

Friday 7th February 2025



Personal Development

Next week we see our choir for Young Voices head to Sheffield Arena. I know they are very excited for the event and Miss Roberts is very proud of them already.

We also welcome in Dinostars for Year 1 to explore fossils and facts about dinosaurs. The children last year absolutely loved it and and I am confident Year 1 this year will also love it.

Update from Miss Cartwright

Good afternoon,

We have had some wonderful things happening here at The Vale this week.

Wednesday was a particular highlight for us. We had a fantastic Paralympian, Sean Gaffney, in on Wednesday afternoon. Each class had a circuit in the hall with some very powerful and motivating music to get to the muscles going. It was incredibly motivational and he certainly put the children to work!

Well done to our Year 6 runners who help organise the other classes and tell them when they should be ready- amazing leadership skills. Miss Goodall really did organise a brilliant event.

Year 4 have been working so hard this week and the writing they have produced has been amazing. The children produced some exceptional portal stories, focusing on setting. I have truly been wowed by the grammar skills and beautiful language. Well done Year 4.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Miss Cartwright

Diary Dates

Dates For Your Calendar



Spring Term

11.02.25 Year 6 Samba performance 10.15am
12.02.25 Sheffield Young Voices
13.02.25 Year 5 and 6 Dallowgill parent meeting 3:30pm
14.02.25 Y1 Educational visit in school Dinostars
26.02.25 Y2 educational visit to Pontefract Castle
03.03.25 World Book Day
04.03.25 Y5 visit to SLA for Wonderdome
wc 10.03.25 Science Week
wc 10.03.25 Book Fair
11..03.25 Reception Educational Visit
27.03.25 Year 5 Magna educational visit
31.03.25 Year 3 and 4 Spring singing performance

More dates and events will be added in due course.



Early Years

Reception PE is now on a Tuesday.

Children have been busy this week, making gingerbread men as part of our non-fiction unit on instructions. Another gingerbread man also appeared in our classroom-half bitten! we decided it must be the lean, mean fox again!

Reception have been working incredibly hard in maths as we have moved onto numbers 6, 7 and 8. This week we have explored odd and even numbers and doubles.

In PSHE, we discussed different jobs and talked about the jobs we would like to do when we are older. We imagined that we got on a rocket and time travelled into the future. we also discussed what we need to do, to help us achieve our goal.

Nursery

In nursery this week we have started number 5 and they've loved it. Our Talk for Writing text has progressed and we are now innovating and have lots of ideas. In our music session we looked at different types of music and how they make us feel.



Year 1

Year 1 P.E. is now on a Tuesday. Please ensure the children bring the correct PE kit every week.

We have had another busy but wonderful week of learning in Year 1!

In our DT lesson, we learnt how to safely prepare vegetables to make a salad. We used the bridge, claw and fork secure cutting techniques. We mixed the vegetables together and taste tested it! The children were excited to choose different options now at the salad bar during lunchtime.

In writing, we have been truly immersed in our poetry week. We learnt and performed James Reeves' poem 'Slowly' before writing our own poems using repetition.

In science, we really enjoyed exploring which dinosaurs were carnivores and which were herbivores. We are very excited to build upon this learning in our Dinostar workshop with a palaeontologist next week!

Miss Roberts



Year 2

Year 2 have PE on a Tuesday in the Spring term, please ensure your child comes to school with their full, labelled PE kit.

What an amazing week we have had in Year 2! We have continued to learn about Pontefract castle, finished writing our own fantasy tales and completed our learning about fractions.

In science, we continue to learn about animals, including humans. This week we focussed on what animals need to survive. We also planned an investigation to learn about what we need to be healthy.

We continue to be amazed watching our stick insects, Brenden and Bertha, grow too!

Mr Bosanquet



Year 3

Year 3 have PE on Friday and Forest School on Thursday. Please ensure your child brings warm clothes and a spare pair of shoes for forest school.

This week in Year 3 we have continued to work together to choreograph our dances using 8 steps. We used the idea of a trip to the beach, shop and jungle.

It was a frosty forest school this week, but year 3 loved making a fire and making some tasty and yummy popcorn! I was jealous I wasn't out there with you all!

Miss Goodall



Year 4

This term Year 4 have P.E on Mondays and Forest School on a Thursday. Please ensure that children bring something warm to wear and a spare pair of shoes for Forest School.

This week we have written our portal story using our setting description toolkit. We have used features such as fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and powerful verbs and adverbs. There are some brilliant stories, well done Year 4!

We also met Sean Gaffney, a Paralympian and completed some circuits with him to some music. We were so tired after but had such a great time. We then had to opportunity to ask Sean some questions about his life and inspiring career.

Miss Capper



Year 5

Year 5 now have PE on Wednesdays and swimming on Friday.

In maths this week, we have been exploring decimal numbers. We were very impressed with Year 5s place value knowledge.

We had a very exciting afternoon on Wednesday when we met Sean Gaffney (a powerlifting Paralympian from Pontefract). He really put us through our paces with a gruelling fitness circuit. We showed great resilience smiling all the way through.

In our computing lessons, we enjoyed looking at how to book our own flights for a getaway using the internet database to filter and search for a specific criteria.

Have a fabulous weekend!

Miss Prout



Year 6

This term Year 6 have PE on a Tuesday. Please ensure the children bring the correct PE kit every week.

Year 6 have worked incredibly hard this week with their mock SATS. They have been determined, resilient and it has paid off with the progress they have made. Keep up the hard work Year 6!

The children have enjoyed celebrated Number Day today. We have taken part in a range of maths challenges and a who wants to be a mathioniare quiz. They have worked amazingly in groups and played a range of maths puzzles.

Miss Burgess



Safeguarding



Ensuring our pupils are safe and well looked after is our key priority.

Miss H Prout :
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss S Cartwright:
Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Mrs S Brain, Miss E Burgess, Mrs R Pearson:
Safeguarding officers

All staff have received Safeguarding training to ensure that they can recognise signs and symptoms of abuse and also how to report/act if a disclosure is made.

Concerns about the safety or welfare of a child? Contact us: 01977 722485

Out of hours contact number:
03458 503503

For more information:
<https://thevpacademy.org.uk/knowledge-base/safeguarding/>

Attendance



Attendance matters.

Coming to school on time, every day is vital to achieving the best possible outcomes as well as learning good habits which will benefit everyone in the future. Please see our updated attendance policy.

EYFS	99%
Y1	95%
Y2	95%
Y3	99%
Y4	91%
Y5	93%
Y6	96%

Providing children with positive experiences and strategies to embed emotional resilience.

We use The Thrive Approach as a whole school strategy to promote positive mental health and wellbeing of which when this is present in children's lives it has been proven to improve their attendance, behaviour and attainment.

This allows our children to become confident, curious, creative and capable, therefore opens doors to a bright future for our children.

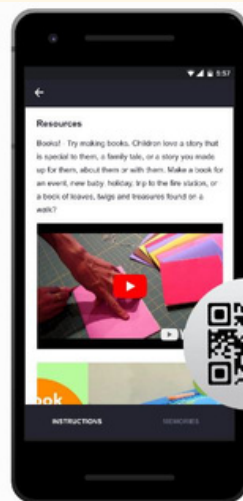


50 THINGS TO DO AT HOME

Download THE MOBILE APP

50 Things To Do Before You're Five gives you 50 activities that parents and carers can support their children to try out and repeat.

Download the mobile app from Apple AppStore or Google PlayStore...



Scan the QR code with your smartphone to take you to the 50 Things To Do Before You're Five app...

For information regarding mental health support & advice, please visit the below links:

<https://wf-i-can.co.uk/u13/home/>

<https://www.compass-uk.org/services/wakefield-children-and-young-peoples-emotional-health-and-wellbeing-service/>

Inclusion & SEND



At The Vale Primary Academy we are committed to providing an inclusive education for all our children. This means that any child who may have Special Educational Needs or a Disability (SEND) will have access to additional or specialist support throughout their life at our academy. All teachers are responsible for every child in their care, including those with special educational needs and disabilities.

Did you know about the MAX Card?

The MAX entitles any family with a child who has SEND or is a looked after family, hundreds of discounts across the county. Its is completely FREE to sign up. Please use the link below to get yours ASAP!

https://mymaxcard.co.uk/local-distributors/?_council_type=2&_council_region=yorkshire-and-the-humber&_council_area=wakefield

To find out what services Wakefield provide for the SEND community, please visit the following link - <https://wakefield.mylocaloffer.org/>

For further support, please contact a member of the Inclusion team:

- The main office who can pass a message on
- Your child's class teacher
- Miss H Prout - Designated Safeguarding Lead & Assistant Principal
- Miss S Cartwright - Head of Academy & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

