

September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we embark on a new academic year, we would like to communicate to families the new model for 'Praise and Rewards' within Forge Valley. The school is building on the way we have more positive conversations and this week we are launching the Forge Valley 5 Pillars which we believe will make praise and rewards more constant and consistent across the board.



The image above is the signage that we are using around school to promote our 5 key virtues that children will strive for in school. By using feedback from staff, the community and pupils we feel that being able to immediately praise these positive behaviours as we see them around school will lead to more positive conversations and ultimately, over time, success for our pupils. These 5 virtues are underpinned by many overlapping and interwoven values that are at the very foundation of the character we would like every child to develop whilst at Forge Valley School; enabling them to become strong, successful members of society.

Use of Planners

The 5 Pillars will become part of everyday language at Forge Valley and will be reinforced through Form Time activities, assemblies and our new praise system. In an aim to further improve the culture in school, positive credits will now be recorded in planners rather than electronically. This will mean that staff can immediately praise pupils for showing above and beyond behaviours demonstrating one of the Forge Valley 5 Pillars. This will increase in the amount of rewards that are given out and see more positive conversations taking place in the classroom and on the corridor.

Although the credits will not be visible on MCAS (parents/carers will still be able to view warnings electronically), families can simply see the amount of credits their child is receiving from viewing their planner. We ask that parents/carers are proactive in asking to see their child's planner and sign it on a weekly basis. Form tutors will also be tallying up the amount of credits received and recording them weekly; these will form the basis of our rewards celebration next year.

Rewards

Following on from the success of our trip to Alton Towers at the end of the last academic year, Forge Valley will be offering another rewards celebration at the end of this year. We have taken onboard all feedback that was given including the allocation of the Golden Tickets, the location of Alton Towers and the timing of the trip; more information will follow about the rewards celebration itself later in the year. In terms of criteria, at this moment in time everyone is invited. In order to retain their ticket, pupils must ensure that throughout the course of the year they receive a high number of credits and have above average attendance. Please be reminded that those pupils with good attendance (above 95%) make above expected progress whilst those with attendance below 92% make far less progress than is expected of them.

We are very excited to see what the children this year can do in order to demonstrate the behaviours of the new Forge Valley 5 Pillars

Yours faithfully,

A Hart

Mrs A Hart
Assistant Headteacher