

Friday 7th March 2025



Personal Development

Science Week

Science Week 2025 had the theme 'adapt and change'. We explored this theme in our classrooms and through a whole school assembly.

We reflected on how people of science have had to adapt and change to overcome obstacles in their way. We looked at challenging stereotypes in STEM careers and each class celebrated a different famous scientist, researching their impact in the field of science.

Update from Miss Cartwright

Good afternoon,

Thank you to everyone who came to parents evening this week. It was not just wonderful to see you but also to be able to share the amazing progress your children are making and an opportunity for you to see the work the children are so proud of in their books and class floor books.

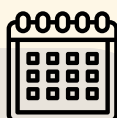
On Thursday we celebrated World Book Day with an array of exciting costumes. The children kick started the day with an assembly. After this the children travelled around the school learning about different authors with different teachers. The children heard some new and exciting stories as well as taking part in activities.

With this beautiful Spring weather our break times have been filled with a new spring in our step. We have had some Year 6 children helping referee football games, a lovely colouring club in the sunshine as well as having some access to Reception's outdoor area where a group of Year 2 children made some very delicious but very messy recipes in our mud kitchen. I personally 'tasted' them and I can confirm they were very well made.

I wish you all a wonderful and warm weekend.

Diary Dates

Dates For Your Calendar



Spring Term

wc 10.03.25 Science Week
12.03.25 and 13.03.25 Book Fair
11.03.25 Reception Educational Visit Cannon Hall Farm
19.03.25 - 21.03.25 Bring in any bake sale donations
21.03.25 Red Nose Day
21.03.25 First Aid Workshops Y5/Y6
26.03.25 Year 4 Ancient Greek Workshop, in school.
27.03.25 Year 5 Magna educational visit
27.03.25 Reception Concerteenies visit
31.03.25 Year 3 and 4 Spring singing performance
02.04.25 Year 6 Eden Camp Educational Visit
04.04.25 Break up for Easter

More dates and events will be added in due course.



Early Years

Reception PE is now on a Tuesday.

We have had a very busy week in reception, on Tuesday we enjoyed some pancakes and learned all about why we celebrate pancake day. On Thursday it was wonderful to see all the fantastic World Book Day outfits, we enjoyed listening to lots of stories and completed a range of activities. In addition to this we have been continuing to learn our Jack and The Beanstalk story map and have planted our very own beans. We are going to learn how to look after them and help them grow. In maths we have continued to learn about height, length and time and have set ourselves challenges by estimating how many things we can do in one minute.

Nursery

In nursery this week we have been looking at Mr Benn - Spaceman in Drawing club. This led us on to the question of "If we could be anyone, who would we like to be?" The children had some fabulous ideas!

In Maths we have been looking at the number 6. The children have loved reading the story "Six dinner Sid" as part of their learning.

In Talk 4 Writing we planted some cress for our crunching munching caterpillar.



Year 1

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

We had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day on Thursday! The children loved sharing stories and explaining which characters they were dressed up as. We also took part in different activities for science week; we completed deep sea yoga and designed a poster about seasonal changes to enter a competition!

In writing, we have boxed-up our information text about Queen Elizabeth and wrote our own sentences about important people in our lives, focusing on using capital letters for proper nouns. We then started to research information about Paddington Bear, before we write our own information text about him next week.

The children have loved our new reading strategy lessons, where we have begun reading Dogger by Shirley Hughes. The whole class has really impressed me with their retrieval of information from the text and their use of high level vocabulary when explaining their answers. We read a set of instructions for how to wash a teddy and then discussed how we care for our special toys.

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.

This week Year 2 have started our brand new writing topic, Information Texts. We have looked at a range of information texts so far this year and our focus for this unit will be writing our own.

In maths we have finished up our topic of money. Children have made the same amount using different coins, compared amounts and worked out the change for purchases.

In our Science we have looked at changing and adapting, we have also focussed on scientists who are breaking stereotypes.

On World Book Day, we enjoyed a range of activities throughout school. Children enjoyed learning about Roald Dahl, Michael Morpurgo and Julia Donaldson to name a few of the focus authors.

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 Year 3 have started learning all about plants in our Science session. We recapped what a plant needs to thrive from Year 2 and discussed what photosynthesis was - we then labelled the different parts of a plant.

In our maths lessons, Year 3 have been learning about time - looking at telling the time to 5 minutes, minutes and on a digital clock. Year 3 are now so eager to tell me the time during the day.

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 was Science Week and on Tuesday, we conducted an experiment on how quickly different types of sugar dissolve in water. We explored the different variables involved in our experiment, for example what we had to measure and what we had to keep the same, in order for our experiment to be a fair test. We really enjoyed working in our groups to conduct this experiment and we were surprised when the sugar cube dissolved faster than the caster sugar.

On Thursday, we had such an amazing World Book Day. Everyone in Year 4 looked absolutely amazing in their pjs or dressed as their favourite book character. We really enjoyed working with each class teacher and exploring some different authors.

Miss Capper



Year 5

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

It was lovely to see all of our parents and carers attending parents' evening. It is a pleasure to share the fantastic progress the children are making and we thank you for all your ongoing support you give to the school and your little ones in this and many other ways!

Year 5 enjoyed our trip to the Wonderdome this week. There were lots of amazed faces and open mouths when the projector was switched on and we travelled through the galaxy to the far reaches of outer space. We behaved impeccably on our visit and impressed with our in depth knowledge of the planets. We are now very excited for our upcoming trip to Magna with even more exciting science fun!

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 were really enthusiastic about World Book Day this week. They took part in a carousel day where they moved around the school taking part in a range of reading activities. Each class had a different author focus and they enjoyed being taught by all teachers year 1-6! Well done Year 6!

This week was Science week. We learnt about Charles Darwin and his theory of adaptation. The children worked in pairs to match animals to their adaptation. After that, the children could choose two of their own animals to research.

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	92%
Y1	98%
Y2	98%
Y3	96%
Y4	97%
Y5	99%
Y6	95%

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.

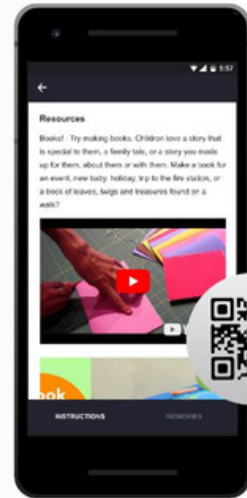
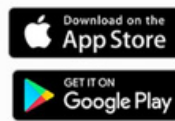


50 THINGS TO DO AT HOME

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

