

Friday 4th April 2025



Personal Development

On Wednesday 23rd April our lovely Year 3 class will be visiting the National Coalmining Museum. The class have been learning about coalmining as part of their study in local history. Our very own Mr Jarret has already given them a first hand account on what life was like as a miner. I know this visit will support all the amazing knowledge they already have.

On Thursday 24th April, Year 1 will be completing fieldwork in our local area. They will be going on a short walk around our local area, where they will be identifying the physical and human features. They will complete different activities such as creating field sketches and using directional language, and following the route on maps.

Update from Miss Cartwright

Good afternoon,

What a sunny way to end the Spring term!

We started the week with the most wonderful Year 3 and 4 singing celebration. Mrs Gray, our Wakefield music teacher this year, was so impressed not just with the amazing performance, but with how supportive parents were. Thank you if you were able to attend. We absolutely love sharing the children's achievements.

We had some amazing Easter bonnets made both in and out of school. The designs were exceptional and we had a very difficult time deciding on winners.

Thank you to Eli and Henry in Year 5 for selling raffle tickets for. You both did an exceptional job!

I wish you all a happy Easter and hope the holiday is filled with lots of fun and rest. A reminder that we return to school Tuesday 22nd April, as the Monday is a bank holiday.

Miss Cartwright

Diary Dates

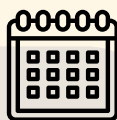
Dates For The Calendar

Spring Term

22.04.25 Children back in school
23.04.25 New Nursery Children Start
23.04.25 Year 3 National Coal Mining Museum
24.04.25 Year 1 fieldtrip around the local area
06.05.25 Year 4 York Chocolate Story visit
12.05.25 - 15.05.25 year 6 SATs week
20.05.25 WISENDSS Sleep coffee morning 09:15 - more information coming soon.
21.05.25 Future in Mind sleep clinic 14:00 - more information coming soon
23.05.25 Year 5 and 6 first aid workshop
03.06.25 Year 6 Eden Camp
04.06.25 Year 3 Ancient Egyptian day
24.06.25 Sports Day - times and further details coming soon

Summer Fair dates- to be announced

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



Early Years

Reception have PE on a **Monday** and forest school on a **Thursday** in Summer 1.

This week, reception have been completing some non-fiction writing about plants. We have labelled the parts of a plant and wrote about what plants need to grow. We have also been completing some easter themed activities and cards. In PSHE we have been talking about who our safe adults are and how to stay safe if they are not close by. Well done to everyone for their efforts in making Easter Bonnets, it was wonderful to see so many fantastic creations! Well done to Henryk who was our winner in reception. We hope everyone has a lovely Easter break, after the holidays we will be learning all about animals and their lifecycles. Our first text will be 'The Teeny Weeny Tadpole'.

Mrs Pearson

Nursery

In nursery this week, we consolidated our learning in maths recapping capacity, length and mass. We finished off our Talk for Writing text and planted a Sunflower seed to look after at home. In Drawing Club we drew Fred Flintstone and look at the where they lived and their choice of pets. Thank you for all the wonderful Easter Bonnets.

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 to end the Spring term in Year 1. I cannot believe we only have one term left! The children are becoming independent, resilient and responsible learners- I am so proud of the progress they have made so far.

In our reading strategy lessons, we finished our story Dogger by Shirley Hughes. We completed our own book reviews and re-read our favourite parts of the story to our partner. The children blew me away with their amazing ideas about how Dogger connects to other stories they have read; it is wonderful to hear the children speak so passionately and excitedly. We then performed the poem 'Ten in a Bed' fluently as a class and discussed how this linked to our story.

In art, we developed our drawing skills by using wax crayons to create leaf and tree rubbings. In computing, we explored grouping and sorting objects by their colour, shape and size and in RE, the children completed a group assessment to answer the question 'what is Islam?'

The children have worked incredibly hard in all of our phonics sessions. As we continue to prepare for the phonics screening check, please ensure your child is reading daily, if possible. Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Roberts

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 brilliant final week of term in Year 2, filled with creativity and hands-on learning!

In art, we explored different ways to join materials as we continued our Mexican bunting project. The children experimented with linings, glue, and sewing using an over stitch. We'll be finishing the bunting in small groups during the first week back.

In English, we completed our hot task for our animal information texts, showing off everything we've learned. Some fantastic pieces are now on display in our corridor—feel free to take a look if you're joining us for Reading Afternoon!

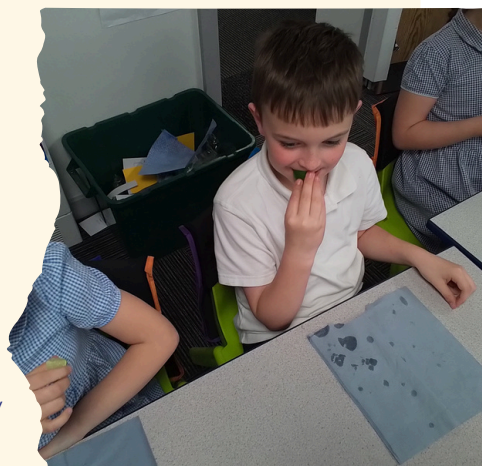
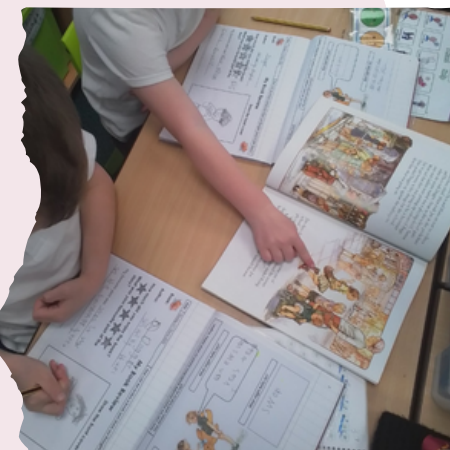
In Design Technology, we turned our attention to Mexican food. The children sampled a range of ingredients, gave them a rating out of five, and then worked together to make their own salsa and guacamole. There were lots of brave taste-testers and some brilliant teamwork!

After the Easter break, we'll be heading back in time to explore Victorian Britain in our new topic.

Children have taken home an optional homework booklet filled with fun activities to review everything we've learned so far this year. There will be bonus dojos up for grabs for anyone who gives it a go!

Wishing you all a wonderful and relaxing Easter break!

Mr Bosanquet



Year 3

Year 3 have PE on a **Tuesday**. Please ensure your child brings the correct PE kit.

This week Year 3 alongside Year 4 put their singing practice into an absolutely amazing performance. We had a great turn out, lots of grown-ups came to watch Year 3 and 4 sing songs such as 'Count on me' by Bruno Mars and 'Imagine' by John Lennon. An extra special shout out to our narrators that did a brilliant job - Sebastian, Daniel, Mark, and Amber. Well done again, you all sang so beautifully and have really made us all proud!

This week has been our final week working on 'The Fire-work Makers Daughter' by Philip Pullman. We have spent all of spring term reading about a character that shows resilience, determination and courage. And we are so happy that the story has a beautiful happy ending. We gave our own reviews on the book - star rating, illustrations of the book, book summary, recommendation and our thoughts and feelings about the book.

Miss Goodall



Year 4

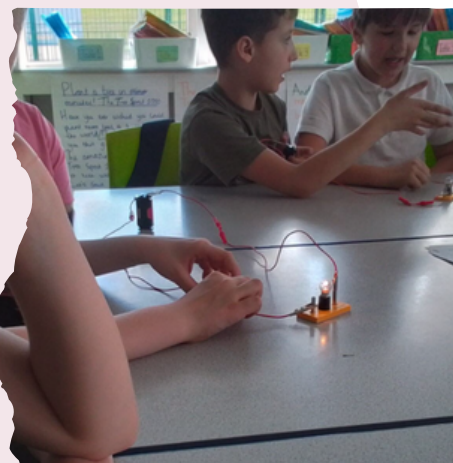
This term Year 4 have P.E on a **Tuesday**. Please ensure that children have the correct PE kit.

This week we took part in an absolutely amazing singing performance alongside Year 3. It was great to show you all of the songs we have been practising with our singing teacher this term.

In Science, we used the knowledge we have gained this term on conductors, insulators and electrical circuit components, to design and make a switch. We all decided that the switch should be made using a conductor so that electricity could be let through. Some of the conductors we chose were paperclips and metal pins.

We also came to the end of our class read- The Iron Man this week. The huge, destructive creature we have loved reading about, eventually transformed into a key character, who was able to live harmoniously with humans. We explored the common themes represented in the Iron Man, including, resilience, understanding and the need for peace over fighting and destruction. After discussing our favourite parts of the book, we completed a book review and a book summary.

Miss Capper



Year 5

Year 5 now have forest school on a **Thursday**, PE on a **Wednesday** and swimming on **Friday**.

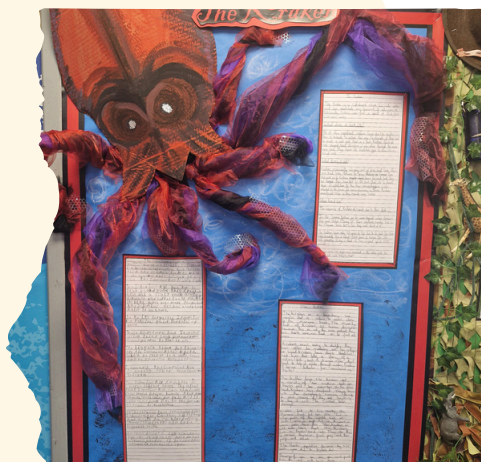
This week Year 5 have enjoyed learning all about forces including gravity, water resistance, air resistance and friction. We loved testing how much friction different surfaces had and concluded that the carpet had the most due to its rough surface.

In writing we were super keen to get stuck in writing our information text based on the legendary Kraken. Some pieces were chosen to be displayed on our writing wall in the corridor, accompanied by our very own model of the beast!

Next term, we have forest school on Thursdays so please ensure your child brings their spare clothes as they often get muddy and messy making lots of memories!

Have a fabulous Easter!

Miss Prout



Year 6

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

This week the children have enjoyed PE and it was their final lesson of gymnastics. The children spent time practising a performance and thinking about how formations impact performance. The children created a group sequence using formations and apparatus. They ensured that their formations contrast in shape and level.

This week in maths, we have been learning about angles. Children learnt that angles on a straight line add up to 180° and angles around a point add up to 360° . We also learnt that vertically opposite angles are equal. Through investigation, children saw that there are two pairs of equal angles. We began to understand that vertically opposite angles are formed when two straight lines cross, and if either of the lines are not straight, then the angles formed are not vertically opposite.

Well done for all your hard work and resilience this term Y6! Have a great Easter!

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,
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	95%
Y1	96%
Y2	97%
Y3	94%
Y4	96%
Y5	95%
Y6	92%

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

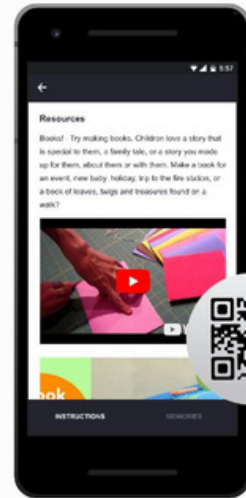
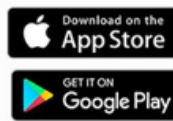


50 THINGS TO DO AT HOME

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

