

Friday 25th April 2025



## Personal Development

Over the Easter holidays, Mr Jarret worked on our new garden area. We now have a wonderful little pond, a vegetable patch ready to be planted, and our fruit trees have some beautiful blossom starting to bloom. The Eco Rangers and Gardening Club can't wait to get things planted and see fruit grow on the trees in the years to come.

On 8<sup>th</sup> May, as part of our PSHE lessons we will be learning about VE Day and what this meant/ means for our country and the rest of Europe.

## Update from Miss Cartwright

Good afternoon,

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

It has been a brilliant first week back with so many happy faces and endless hard work. Year 3 have been to the National Coalmining Museum this week, gaining some amazing feedback from the gentleman who led the group. He stated what amazing manners and knowledge the children had. Well done Year 3, you really are superstars. Year 1 also had their local fieldtrip walk and were just fantastic. Next week they have their visit to Yorkshire Wildlife Park, which I know they will love!

Welcome to our new nursery starters. They have had a really positive first couple of days settling and learning about their new class and environment.

Next week there will be no newsletter, instead we will be sending out our termly Curriculum Newsletter. This will update you on what your child will be learning about this term.

Reception have very kindly rehomed some tadpoles for me! I had thousands in my pond at home and luckily Reception are learning all about tadpoles and frogs, they were the perfect people for the job! Thank you Reception.

Finally, we have been able to purchase a new outdoor Table Tennis set to enhance our outdoor play areas through the Great Athlete Event last term. The children have really enjoyed booking time into it and started some of their own mini tournaments! Thank you again to Miss Goodall for organising such a memorable event and enabling us to have this new equipment.

Miss Cartwright



## Diary Dates

### Dates For The Calendar



#### Spring Term

**01.05.25** Year 1 trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park  
**06.05.25** Year 4 York Chocolate Story visit  
**08.05.25** VE Day afternoon workshops  
**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  
wc **03.06.25** 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 started learning our new text 'The Teeny Weeny Tadpole'. As part of our hook the children put some tadpoles in our new school pond. We have also been learning all about the lifecycle of a frog and are excited to see how the tadpoles change. Reception have also had their Forest school session with Elite. They completed some den building, made mud pie faces and had a mud café.

In maths we have been learning all about the 3d shapes- cube, cuboid, sphere, cylinder, cone and pyramid. We have been looking around our environment for objects that match and have also been discussing what 2d shapes we can see on them- we did this by painting the faces and printing them on paper! Well done everyone on a fantastic first week back.

**Mrs Pearson**

## Nursery

In nursery this week, we have been sequencing Pip's daily routine and Incy Wincy Spider plus The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We started our new text The Rhyming Rabbit and looked at The Poddington Peas. We also welcomed some new friends to our class.

**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 very busy first week back in Year 1.

In maths, we have been recognising, naming and sorting 3D shapes. Please support and encourage your child to spot and name any 3D shapes at home!

In science, we completed another seasonal walk to identify the changes we could see in our environment now we are in the middle of Spring. We were in awe of the beautiful green leaves and blossoms we could now see on our trees. Linking to last term's learning about plants, we also planted our own cress seeds! We will be keeping a plant diary to monitor and track their growth over the next few weeks.

We completed fieldwork in our local area. We identified the physical and human features we could see and created a field sketch to show these. This links to our new unit in geography 'How is Tanzania different to where I live?'

Building on this, we are of course very excited for our school trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park on Thursday!

**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.

What a fantastic start to the summer term Year 2 have had!

In writing, we've started exploring setting descriptions through the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. The children produced some brilliant ideas in their cold task at the beginning of the week—there were some truly magical and imaginative scenes!

In reading, we've begun our new class text: George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl. The children's predictions ranged from surprisingly accurate to wonderfully wacky—and we loved hearing every one of them!

In science, we've been wrapping up our learning on staying healthy and have started thinking ahead to our next topic: plants. We're looking forward to plenty of hands-on investigations as we dig deeper into the world of nature.

**Mr Bosanquet**





## 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 have been on a school trip - we went to The National Coal Mining Museum in Wakefield and had a fantastic time. We looked at Davy lamps, the operational room, giant machines called Joy, pit ponies, canaries, Pit Head Baths and explored the deep, dark mines. We had a blast! We got to wear helmets and had our very own lamps to help us see. Then, we went down the lift to reach the bottom so that we could explore the mine. We were very brave! We crawled through small tunnels, saw statues of Victorian to modern workers, huge machines, and equipment that miners would bring down such as snap tins. Year 3 showed some excellent recall of our unit on coal mining. Brilliant! Graham, our tour guide praised how excellent our group of children were, so attentive with excellent questions. Well done Year 3, you have made Mrs McNally, Mrs Brain, Miss Booth and I, proud. Sebastian you are an excellent spokesperson for Year 3 - the people at the National Coal Mining Museum were quite impressed.

Miss Goodall



## Year 4

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

We have had a lovely start to the Summer term in Year 4. This week, we learnt that sound is made through vibrations. We felt inspired when hearing about Evelyn Glennie, a deaf musician who can feel her music through the vibrations the instruments create.

In Maths this week, we have been learning about units of time, for example how many minutes in an hour, how many hours in a day. We used our knowledge to convert units of time and to complete word problems and reasoning questions about units of time.

We have also been working hard on consolidating our times table knowledge ahead of the Multiplication Times Table Check. We have been practicing using our times table stick as well as playing lots of games and completing puzzles.

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 had their first forest school session and got to know their new teacher Jess. They spoke about world Earth day and sustainability. We had lots of ideas of how we can help our planet for years to come.

We are enjoying our new Science unit all about materials and their properties. We began planning our own investigation to test the hardness of materials. We had to think carefully about how we would ensure our test was fair.

In PSHE, we are learning about relationships and how our view of ourselves and others can affect these. We were proud to talk about our personalities and used lots of wonderful adjectives like generous, kind, patient and funny to describe ourselves. Our teachers definitely agree with all of those!

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 their new PE topic, Athletics. The children were learning how to develop their own and others sprinting technique. Year 6 worked well in teams and actively encouraged their team players which was fantastic to see - Well done Y6!

We started our new unit in Science, living things and their habitats. Y6 were learning about the similarities and differences between living things. The children explained what classification is and wrote their own definitions. The children used and developed keys to identify, classify and describe living things and materials.



**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**

**92%**

**Y1**

**92%**

**Y2**

**94%**

**Y3**

**99%**

**Y4**

**95%**

**Y5**

**97%**

**Y6**

**89%**



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## 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

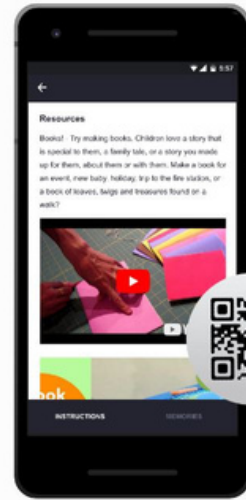
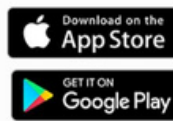


## 50 THINGS TO DO AT HOME

### 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](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

