

Friday 14th February 2025



Personal Development

World Book Day 03.03.25

The theme is: Read your way. Celebrating the variety of text types and formats.

Year Y1-Y6 will take part in a carousel of activities experiencing a different author each time. The children will move around the school and a teacher will be an expert on that author for the day, delivering activities to the classes as they visit. EYFS will do this within the unit and focus on one author.

Dress up as your favourite character, no expectation of spending money- homemade costumes fantastic!

If children are struggling for ideas, dress up in pyjamas as if it the children are cosying down for a bedtime story.

Update from Miss Cartwright

Good afternoon,

There is so much to celebrate this week! I will start in Reception where one of our wonderful children, Betty, has been sharing her home learning with her class. Each week Betty and her family research a new country, explore the flag, language and cuisine! What a wonderful way to learn all about our world.

Year 4 are currently reading Iron Man as part of their reading lesson. Ivy had made the most amazing model of the Iron Man at home. The whole class have loved having the model in class and to help them visualise the main character.

Well done to Year 6 for their Samba performance. This was their last session of Samba this year. What a wonderful job they have done.

Diary Dates

Dates For Your Calendar



Spring Term

26.02.25 Y2 educational visit to Pontefract Castle

03.03.25 World Book Day

04.03.25 Y5 visit to SLA for Wonderdome

04.03.25 Parents Evening

05.03.25 Parents Evening

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

27.03.25 Reception Concerteenies visit

31.03.25 Year 3 and 4 Spring singing performance

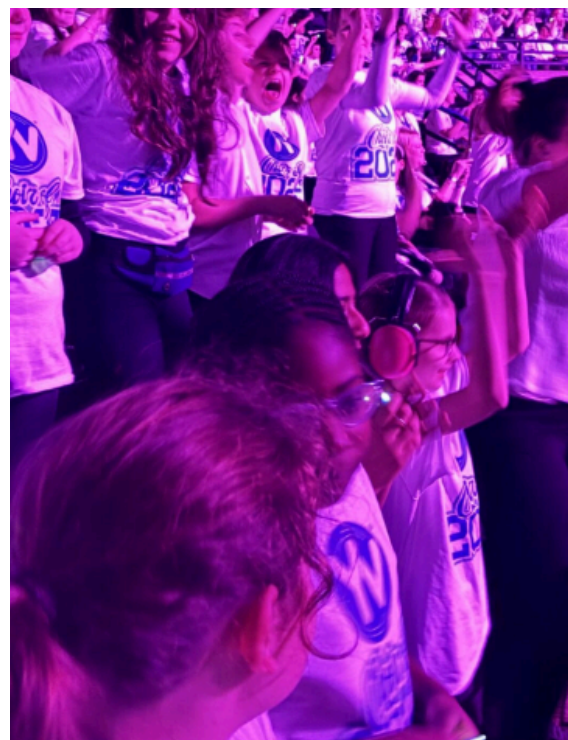
More dates and events will be added in due course.



On Wednesday we saw a group of children go to Young Voices in Sheffield. As one child said 'What an aspirational and incredible experience.'

Thank you to Miss Roberts for organising such an amazing experience and to Mrs Keetley and Mrs Brain for supporting. A long but very worthwhile day. Have a wonderful weekend!

Miss Cartwright



Early Years

Reception PE is now on a Tuesday.

This week reception have been busy baking biscuits for valentines day and have learned the nursery rhyme 'Roses are Red'. In maths we have been learning all about doubles, combining groups and subitising. I have seen some fantastic writing this week during our phonics sessions and our morning writing tasks. Children have been working really hard to apply the sounds they know to write words, captions and even sentences! All children will be coming home with some sound mats this week to continue practising all the sounds we have learned.

Well done reception on a fantastic half term! After the holidays, we will be starting our new text 'Jack and the Beanstalk', I wonder what mysteries will be awaiting us in the classroom!

Nursery

In nursery this week we have finished our composition of 5 and our addition has been amazing. We made up our new story for Talk for Writing this involved a slimy frog and monster. After the holidays our new Talk for Writing text will be The Crunching Munching Caterpillar. In maths we will be consolidating all the learning from this term. We will also be looking forward to World Book day.



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 a fantastic final week of learning for this half term in Year 1. In our art day on Thursday, the children created artwork inspired by Joan Miro, printing a pattern of dinosaur footprints using a printing block they made themselves. We loved showcasing and evaluating these final pieces with our peers.

We had such a special, engaging afternoon to consolidate our 'would you like a dinosaur's life?' unit. I have been so impressed by how the children have fully engaged with this unit (I have loved seeing all the amazing home learning linking to the dinosaurs!)

In our workshop on Friday, we had a very special workshop with a palaeontologist who showed us actual fossils and we were able to examine these. It was an amazing end to our half term!

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.

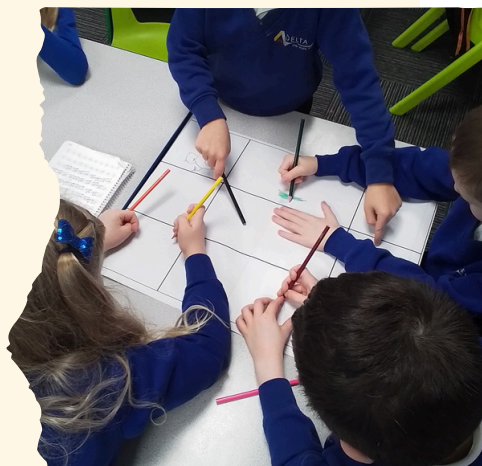
This week in Year 2 we have been immersed in poetry, focussing on The Hippocrump. We then used onomatopoeia and rhyming pairs to write our own poems about our own fantasy creatures.

In Art, we finished our weaving projects and dyed our own wool using natural colouring materials.

After half term we will be going on our trip to Pontefract castle; following this, we will be acting as our own tour guides to plan a trip for next year's year 2 class.

This week we also all started Times Tables Rock Stars. Children have been really engaged with this at home and we've been super impressed. I know some children are close to a certificate already on there! Keep it up!!! (Logins are in the children's planners and a letter was also sent home with these on.)

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 finished off their history topic - Would you want to be a Victorian Miner? We learnt about how dangerous the mines were, the ailments miners would get, the three types of jobs children had working in the mine - trapper, getter and hurrier. Year 3 also deep dived into the local Oaks Colliery disaster and what went wrong. To top off all that learning Mr Jarrett came in and taught the children all about mining, showed them a mining helmet, lamp and some coal. It was really fun learning about mining from someone that had worked in one. Thank you Mr Jarrett!!

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.

We have had a great last week of this half term in Year 4. This week we finished our Geography topic all about Greece with some group presentations. We presented all of the information we have learnt this term about the location of Greece, the land uses in Greece and all of the plants and animals which can be found in Greece.

We are also really enjoying our class reading strategy book: The Iron Man. A massive well done to Ivy, who has made the most amazing Iron Man model out of some household objects, an activity on Year 4s homework diary. Have a lovely half term break!

Miss Capper



Year 5

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

This week has been an exciting week in our Science lessons. We have investigated how the size, shape and height of a meteor affected the size, shape and depth of the crater it leaves after an impact on the moon. We had lots of fun using sand and play dough to recreate impacts and record our scientific findings.

We also impressed our friends by leading a Science class assembly where we had researched famous women in Science and shared our research with the rest of the school

Have a fabulous half term and we look forward to seeing you after the break!

Miss Prout



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

A group of our Y6s went to the Young Voice event on Wednesday afternoon. They thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon filled with dancing, singing and watching a range of different acts.

In Science this week, the children learnt 'How does the structure of a circuit affect the components? We created series and parallel circuits using buzzers, bulbs, cells, a switch and wires. The children described how the position of a switch affects the functionality of a circuit.

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 | 90% |
| Y2 | 100% |
| Y3 | 94% |
| Y4 | 97% |
| Y5 | 100% |
| Y6 | 91% |

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.

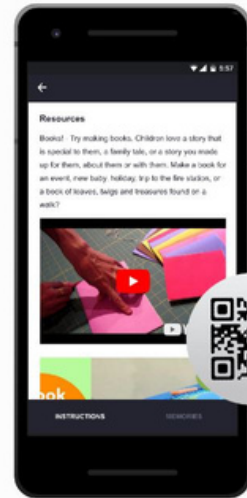
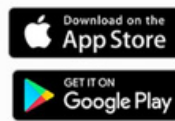


50 THINGS TO DO AT HOME

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

