

Friday 28th February 2025



Personal Development

World Book Day 06.03.25

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.

Diary Dates

Dates For Your Calendar



Spring Term

04.03.25 Y5 visit to SLA for Wonderdome
04.03.25 Parents Evening
05.03.25 Parents Evening
06.03.25 World Book Day
07.03.25 Year 6 SATs Superhero workshop
wc 10.03.25 Science Week
12.03.25 and 13.03.25 Book Fair
11.03.25 Reception Educational Visit Cannon Hall Farm
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.



Update from Miss Cartwright

Good afternoon,

Spring is finally in their air and we have so much to look forward to this term. From Educational Visits, to visitors in school, to Science Week, to Book Fairs, to music concerts and so much more!

This week we welcomed our new SENDCo Mrs Hornby, who will be working in Reception as well as getting to know our wonderful children throughout school. While Mrs Hornby becomes familiar with our school and children, please direct any SEND questions to your child's class teacher as first contact.

Year 2 visited Pontefract Castle this week and had the most wonderful time. This visit supports their current geography unit 'Castles' and we are very lucky to have one on our doorstep! Each and every child represented themselves and The Vale Primary Academy. Well done everyone!

In preparation for World Book Day next week, Conrad visited us to work with our children. The children always love his sessions and we love celebrating stories with him.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend.



Early Years

Reception PE is now on a Tuesday.

This week reception have started a new text Jack and the Beanstalk, which the children are so excited about!

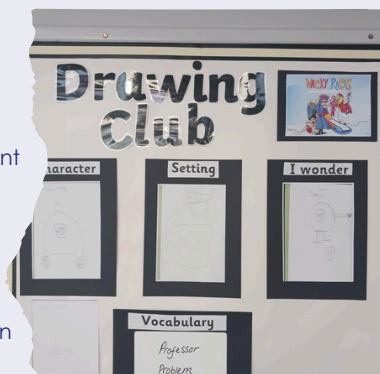
In Maths we have been comparing length, we consolidated this in provision by building different sized towers.

In our class thrive sessions we have explored turn taking, whereby children worked in pairs to colour a picture (a timed exercise. whereby turn taking was encouraged!)

Nursery

In nursery this week the children were so excited to start our drawing club. This week the children explored "wacky races" - they broke this down into character, setting and vocabulary. They looked at questions such as "what will happen next?", "what vehicle could race instead of a car?"

In talk 4 writing we are now looking at "The crunching, munching caterpillar" which the children are so excited about.



Year 1

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

It has been a wonderful first week back in Year 1. I have been so impressed with the children's hard work and enthusiasm.

In maths, we are now focusing on counting to 100 forwards and backwards using the hundred square. We will be looking at partitioning numbers within 100 into tens and ones next week.

In our geography and science lessons, we are exploring weather and seasonal changes. We have loved keeping a weather diary and we are looking forward to explore the different changes as we enter our next season, Spring.

In art, we started looking at our new artist, the illustrator Axel Scheffler, who illustrated the pictures in some of our favourite Julia Donaldson books. We are excited to begin painting in the style of his work.

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 concluded our learning about Why Pontefract Castle is Important, with our trip to Pontefract Castle. The children were immersed in the world of the English Civil War and explored the dungeons. We even saw the toilet which would drop waste into the moat - a highlight for lots of the children!

In PE we started to learn about gymnastics with our new Elite coach. Children were focussing on balancing and combining a series of movements, this links with the last of our science lessons about healthy eating; in PSHE, we have also started our unit Healthy Me! The linked learning across subjects has been amazing.

We were also beginning to get excited for our World Book Day celebrations with a visit from Conrad. He was so impressed with the children's passion for stories that he shared a story he normally saves for Year 3.

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 learnt all about the festival of the Passover in our first RE session. We learnt all about the seder plate - what night it is eaten on, what food is on the plate and what the food represents. Year 3 had amazing recall throughout - they could remember all about the food and its representation. We even got to try matzah bread - a bread that is often eaten with the seder plate.

We have absolutely smashed it this week with learning their Roman numerals - they have really impressed me with their recall of 12 Roman numerals. This knowledge links learning to tell the time.

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 began our new genre of writing this week- persuasion. We really enjoyed watching persuasion in action in clips of the Dragon's Den, before inventing our very own gadget to pitch to a panel of Dragons (Miss Capper). After coming up with our ideas, we built our gadget using recycled materials and then entered the Dragon's Den and pitched our new invention. We had some amazing inventions, from a multi- purpose backpack, to a tree planting machine. We discussed all of the reasons why our listeners should buy our cool inventions, leaving most of us wishing that they weren't made out of cardboard!

We also had an exciting session with Conrad, an author, who shared lots of fun and clever stories with us. We especially loved the Banana poem!

Miss Capper



Year 5

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

This week Year 5 have enjoyed our writing lessons. We have been learning all about information texts and created our own news reports on the Kraken. We created our own studio and makeshift microphones!

On Tuesday, we were very excited by a visit from our author Conrad. He told us stories and we were absolutely enthralled! We shared some of our favourite books and authors. We are now very excited for our world book day next week!

Year 5's attendance is absolutely fantastic currently. We are so proud of them coming to school every day, ready to learn. 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.

An author, Conrad, came to visit our school on Tuesday. Year 6 spent some time with Conrad in the library. The author shared stories, read poems and discussed our favourite books. It was a nice introduction ready for World Book Day next week!

In PE, we started our new topic, gymnastics. The children showed a progression of rolls to develop straddle, forward and backwards rolls. They identified what they need to do to improve their rolls.

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	98%
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.

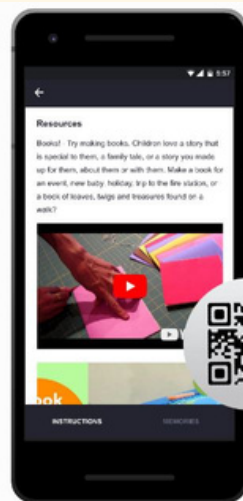


50 THINGS TO DO AT HOME

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

