

## Our Weekly Winners!

Here are the names of our shiny stars, crowned winners in our celebration assembly this week. Well done to you all!

### Stars of the Week



Saplings Class: Jasmine.  
Oak Class: Joel J.



Our Dojo Champions are:

Saplings Class: Lissie.  
Oak Class: Wilf



Our Dojo Runners Up are:

Saplings Class: Hattie.  
Oak Class: Eliza.



Head teacher Award:  
Albie.



Lunchtime Award:  
Lissie.





# The Valley Primary School Newsletter



School Drive, Oakmoor, Staffordshire, ST10 3DQ. Tel: 01538 702355 (option 2). Email: office@valley.staffs.sch.uk.

## Lateness and Attendance.

Coming to school every day and on time, means that we can learn lots of new and exciting things!

School attendance and lateness is closely monitored to ensure that children have the best opportunity to learn.

School attendance for the week ending 27.03.26:

**94.81%**

**Well done everyone!**

Please may we remind you that our school day begins at 8.45am when the doors open to children. They remain open until 9.00am. Children should arrive at school between these times, to ensure that they are marked present and do not incur 'late' marks. Lateness is recorded on children's attendance and it is important that they are on time.

## Keeping in touch.

If you have any questions or queries you can contact the class teacher directly using our class email address, we will aim to respond during school working hours; our class email addresses are:

[saplings@tmpf.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:saplings@tmpf.staffs.sch.uk)

[oak@tmpf.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:oak@tmpf.staffs.sch.uk)

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## Staying Safe Online.

All National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com) for further guides, tips and tips for adults.

### What Parents & Carers Need to Know about FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S

**AGE RESTRICTION PEGI 12**

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

Five Nights at Freddy's is a series of indie point-and-click horror games whose word-of-mouth success and widespread spin-off content on YouTube have helped each of the nine instalments so far to sell almost five million copies on Steam (the PC gaming platform) alone. Set in various deserted locations at night, with creepy animatronic characters suddenly coming to life, the games are rated PEGI 12 for disturbing/violent content, mild profanity and horror themes.

**FRIGHTENING THEMES**

Five Nights at Freddy's (FNaF for short) doesn't feature bloodshed like many horror games – but it does build tension and use jump scares, which may be too intense for young players. The sinister animatronic characters and the sensation of being trapped and defenceless could be particularly unsettling, as could the inclusion of disturbing elements such as murder or possession by evil spirits.

**AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**

As a result of FNaF's popularity, a sizeable YouTube community based around the games, while the majority of this material is still child friendly, there are a number of channels which are geared more towards mature audiences; they contain adult and disturbing themes, for example, and (in some cases) age-inappropriate language.

**STRESSFUL SITUATIONS**

Due to FNaF's suspenseful atmosphere, it can be extremely stressful for players. Constantly checking that one's surroundings are safe is a crucial part of the gameplay and could create residual stress or even obsessive-compulsive behaviours. Several media reports have suggested that some younger children have experienced severe nightmares or sleep anxiety after playing games from the series.

**PLAYING IN ISOLATION**

Many parents will be relieved to learn that Five Nights at Freddy's is a single-player game which doesn't include any online chat functionality. Conversely, however, this could also make playing FNaF quite an isolating experience – especially if your child is spending a lot of time investigating the game's spooky, shadowy environments alone in their room, for example.

**IN-GAME SPENDING**

FNaF doesn't foreground in-game purchasing as strongly as many other well-known games, but some titles in the series do offer additional content that promises to enhance the experience. Five Nights at Freddy's: Help Wanted, for instance, is complemented by a Halloween-themed expansion pack called 'Case of Dreadbeaver' (costing £8.99), which unlocks new levels and mini-games.

**Advice for Parents & Carers**

**USE PARENTAL CONTROLS**

Five Nights at Freddy's doesn't have conventional parental controls. However, if you're concerned about the potential impacts of the game's themes and content, you can simply choose not to let your child play it. If they use an Android or iOS device for gaming, you can adjust Apple and Google's built-in parental controls to restrict your child's access to certain content.

**TRY IT YOURSELF**

Every child is different, of course, so it could be worth playing Five Nights at Freddy's yourself for a while to gauge how your young gamer might cope with the series' more frightening and disturbing aspects. If they're old enough, you could spend some time playing it together – after all, it usually only takes between two and ten minutes to complete a level.

**LIMIT SPENDING**

Unlike many popular titles, Five Nights at Freddy's doesn't bombard players with tempting in-game purchase offers. It's worth noting, however, that some instalments in the series do provide the option for players to spend real-world money. With that in mind, it's important to either keep a close eye on your child's expenditure or limit their access to digital payment options.

**SPOT THE SIGNS**

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on Five Nights at Freddy's, or you're worried that the game's scary themes are taking a toll, watch out for warning signs. Young people may start to prioritise gaming over everyday essentials like schoolwork or sleep; irritability or a lack of concentration could also indicate that their gaming sessions are going on too long.

**TALK ABOUT THE RISKS**

Before you allow your child to play Five Nights at Freddy's, it's wise to have a conversation about the game so that they're aware of the potential risks. Ensure that your child understands that the series is purposefully designed to be tense and unsettling, and that they should stop or take a break if the intensity of the gameplay is making them feel uncomfortable or putting them on edge.

**Meet Our Expert**

Cathy Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 15 years in the industry. Previously the editor of Tech tabloid The Register, Cathy is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and columnist.

**NOS National Online Safety**

#WakeUpWednesday

@natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety @national\_online\_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 25.10.2022

Full guide can be accessed: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/fnaf>



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## KS2 Dance Festival.

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March, our KS2 pupils had a fantastic time at this year's Dance Festival, joining children from several local schools for a morning filled with energy, teamwork and creativity. Mixed into groups, the children worked alongside talented dance leaders from The Cheadle Academy, who guided them through an exciting choreographed routine.

Throughout the morning, the hall buzzed with enthusiasm as pupils learned new moves, supported one another and built confidence with every rehearsal. Their hard work culminated in a wonderful performance to a small but proud audience of parents, who were thrilled to see the children's dedication and joy shine on stage.

It was a brilliant opportunity for our pupils to collaborate with others in the community, develop new skills and celebrate the arts. Well done to everyone involved!

## Comic Relief.

This year's Comic Relief theme encouraged everyone to *Do Something Funny for Money* and our children certainly rose to the challenge! We transformed the playground into a circuit of hilarious activity stations, giving pupils plenty of opportunities to laugh, compete and support a brilliant cause.

Children had great fun attempting to bite a doughnut from a string, tossing beanbags with impressive aim in our beanbag challenge and navigating the crazy walk obstacle course with some truly unforgettable moves. There were lots of giggles during the biscuit face challenge and the banana spoon race proved to be a firm favourite, with wobbling bananas and determined runners!

Thank you for your very generous donations - we raised a total of £139 and this will obviously make a huge difference to Comic Relief and the organisations it supports.

## **PTFA Mothers and Others Event – Thank you!**

The PTFA Mothers and Others Event was a great success! A huge thank you to everyone involved in organising and running the event - your hard work was very much appreciated.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all parents and carers for their generous donations of cakes, biscuits and homemade treats. Your contributions helped make the event even more enjoyable for everyone. We raised a total of £170 which will be spent on resources for our children for the upcoming term.

Thank you for your continued support!

## **Y5/6 Football Tournament**

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March, five of our wonderful Year Six boys took part in a football tournament at Cheadle Primary School. We joined together with three of our friends from Dilhorne Endowed Primary School to once again form the mighty Valhorne! We played a friendly match first to get ourselves all warmed up and acquaint ourselves with our team-mates who we had not seen since October, when we played in the A League together.

We then played two matches, playing exceptionally well where we managed a draw and a loss. We then moved onto a second round of fixtures where we managed two draws and a loss. For a group of boys to come together and show such high levels of skill, determination and teamwork is phenomenal. We are very proud of all of them, well done boys!





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## Y3/4 Football Tournament

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March, we once again joined with our friends at Dilhorne Endowed Primary School to form the mighty Valhorne! We travelled to the fields of Cheadle Primary School where the weather was slightly breezier, and slightly less sunny, than the week before. This was the first time this group of boys and girls had met each other, let alone played a team sport together. But the level of teamwork and energy that they demonstrated was outstanding! In our opening two matches we won and lost. We then moved onto another round of fixtures which we drew and lost. All the team played with great enthusiasm and a brilliant team spirit. Well done to all involved!

## Mini Me Mindfulness Workshop

Last Thursday, Saplings Class were fortunate to take part in a mindfulness workshop led by Claire, where they explored the idea of the superpower of breath. The children learned how taking control of their breathing can help them stay calm, focused and present - especially during moments that feel overwhelming.

They practised increasing their breathing rate and then using a range of breathing techniques to bring it back down again, developing strategies they can use whenever they need to regulate their emotions. The session also introduced the idea of helping others to co-regulate, just like Lenny the Lion from the story that Claire shared.

It was a wonderfully calming and empowering experience for the whole class.



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## Wildlife Garden Official Opening.



If you would like to join us, please let Mrs Button know in the school office.

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## Reading in an Unfamiliar Place Reminder.

Don't forget that our Reading in an Unusual Place competition entries are due in by Friday 17th April. We can't wait to see your creative and imaginative photos!

And remember... Mr Brayford will be judging the entries, so make sure to bring your best ideas!

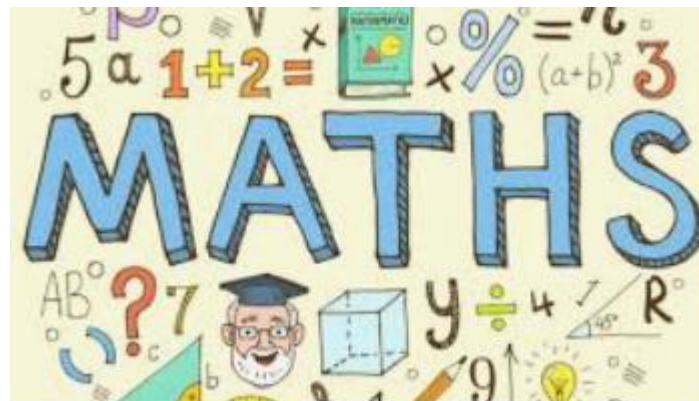
Good luck everyone - we're excited to see what you come up with!



## Maths Workshop – Thank You.

A huge thank you to all the parents who were able to attend our Maths Workshop on Tuesday. It was wonderful to welcome you into school to see how Maths is taught and to give you the opportunity to work alongside and support your child during their lesson.

We truly appreciate your time, enthusiasm and continued support.





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## Safe Parking Around School.

We would like to take a moment to highlight the importance of safe parking around our school, as it is essential for the safety of our children and for maintaining respect within our community.

To ensure everyone's safety, we kindly ask you to avoid parking/blocking the staff car park and please also avoid parking outside the school gates. Please park only in designated areas and remember if you struggle to park on the road leading up to school, there is a small car park down at Riverside which may be easier. Our side gate with the steps leading up to school is always open for parking down at the bottom.

By taking these small steps, it will help create a safer environment for our pupils and their families.

If you have any concerns or suggestions for improvement regarding parking, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Thank you for support as always.



## Happy Easter!

Have a wonderful Easter break. Thank you for your continued support throughout our spring term.

We look forward to welcoming our children back on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026.





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## Diary Dates.

### Spring 2

- 27.03.26 – PTFA Easter Parade 2pm.
- 27.02.26 – Break up for Easter holidays.

### Summer 1

- 13.04.26 – School opens for pupils.
- 15.04.26 – Y1/2 Gymnastics Competition.
- 17.04.26 – PTFA Meeting – 7pm, The Talbot Inn, Alton.
- 21.04.26 – Cross Country League.
- 23.04.26 – Oak Class Mindfulness Workshop.
- 23.04.26 – Girls Football League.
- 28.04.26 – Cross Country League.
- 30.04.26 – Girls Football League.
- 04.05.26 – May Day Bank Holiday.
- 06.05.26 – Y3/4 Tag Rugby.
- 07.05.26 – Girls Football League.
- 08.05.26 – Academy Photography. **\*\*NEW DATE\*\***
- 11.05.26 – 15.05.26 - Y6 SATs Week.
- 15.05.26 – Y5/6 Tag Rugby.
- 20.05.26 – Parent's Evening.
- 22.05.26 – Grand Opening of The Valley Wildlife Garden 2pm (with special guests).
- 22.05.26 – Break up for May half term.

### Summer 2

- 01.06.26 – INSET DAY
- 02.06.26 – School open to pupils.
- 02.06.26-05.06.26 – Y4 Multiplication Times Table Check.
- 03.06.26 – Y3/4 Cricket.
- 08.06.26-12.06.26 – Y2 SATs Week.
- 08.06.26 – 12.06.26 – Y1 Phonics Screening Check.
- 10.06.26 – Solos and Duos @ TCA (children transitioning from Y6 to Y7).
- 10.06.26 – Y5/6 Cricket.
- 11.06.26 – Y3/4 Girls Football Tournament.
- 15.06.26-19.06.26 – Y6 Residential.
- 25.06.26 – Y5/6 Rounders.
- 29.06.26 – Whole School Trip to Formby Beach.
- 01.07.26 – KS2 Athletics Event
- 01.07.26 – New Intake Morning (Reception 2026)
- 01.07.26 – New Intake Parent's Evening (New Reception Parents 2026)
- 03.07.26 – Nursery Graduation Ceremony.
- 06.07.26 – End of Year Reports sent out
- 08.07.26 – New Intake Morning and lunch (Reception 2026).
- 09.07.26 – Sports Day.
- 10.07.26 – Y6 Leavers' Church Service @ Free Memorial Church.
- 10.07.26 – End of Year Disco 6pm.



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## Diary Dates continued.

### Summer 2 continued.....

- 11.07.26 – Cheadle Carnival.
- 13.07.26 – End of Year Production Dress Rehearsal.
- 15.07.26 – End of Year Production 2pm and 6pm.
- 17.07.26 – Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 9.30am.

**Please note that dates are subject to change and we will inform you as soon as possible of these changes.**