

Areas covered: *Thame.*
Referral needed.

Wendover

- Wendover Free Church Foodbank

Wendover Free Church Foodbank provides food parcels for the local area.

Areas served: *Wendover and neighbouring villages.*
Referral or voucher needed.

Wing Foodbank

Areas covered: *Wing*
No referral needed.

Not in Buckinghamshire but nearby

Rickmansworth Foodbank

Rickmansworth Foodbank provides food parcels for the local area.

Areas served: *Rickmansworth and nearby towns and villages.*
Referral or voucher needed.