

Friday 23rd May 2025



Personal Development

During the first week back we have some exciting days for Year 2 and Year 3.

Year 3 have an Ancient Egypt Day on Friday 6th June. Last year it was the most fantastic day full of exciting activities and dress up. I know the class will love it this year too.

On Wednesday 4th June we also have Year 2 experiencing a Victorian Day. The children will experience life in a Victorian school and the differences between how children lived. Another super exciting experience for our children!

Both these days link with their history lessons. I can't wait to see their outfits!

Update from Miss Cartwright

Good afternoon,

Thank you to those parents who came to our WISENDSS and Future in Mind (FIM) sleep sessions. The FIM session was open to the whole school and it would have been lovely to see more parents attend, as we know sleep is a really common difficulty for children. We have more parent sessions coming up next half term (see dates), and we are already booking sessions next academic year. If you have any questions about the upcoming sessions, please do speak with Mrs Ayre in the office. An information leaflet from FIM will be distributed electronically. Coming up we have a Year 6 transition and well-being session aimed at supporting children transition between primary and secondary school. This is not specific to a school, but how children can be supported in general- all Year 6 parents are invited to this and we hope to see you there. We also have a whole school Ditching Devices parent workshop in the afternoon. It would be lovely to see you all there.

Today our Year 5 and Year 6 classes took part in first aid workshops delivered by Daisy First Aid. These sessions looked at what to do in the event of a medical emergency and will provide our children with vital and life saving skills beyond the classroom. The children were fantastic in these sessions and showed maturity and enthusiasm.

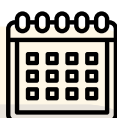
Finally a HUGE congratulations and well done to our Year 5 and 6 girls who took part in an Elite Sports Festival for girls football. **WE WON!!** What a huge achievement! We are all exceptionally proud of you.

Have a wonderful half term and we will see children back in school on Tuesday 3rd June.

Miss Cartwright



Diary Dates



Summer Term

02.06.25 Inset Day - school closed to children
03.06.25 Children welcomed back into school
04.06.25 Year 2 Victorian Day
06.06.25 Year 3 Ancient Egyptian day
02.06.25 Year 4 MTC assessment window opens
12.06.25 Year 5 and 6 Money Minds Yorkshire Building Society
13.06.25 Year 4 MTC assessment window closes
18.06.25 Future in Mind Year 6 transition and well-being session 2p.m
09.06.25 Year 1 Phonics Screening Check window opens
20.06.25 Year 1 Phonics Screening Check window closes
24.06.25 Sports Day Reception to Year 6 - times and further details coming soon. Nursery sports day will be on another day and communicated shortly.
25.06.25 Year 6 Eden Camp (rearranged date)
27.06.25 Culture Day
01.07.25 Future in Minds Ditching the Devices parent workshop 2pm
03.07.25 Delta Games: selected Year 4 and 5 pupils
07.07.25 Year 5 and 6 singing celebration assembly for parents
08.07.25 EYFS Graduation
09.07.25 Summer Fair **provisional date**
14.07.25 Music festival

More dates and events will be added in due course.
Dates may change.





Early Years

Reception have PE on a **Monday** in summer 1. Forest school has now finished.

Thank you to all the parents that attended our stay and play this week in reception. We enjoyed showing you our learning and completing our weekly activities with you.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed forest school this half term! They have learned lots of new skills and this week they finished their session with some lovely camomile tea!

The children have worked incredibly hard this half term and we have seen some amazing progress in reading, writing and maths! They have particularly enjoyed learning all about animal lifecycles so I am excited to tell you that we will be getting some more special visitors! I wonder what it will be? Next half term our key text will be 'The Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson.

Mrs Pearson

Nursery

In nursery this week, we looked at cube, cuboids, cylinders and spheres and learnt they were called 3d shapes, we made bridges and found objects that were the right shapes. We painted our own sunflowers as Vincent Van Gogh is our artist this term, look out for our won gallery in the classroom. We look forward to our new Talk for Writing text Mrs Mole I'm Home.

Mrs Richardson



Year 1

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

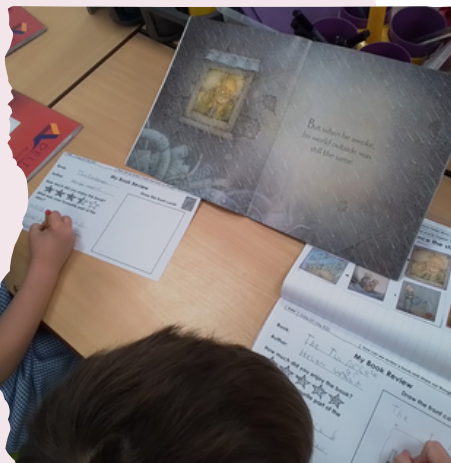
We have had a lovely final week before half term. I am always so impressed by the children's hard work and resilience in everything they do. In our reading strategy lessons, we have finished our class story The Tin Forest. We absolutely loved reading how the tin forest transformed into a real tropical jungle. We sequenced the events in the story before writing our own book review.

In writing, we wrote our own wishing tales to complete this unit. We have really been focusing on using capital letters, finger spaces, punctuation and our phonics in our sentences. The children's letter formation has drastically improved and they are becoming fantastic writers. It has been lovely to see high level vocabulary in their writing.

In geography, we have finished our unit by making our own travel posters about why people should visit Tanzania! The children showcased all their knowledge about Tanzanian animals, weather, crops and physical or human features. In PE, we have been practising running relay races in preparation for our sports day in June.

We have one final week back at school before our phonics screening assessment. Please continue to read with your child daily and play as many fun phonics games as you can!

Miss Roberts and Miss Scase



Year 2

A reminder that Year 2 have PE on a **Friday** throughout the Summer term. Please ensure your child brings their full, labelled PE kit to school each week.

We've had a fantastic final week of the half term in Year 2!

In PE, we completed our athletics unit, with the children showcasing their sprinting, long jump, and throwing skills. It's been brilliant to see their progress and determination over the past few weeks.

In art, we finished our powerful pieces inspired by Kazimir Malevich, using warm and cold colours to represent contrasting aspects of Victorian Britain. The children's work is bold, expressive and thoughtful—well done!

In writing, the children completed their hot task by inventing their own versions of Jack and the Beanstalk. We've seen everything from magic vines to sky-high castles and some truly imaginative new characters!

We'd like to wish all our families a lovely and restful half term break.

Don't forget—Victorian Day is in the first week back! We're really looking forward to stepping back in time and bringing our history learning to life.

Mr Bosanquet



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Year 3

Year 3 have PE on a **Tuesday**. Please ensure your child comes in their correct PE kit with their school uniform in their bags.

This week Year 3 completed our DT unit on simple machines. We recapped what a simple machine is and why it matters about where the fulcrum sits on a lever and why we should use a grooved wheel for a pulley. Then we learnt all about shadufs and how they were important to the Ancient Egyptians. Finally after designing our very own we got onto building a very sturdy shaduf with our partner. We then reflected on how we could improve our shadufs.

Year 3 have also worked super hard in our computing lessons - looking at publishing and how to improve a poster by using images, text, colour and size. We made some awesome posters in the class - really creative.

Finally we looked at notes on a keyboard in our music sessions and used chimes to imitate the c, d and f chords on the keyboards. We created some interesting tunes.

Miss Goodall



Year 4

This term Year 4 have P.E on a **Tuesday**. Please ensure that children have the correct PE kit.

This week, in Design and Technology, Year 4 made some amazing Mayan clothing. They developed their skills in completing different stitches such as the running stitch, the backstitch and the catch stitch. They found the catch stitch a bit tricky, however, I was really impressed with their perseverance and resilience when practicing this. We also discussed the purpose of a hem being to prevent the material from fraying and learnt how to create a hem and a seam. Year 4 incorporated their skills into their final project and created a Mayan Pati, some clothing that an Ancient Mayan woman would have worn.

Year 4 have also continued to work really hard on becoming fluent in their times tables ahead of the Multiplication Times Table check in the first week back after the holidays. Although the children have been practicing at school, any practice they can do at home over the holiday would make such a difference to their score. The more they practice, the more automatic answering each question will become. I am confident that each and every child will get a very good score and I am so proud of the hard work they are putting into their times tables.

Have a lovely half term break!

Miss Capper



Year 5

Year 5 have PE on a **Wednesday** and swimming on **Friday**.

This week Year 5 have had a lovely time: we have had our final Forest School Session, where we toasted starbursts; honed our graffiti art skills within our lessons about Banksy and Basquiat and in maths we have explored using protractors to measure angles.

In PSHE, we have thought about how to keep ourselves safe when using online games. We pretended to be game developers and designed our own safety features we would add to games to keep the users safe.

On Friday, we attended a first aid workshop and learnt many life saving skills to help in an emergency situation including how to safely put someone in the recovery position. Don't worry parents - should you ever need CPR, you are in safe hands with our Y5s!

This week we have achieved 100% attendance! Thank you for your efforts! Well done Year 5!

Miss Prout



Year 6

This term Year 6 have PE on a **Tuesday**. Please ensure the children bring the correct PE kit every week. Please note our trip to Eden Camp has been rearranged to the 25th June. We have Forest Schools every Thursday morning this term. Please can you send pupils to school in old clothes with their uniform in a bag.

This week Year 6 have absolutely blown me away! With only one week before half term, a new teacher, and just finishing SATs, they have completely taken this week in their stride and should be so proud of themselves.

In maths we have been looking at nets and the different 2D shapes that make up 3D shapes, finishing off with adding some of our own decorated ones to the display.

In science, we looked at how the earth has changed over millions of years and started exploring why the same animals look or act slightly differently in different habitats.

We also started looking at our leavers play; picking out parts and reading the script which has been sent home. This was a lovely end to a really positive week and half term, I hope you all enjoy your rest!

Miss Johnson



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,
Miss A Roberts:
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	93%
Y1	98%
Y2	98%
Y3	98%
Y4	89%
Y5	100%
Y6	93%

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.

Miss A Roberts

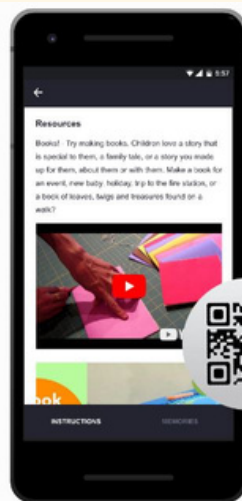


50 THINGS TO DO AT HOME

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
- Mrs S Hornby - SENDCo
- Miss H Prout - Designated Safeguarding Lead & Assistant Principal
- Miss S Cartwright - Head of Academy & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

