

Friday 24th January 2025



Coming Up

We have our second Bag 2 School collection on 31st January. Our last collection was a huge success. We hope this could be a perfect opportunity for a Spring clear out after Christmas and looking forwards to lighter days.

Every children from Nursery to Year 6 received a letter and collection bag. If you require more than one bag, please use any normal bin bag.

If you require any more information, or guidance of what you can, or cannot include, please see the website.
<https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>

Diary Dates

Dates For Your Calendar



Spring Term

wc 27.01.25 Spelling Bee
30.01.25 Bag 2 School collection day
05.02.25 Athlete/Olympian visit to school
07.02.25 Elite festival multi-sports
07.02.25 NSPCC Number Day
11.02.25 Year 6 Samba performance
12.02.25 Sheffield Young Voices
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
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.



Update from Miss Cartwright

Happy Friday everyone,

I hope you have all had a wonderful week. We certainly have here at The Vale.

This half term we have our Elite Sports Coaches with us on a Tuesday. The children who have lessons with Elite have had a fantastic time in their lessons. The Elite Sports Coach has also been running some dance Elite lunch clubs which the children are thoroughly enjoying active lunch times.

As we are all aware, we were recently able to share our most recent Ofsted report with you. We are incredibly proud of the report and thankful that the hard work of the children and staff has been acknowledged beyond the trust. As Head of Academy I am privileged to work alongside our wonderful children, staff and families.

If you have not yet had a chance to read the full report, it can be found on Ofsted's website;

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/21/138332>

Have a wonderful weekend.

Miss Cartwright



Early Years

Reception

This week in reception, children have been busy exploring mass and capacity. They have learned different ways to measure as well as lots of new vocabulary to describe the weighing scales and the different containers they have used. In T4W we have begun innovating our story of the Gingerbread man. Children have some thought of some fantastic ideas and have chosen a new main character for their story.

During our choosing time, children have been making paper plate birds linked to our learning around the RSPB big watch, in addition to this they been creating wanted posters for the gingerbread man to place around school.

Our new unit of PE for the spring term is dance, children have shown great enjoyment learning new movements and how to copy them to music. They are also learning how to move safely and show confidence to share ideas.

Nursery

This week in Nursery, children have done amazing counting skills - counting up to four. They have drawn the numeral four and looked at the composition of 4 and how to make this! They will continue this next week.

PHSE we have been talking about the things that challenge us. The children have really engaged well in this lesson, discussing things they find difficult such as zipping up their coats, completing lego sets etc. The children learned the value of "never giving up!" Well done Nursery!



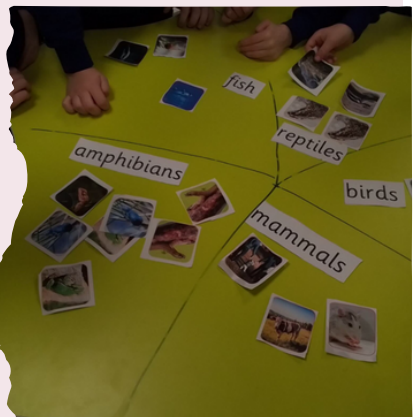
Year 1

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

The children have fully engaged in our new unit 'would you like a dinosaur's life?' In our first history lesson, we learnt how the dinosaurs went extinct and used a timeline (throughout the whole school!) to know dinosaurs lived a long, long time ago.

This links to our science. We have been identifying our body parts, five senses and have started to explore the five different groups of animals.

Furthermore, in our DT, we are learning what we need to eat to keep our bodies healthy. After learning which foods come from animals and which come from plants, we tasted different fruits and vegetables to decide if they were rough or smooth and sweet or sour. This links to our previous learning, where we learnt that we need five portions of fruit or vegetables a day to keep healthy and strong!



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 has been another busy one in Year 2. We've continued to learn our Talk4Writing text, Peter Pan. The children have begun to innovate their own fantasy tales.

In History, we have been looking at Pontefract castle and why it is important to our local area. We've looked at how it compares to other castles and how it has changed over time.

Letters went home for our school trip this week. Please make sure these are returned as soon as possible and payment is made via MCAS app.

Mr Bosanquet



Year 3

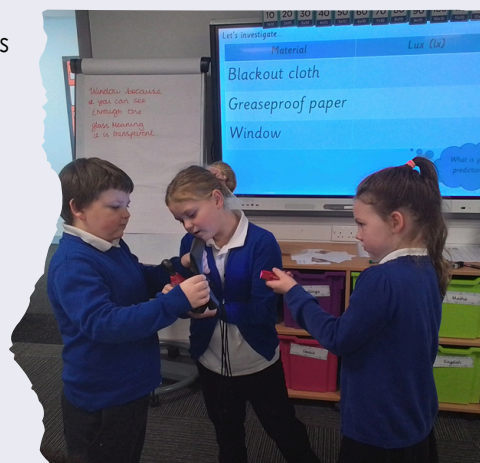
Year 3 have PE on Friday and Forest School on Thursday

This week Year 3 have been writing short burst stories using many skills that create suspense. We wrote a story about children going on a journey into a pyramid in Egypt - which links to our summer history topic. They have been a great read Year 3.

Year 3 have been on fire this week with learning all about fractions, how to write them, order, compare and place them on a number line. Keep up the brilliant work!

In science we learnt all about materials that are opaque, transparent, and translucent.

Miss Goodall



Year 4

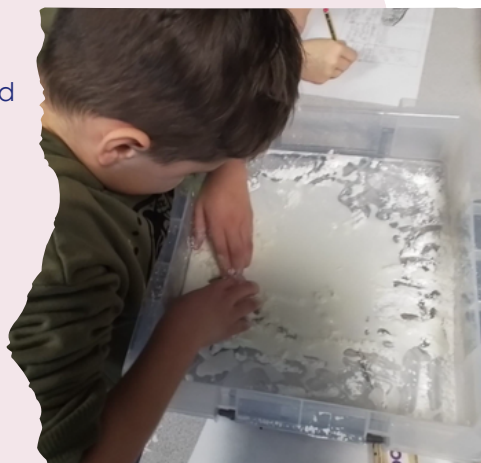
This term Year 4 have P.E on Mondays and Forest School on a Thursday.

This week we competed in the spelling competition on Emile. I was so impressed with all of the dedication and hard work in order to secure a position on the leaderboard. Well done!

In Science this week we explored non-Newtonian substances, which are substances which behave like solids and liquids in different situations. We explored cornflour, which is one of these substances.

In PE, we continued to work on our dance routine. We learnt about mirroring and unison and practiced performing our dance with a partner.

Miss Capper



Year 5

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

This week, Year 5 had a fantastic visit to the Gurdwara in Bradford. This is a Sikh place of worship and we learnt all about the langar (a special meal prepared and eaten altogether) and the Sikh symbol - Khanda. We were very respectful and asked lots of thoughtful questions, making our teachers very proud.

We have also enjoyed practicing our 'Dance By Chance' where we use a dice to help us choose movements and transitions to add to our dance. We have been incredibly brave, performing for each other and giving feedback. Have a fabulous weekend, Year 5!

Miss Prout



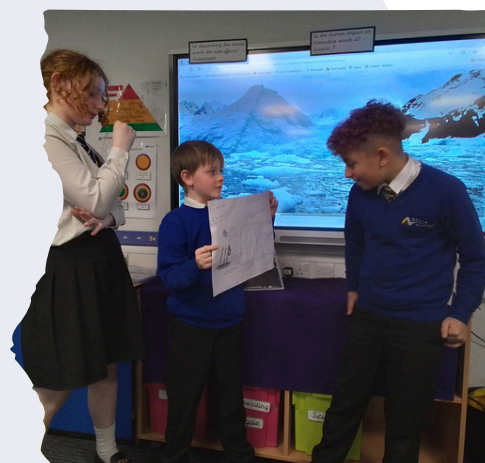
Year 6

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

In music this week, the children loved recapping their hip hop samba and football samba in their groups. We have been practising our performance skills ready for our parents and carers to see our hard work.

In geography, we did our assessment task and answered the question 'is discovering the world worth the side effects?' The children used their iPads to find graphs to support their answers and they presented their findings to the class.

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	94%
Y1	99%
Y2	97%
Y3	94%
Y4	94%
Y5	99%
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.

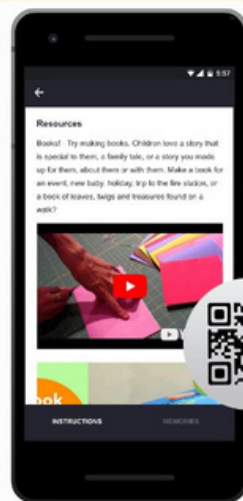


50 THINGS TO DO AT HOME

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

