

Valence News



**INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE** | Gold

Values

Dear Parents and Carers

Well, the half-term holiday is upon us and I have to ask myself where has Term 1 gone?

As I reflect back my mind is focussed on what kind of place Valence is, what is its ethos, values and culture? There is a great deal of evidence in our Investors in People report, which I will share next term but the most powerful evidence comes from speaking to the young people, from the comments made by visitors about how welcoming the School is and from the positive and supportive atmosphere that is so evident in every part of the School. Values have to be taught and lived — they don't just happen and the culture (in a sense their realisation) doesn't occur by chance but has to be created. That is why forming a Co-operative Trust of eight special schools (KSENT) is so important because it is a values-based organisation, values shared by more than a billion people world-wide who are in co-operatives. What are these values?

Co-operatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. In

the tradition of their founders, co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

How close these values are to British values although these are less clearly defined. They are nevertheless expected to be promoted in Schools and will be inspected by OfSTED and allied to their promotion must be clear work to prevent extremism and radicalisation of young people. I won't dwell on that now but will return to it. One of the reasons for forming a Trust based on co-operative values was because they were already the bedrock of our schools belief systems and cultures.

Last week KSENT had its first development day at which the heads of the eight participating schools and their chairs of governors came together with Jon O'Connor, the Director of Co-operative College for the South East region and a member of our Board and a Christchurch Canterbury University representative which is a partner organisation. We thrashed out a way forward and are putting together a development plan which we will agree in November as well as work to launch our Trust next summer. More on that to follow but work is commencing on it with lead teachers from each school after the break.

It is vitally important that schools build strong, close and accountable relationships so that if academy status becomes either attractive or is forced upon us we can continue to work together and can continue to be in control of our destinations, based upon the strong values we have built and developed and the powerful culture of co-operation and solidarity created across the Trust. We live in uncertain and somewhat perplexing times in education (what's new!) and we do need to build on our successes and have strategies in place to face the future where there will be less funding and even greater demands upon us.

Please do come to our Fireworks Party and Bonfire on Tuesday 3 November (we can't have it on the 5th as Westerham Fire Service are otherwise occupied!!!!). It starts at 6.00pm with the bonfire being lit at 6.15pm Food, novelties and fun in ample supply!

I do hope the week's holiday is good for the children and young people and for you all. Enjoy it!

Roland Gooding

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Computing News

Class E: Class E are now being taught by Mr Winter and he will be making sure all of the students have appropriate access to the computer to practice their skills either through switch, joystick, mouse, touch, keyboard or eye-gaze.

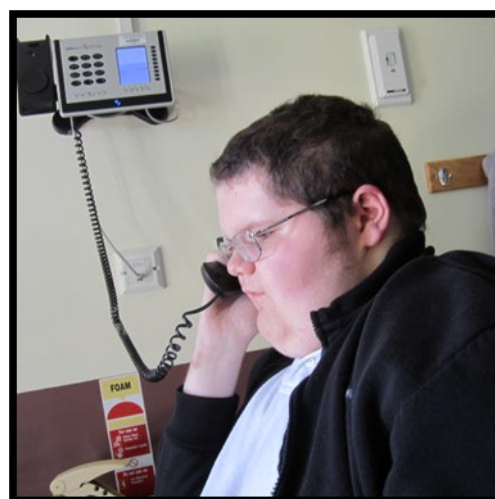
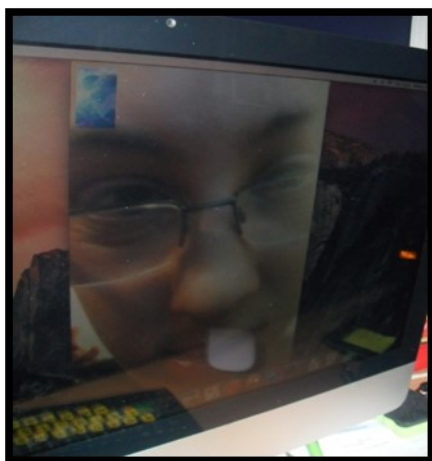
Class D and Class U: Both classes this term have been working on their IT skills using different programs, and have most recently showcased their presentations to each class, who in turn peer assessed them. There were some interesting assessments and comments on the various chosen topics, although a low grade because they did not like a topic was not allowed much to Cee-Jays annoyance when watching a 1Direction presentation!



Coursework:

Classes C, A, T, I, O and N are all working on their coursework which involve units comprising of Social Networking, Email, Imaging, Audio and Video, Developing ICT, Presentation and many more.

Below photographs show Paul facetimeing and Ryan on the telephone as part of their coursework.



Please can we have any Flora tokens which are found inside Flora Original, Buttery and Light 500g promotional tubs available at participating Tesco stores NOW!

50 tokens = 1 Samsung Galaxy Tablet

Powerchair Football update

Sevenoaks PFC recently travelled to Nottingham for the first round of WFA National League competition. Featuring both past and present Valence School students the team began their season against newcomers Portsmouth. The team got off to a fantastic start, cruising to a 12-0 win. Ex-students Dan Stevens and Michael Meech scored three and two goals respectively whilst Myles Miller chipped in with one of his own late in the second half.

Saturday afternoon saw the lads face Sale United, a tougher side with loud supporters. The squad worked well for the duration of the game and secured a 2-0 win with Myles Miller adding to his earlier goal.

Sunday morning's fixture pitted the lads against MK Dons, who had an incredibly tough weekend as they were down to play with just 2 players. The lads made tough work of it at times but came away with a 5-0 success thanks to Stevens, Meech and a Myles Miller hat-trick.

The final game of the weekend was against newcomers Middlesbrough reserves, featuring a mixture of new and experienced players. The team dominated early possession and got off to a great start with Miller scoring after 3 minutes. They continued to press and create chances but could not score. The team played their best football of the weekend but could not find a second goal for added security. The game finished 1-0 to cap off a great start.



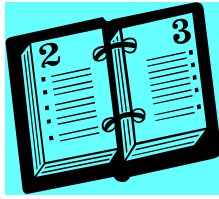
The team are currently top of the league, with a maximum 12 points and scored 20 goals during the weekend. Myles Miller leads the league scorers with 6 goals. All of the lads made an excellent contribution, chipping in with goals, assists and 4 clean sheets. The teamwork and support for each other as a group was superb.



Valence students can take part in Powerchair Football sessions on a Tuesday both at lunchtime and afterschool.

This Week

The Week Ahead!



Mon 2 Dr Shakoor

Tues 3 Dr Knox
Fireworks (see below)

Thurs 5 Sevenoaks School VSU Students in classes
Kent Wheelchair Service

Fri 5 Combe Bank Students visiting

William Lindenbauer 19.10.15

Task 2- Day out

Drive Woman Car I eat Fish and chips Workmen Family (s) Windy Cold Excited Ice Cream Green(mint) Yummy Delicious

Shrek 2 Film Review by George

Donkey he's funny. Shrek he's green. It's funny sometimes donkey sings. The film is good it makes me laugh. The film makes me happy. My favourite character is donkey because he's got ears. I'm going to watch Shrek 2 tonight, on the computer. My sister might like the film, she is 17.



Valence Fireworks

You are invited to attend the Fireworks Evening on Tuesday 3rd November from 6.15pm, fireworks at 6.45pm.



This event is paid for by the Friends of Valence and is free for Students and their families.

We urgently need volunteers to help with refreshments and selling flashing items on the evening. If you are able to help please let Reception know and then come to the main hall at 5.30pm. The Friends of Valence NEED YOU !