

Sandwell Valley School Newsletter

Autumn 2024



Animal Care – Outdoor Learning

As part of the development of the curriculum at SVS we have started an outdoor curriculum once a week for a group of selected students to take part in an Animal Care course- this is done through the ASDAN awards.

It's an opportunity provided where students can engage practically at Forge Mill Farm with hands on experience to work and learn with farmers and rangers and by taking their learning outside the classroom. It opens their eyes to new ways of thinking and is specifically tailored to meet the needs of our learners.

During their most recent visit to the farm, students took part in a health and safety on the farm workshop. They had a tour of the farm and got comfortable being in enclosures with a range of animals. Students also had another opportunity to build on their goat milking skills.

Students have engaged well with this. They enjoy caring for small animals in school too such as rabbits and guinea pigs. Students have been focusing on animal welfare and have loved making homemade sustainable treats for the animals!



Citizenship Ceremony

October 2024

In October, Mim was given the opportunity to attend a Citizenship Ceremony at the Sandwell Register Office. This ceremony celebrates people receiving their British Citizenship. At the ceremony, new citizens are required to swear or affirm an oath of allegiance to the crown and make a pledge to uphold the values and laws of the United Kingdom. The ceremony was officiated by Deputy Lieutenant Helen Higson OBE and the Mayor of Sandwell Councillor Syeda Khatun MBE.



(From left to right: Mim Hall – Principal of SVS, Professor Helen E Higson OBE - Deputy Lieutenant, Mayor of Sandwell – Councillor Syeda Khatun MBE, Vince Green – CEO of Summit Learning trust)



Food Technology Lessons

Sandwell Valley School provides a broad and balanced curriculum that is truly comprehensive and provides them with marketable skills that is accessible to all pupils. We pride ourselves in delivering opportunities for students to learn to be successful, gain useful and transferable skills in a rich environment whilst also acquiring relevant knowledge.

At school our Food Technology lessons are conducted once a week for different classes. Students learn to make different dishes which vary in difficulty. This includes students who have special educational needs. All the students enjoy the activity and have been showing good interest in cooking (and eating). The lessons help to expand their perspectives by developing a range of life skills required for a successful adult and independent life.

Food Technology is delivered through an ASDAN short course allowing students to gain a qualification while they are enjoying their practical lessons outside of the classroom environment.



Art

Students have enjoyed their Art lessons this half term. They have been focusing on the use of patterns, as well as some other activities that link to the seasons - such as making bird feeders ready for winter. By going outside in their lessons, they have been able to source local, natural materials for their art projects.



SVS Football Team

The SVS Football team have been showing excellent dedication not only in their matches, but also in their studies as evidenced by their report cards allowing them to take part in the activity. SVS showed excellent on-pitch chemistry and teamwork in our last match which paid off as we secured our first win 11-5 against Blackwater Academy! The job is not done yet, however. The team will continue to build and strive for more big wins this year.

