



VALENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr Richard November - Headteacher
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September 2024 Newsletter 1

1. Welcome back

A very warm welcome back to all our returning families and those who are joining us this term.

2. Healthy school



We work with families and pupils in the promotion of a healthy diet. One area we have been recommended to follow by the Department of Health is the *reduction of sweetness* in children's diets. In the light of this, it is school policy to allow pupils to have only **plain water** with their packed lunches. Please do not send in smoothies, yoghurt drinks or squash.

Please remember:

- No nuts of any type due to allergies
- Only water or milk to drink – the school provides these freely too
- Minimise the number of foods with chocolate or high sugar content
- **All pupils** can have a school meal every day for **FREE** - this is due to the grant given to all London schools by the Mayor of London. Have a look at the menu on the website.

3. Celebrating effort, good behaviour and hard work

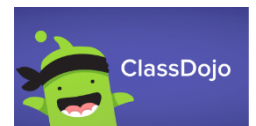
At Valence, we place a high value on developing children's sense of worth and self-esteem. We love to celebrate both effort and achievement in academic and social settings. We have an approach where we support pupils to **Go for Gold** based on the following school rules:

- *Listen to and co-operate with each other.*
- *Follow adults' instructions.*
- *Treat everyone with politeness, kindness, courtesy and respect.*
- *Work to the best of our ability.*
- *Move safely and calmly around school.*
- *Respect our school environment.*

Children who consistently follow the school rules, who set a positive example for others to follow and who demonstrate a positive attitude to others can achieve a GOLD reward.

4. Home – school communication

We are using Class Dojo for communicating with parents & carers. Your child's class teacher will invite you to join the class forum.



5. Collecting your child

Please ensure that the class teacher is fully aware of the adults whom you have designated to collect your child. If there is a change, please call the office asap.

UN Rights of the Child Article 12

Every child has the right to have a say in all matters affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously.



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6. School reminders



- No dogs in the playground
- No dangly earrings for safety reasons.
- Don't park on the yellow zig-zag lines outside the school gates as this endangers pupils and may result in a fine from the LA.
- Avoid doing U-Turns up onto the pavements as this is dangerous for pedestrians.
- We have a car-free zone at St. George's every morning and afternoon, so please walk to school wherever possible.
- Halbutt Street gate is closed until further notice.



7. Wraparound provision

Our before and after school provision (GEMS) is operating on both sites, and we have spaces. Please enquire at the offices should you wish to know more details. The provision is run by our highly experienced school staff.

8. Rights Respecting School

We are continuing our journey as a UNICEF Rights Respecting School. Please have a look at the UNICEF website for more details. We are aiming for SILVER this year.

[The Rights Respecting Schools Award | UNICEF UK](#)



9. Uniform

If you have unwanted good quality uniform that you would like to pass on, we can make good use of it. Please bring to the office so that we can distribute it from the Roost.

10. Why is attending school every day so important?

Attendance (Academic Year)	Equals this many days absent	Equals this many weeks absent	Equals this many lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	60 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	120 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	180 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	240 lessons
70%	57 days	12 weeks	360 lessons

11. PE kit

Pupils are asked to wear a PE shirt that is the colour of their sports house. This will help the children identify more closely with their teammates.



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