

Victoria Lane Voice

May 2019



Dukeshouse Wood



What a fantastic, action packed summer term we are having here at Victoria Lane Academy and everyone can now look forward to a well-deserved rest over the half-term break that will soon be upon us next week. School will close next Friday 24th May and will re-open on Monday 3rd June for the final half-term of this academic year.

Our recent residential visit to Dukeshouse Wood, with some of our Year Four children, accompanied by Mrs Ambrose and Mrs Richardson, was brilliant. The children were a credit to you with their incredible behaviour. They developed their independence, confidence and resilience and successfully participated in a range of team building skills and challenges including Laser, Climbing and Bushcraft survival skills. The photos are now available to view on the website and next year, the current Year 3 children will be invited to attend the residential visit in April 2020. Letters will be issued after half-term break.

Year Six SATs have now been completed and we are very proud of how admirably the Year 6 pupils have coped with such a stressful week. We wish them well with their results as they have worked extremely hard all year. They can now look forward to enjoying the end of year activities that include the Y6 Prom, the residential visit to Kielder Reservoir and a trip to Lightwater Valley as a reward for all of their hard work throughout Year 6.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your fantastic support as we cannot do all that we do as a school without your ongoing support.



Miss School Miss Out!

It is widely known that children who attend nursery and school regularly are able to fulfil their potential. Our attendance is continuing to improve steadily but we still are working towards our school target of 96%. Thank you for your continual support to ensure that your child has the best school attendance possible. The reduction in school term-time holidays, bringing your child back to school after an appointment and asking for appointments in the afternoon mean that disruption to the school day is kept to a minimum. If your child has been absent due to sickness, keeping children off school for a full 48 hours since the last bout of sickness means it is less likely to spread to other children in the school.

This year, 41 children are on track to have 100% attendance for a full year, which is a remarkable achievement, considering the outbreaks of chicken pox and vomiting throughout the year. Every week, one child wins the £10 cash prize for full school attendance the previous week and Nursery now have their own reward scheme, with a quality toy that is awarded for full nursery attendance in a weekly attendance lottery. At the end of the summer term, one lucky family will win the £100 termly jackpot for a child who has managed 100% attendance for a full term.

Summer Fayre

Thank you to all of the parents that attended the recent Friends of the School meeting to help plan the forthcoming summer fayre on **Friday 21st June at 2pm until 4pm**. Fingers crossed for good weather! Please can we ask that you support us with our fundraising as every penny is spent on your children to ensure we can continue to help subsidise visits, buy prizes and pay for items e.g. play equipment that the school budget cannot afford due to continuing government reductions in funding.

At the fayre, there will be a range of attractions so families can have a fun afternoon including, face painting, a bouncy castle, stocks where your child can take the opportunity to soak a teacher and our all new Total Wipe Out! As well as all of these exciting activities, we will have a range of stalls. School will close at 2pm on the day of the fayre so that the fayre can start immediately.

Please can you support us by selling the raffle tickets that will be sent out on Monday 3th June and return them to school by Wednesday 19th June.

We urgently need parents and carers to send in any of the following items: tombola and raffle prizes, bottles of wine and other bottles for the bottle tombola and good quality toys, soft toys and books.

Staff news

We are delighted that Miss Cossins will be getting married in the summer and will return to school in September as Mrs Squire. We wish her all the best in this new chapter of her life.

After School Provision

The enclosed letter details clubs available after the half-term break. Teatime Club is continuing to be popular and all details are available to view on the school website. The Friday Film Club can be booked for all children from nursery upwards at £4.00 for a film, light snack and popcorn. If you wish your child to attend, please contact the school office.

First Aid Training

Next week, our Year 4, 5 and 6 children will receive St John's Ambulance First Aid training that is kindly been funded by Believe Housing (formerly County Durham Housing). We would like to thank Believe Housing for all of their financial support that is making such a difference to so many children and their families.

Is Your Child Three Soon?

We currently have free Nursery places available.

Several afternoon Nursery places are currently available for 15 hours free nursery provision that all three year olds are entitled to and we also have a few 30 hour places left for eligible parents. As soon as your child is three, they can start our nursery provision. There is no waiting until the term after their third birthday as we want your child to start nursery as soon as possible to ensure your child is Reception ready. If you would like to come and visit our early years provision or register your child for a place, please contact the school office. If you want to reserve a place for the future, then you simply need to leave your child's name and your contact details at the office.

Angel Trust

Angel Trust kindly donated £500 towards the cost of an outdoor Table Tennis Table. Beryl Anderson, from the Angel Trust and Charlie Kay, school governor and local councillor, presented the cheque to our Y6 School Sports Crew pupils.



Lori-Leigh, Maddison, Jay and Finley

Dates For Diaries

Date	Event	Information
Monday 20th May	Y6 First Aid Training	Training all day in school
Tuesday 21st May	Y5/Y6 Athletics	Letter issued to selected pupils
Tuesday 21st May	Reception Picture This Trip	Bowes Museum Letter issued.
Wednesday 22nd May	Y5 First Aid Training	Training all day in school.
Thursday 23rd May	Active Families Pilot	Invited families only.
Thursday 23rd May	Girls Football Cup	Alun Armstrong Centre 9.30-12.30
Friday 24th May	Y4 First Aid Training	Training all day in school.
Friday 24th May	Non Uniform Day	£1 donation to raise money for school funds.
Friday 24th May	Half Term	School closes for half term and Re-opens on Monday 3rd June.

Non Uniform Day

Next Friday school uniform is banned as we are holding a non uniform day to raise funds for a new mobile speaker system to use throughout the school. Please can everyone send in a £1 donation.

VLA Business Kids win 2019 Award

Thank you for your support with the 50p Fridays. We are pleased to announce that VLA Business Kids won the Enterprise competition today at King James Academy ,where they were presented with their award and trophy. They raised a fantastic £414.28.

Ice pops will be on sale every play time from Monday 3rd June at the cost of 20p.

