




## Coming Up

 Next week we will be having the first of our singing celebration assemblies. This term, Year 1 and Year 2 have been participating in singing assemblies with Miss Grey, our music teacher from Wakefield Music Service. We invite parents of Year 1 and 2 children to join us to hear their beautiful voices.

In the Spring and Summer term, Years 3-6 will have the same opportunities and parents will be invited in due course.

## Update from Miss Cartwright

Hi everyone,

A very busy week here at The Vale!

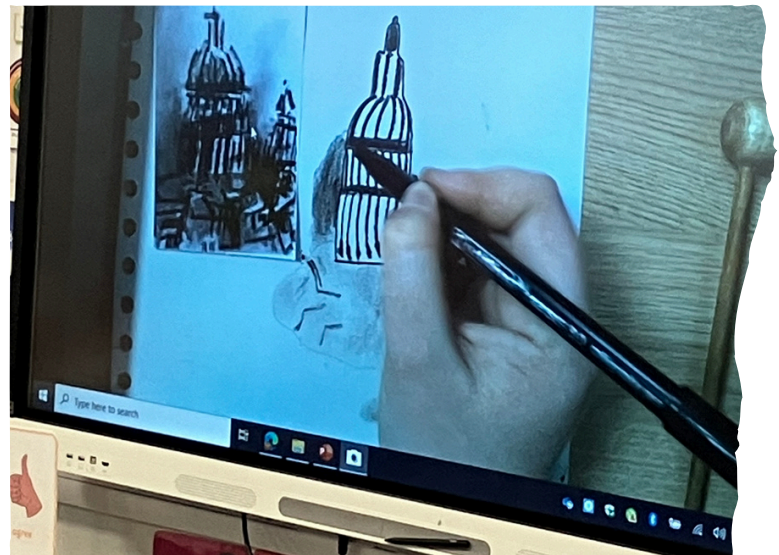
I want to start with celebrating that the school raised £173.91 in the Poppy Appeal. I am sure the money raised will make a huge difference to the charity, who support people who have experienced trauma specifically linked with the military. Thank you to our Pupil Parliament who used their own time to sell the Poppy Appeal merchandise.

As always, there have been some amazing and engaging activities happening throughout the academy. I saw a fantastic PSHE lesson in Year 5, amazing art in Year 2 who were smudging charcoal to make beautiful images, and exceptional phonics in Year 1.

As you are all aware, we had Ofsted with us this week and we were very proud to show all the fantastic things we do here. As soon as the report is published, we will be sharing this with you, but this may not be until mid January.

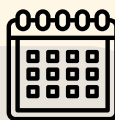
I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Miss Cartwright



## Diary Dates

### Dates For Your Calendar



#### Autumn

**Every Wednesday 14:50** Reading afternoon

**Every Monday 9:00** SEND clinic. Please contact the main office to book

**09.12.24** Year 1 and 2 Christmas Carol concert (all parents and carers welcome)

**10.12.24** Christmas Fair

**12.12.24** EYFS Nativity

**13.12.24** Christmas Jumper Day

**17.12.24** Reception and Y1 family Christmas Dinners

**18.12.24** Y2 and Y3 family Christmas Dinners

**19.12.24** Y4, Y5 and Y6 Family Christmas Dinners

# Early Years

This week, early years children have been incredibly busy completing lots of gross and fine motor activities around provision. Children have enjoyed using paint rollers with different materials, weaving ribbon and chopping spaghetti. All these activities support children in developing their shoulder, arm and finger muscles for mark making and writing.

In reception, children found an owl's nest as part of their T4W hook. Inside the nest was some owl feathers and 6 white eggs. We have been learning all about owls and working towards writing our own fact file. In maths, we have been continuing to learn about 4-sided shapes and have enjoyed a shape hunt around our unit using our shape magnifying glasses.

This week, nursery children have started their new T4W text 'Dear Santa'. They were very excited to receive a letter from Santa on Monday! Nursery have also enjoyed lots of outdoor play and exploring how to melt the ice to find out what was inside.

Mr Pearson & Mrs Richardson



R  
POTW  
Tommie

N  
POTW  
Maya & Arlah

# Year 1

P.E is on Wednesday for Year 1 and Forest School on Thursday.

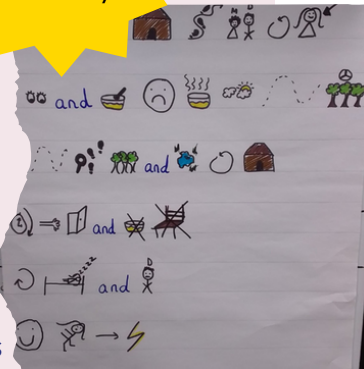
What an amazing week of learning we have had in Year 1! The children's hard work, enthusiasm for learning and incredible behaviour has been recognised throughout school.

I have been blown away with the children's progress in their phonics. We have completed our practice phonics screening check and every single child has made huge improvements in their decoding and fluency. I know how hard the children work in our phonics and reading lessons and it is certainly paying off!

In history, we have been learning about the German engineer Karl Benz and how cars were different in the past compared to now. In Spanish, we have now learnt seven different sea creatures and have loved putting actions to the song!

Miss Roberts

POTW  
Bobby



# Year 2

Year 2 have PE is on Monday. On a Thursday, we have forest school. Please ensure your child has warm and waterproof clothing that can get muddy.

In Year 2, we have been working as artists focussing on the skills of drawing. We have been exploring smudging, difference thicknesses of lines and different mediums. Ask your child about how William Kentridge and Frank Auerbach made their drawings.

We have also continued to work as writers, writing our own discussion texts in our cold task. We've also held a courtroom trial about who started The Great Fire of London, banking key vocabulary we will use in our writing.

Mr Bosanquet

POTW  
Charlie W





## Year 3

Year 3 have PE on a Tuesday.

This week in Year 3 we started our new topic in English - instructions. As a part of learning how to write them, we had written instructions on how to make a jam sandwich. Then, we had the opportunity to read our instructions aloud for someone to try and make the jam sandwich. We soon realised that we had to be really clear and specific in what we said.

We have also been working super hard in maths - continuing to look at division, but this time we have been dividing with an exchange and a remainder.

**Miss Goodall**

POTW  
Frankie P



## Year 4

This term Year 4 have P.E on a Tuesday.

This week we have worked so hard in our Maths lessons, where we have learnt how to divide a 3 digit number by a 1 digit number by making exchanges and finding the remainder. This has been so tricky but we are becoming more fluent and confident the more we have practiced.

We also had so much fun in our writing lessons this week, drawing and performing our story map for our Third Person Recount and testing finger prints to see who was responsible for stealing the jewels!

**Miss Capper**

POTW  
Peyton



## Year 5

Year 5 have PE on Tuesday and swimming on Friday.

This week, Year 5 started their Art printing unit with a focus on Greek potter and painter Exekius. We focused on his use of line, repeating, symmetrical and mirrored patterns as well as his inclusion of palmette motifs. We had great fun releasing our inner artists to create our own work in our sketch books.

In writing, we have been looking at suspense tales and how personification and short sentences can keep the reader on the edge of their seat. We turned the lights down and enjoyed performing our writing to send shivers down our audiences spines!

**Miss Prout**

POTW  
Isla



# Year 6

POTW  
Tommy

This term Year 6 have PE on a Tuesday.

Year 6 have worked extremely hard this week with their practise SATS. They have shown their amazing resilience. Keep up your hard work Y6! We will be continuing with our a practise SATS next week.

In Spanish, the children are enjoying our topic: 'What is the weather?'. They have been learning Spanish weather songs and writing weather forecasts.

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 Rowse, 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	92%
Y2	85%
Y3	95%
Y4	97%
Y5	92%
Y6	94%

## 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.

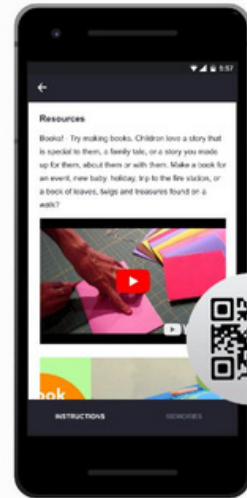
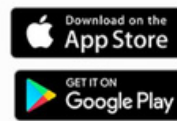
**Mrs S Rowse**  
Thrive Practitioner



## 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](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:**

- Mrs S Rowse- SENDCo
- Mrs S Rowse - Lead Thrive Practitioner
- Miss H Prout - Designated Safeguarding Lead & Assistant Principal
- Miss S Cartwright - Head of Academy and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

