

Dates for the diary of forthcoming events:

Key Dates	Event
Monday 9 th September	Durham Wildcats Basketball Taster session Year4/5/6 require a PE kit
Wednesday 11 th September	Young Neighbourhood Watch Y4/5
Friday 13 th September	Adam Bushnell story telling sessions R-Y6
Wednesday 18 th September	Multi-skills coaching Class 2/3
Thursday 26 th September	Y4/5/6 Free DLI Educational Visit (more information to follow)
Friday 27 th September	Jamaican Marching Band (more information to follow)
Monday 30 th September	Jamaican Cheerleaders at It's a Knockout

After school clubs (commencing from Monday 9th September)

Name of club	Day held	Time	Available to	Led by	Information
Homework /ICT	Monday	3.15-4.15pm	Y3-Y6	Mrs Parker	Bring your homework
Busy Bees	Monday	3.15-4.00pm	Nursery/Reception	Miss McLaughlin	
Multi Skills Coaching	Tuesday	3.15-4.15pm	Y5/6 Not until 17/09/13	External Coach	PE kit needed
Football club	Thursday	3.15-4.15pm	Y1/2	Miss Bibby	PE kit needed
Art Club	Wednesday	3.15-4.15pm	Y3-6	Miss McLaughlin	
Football club	Thursday	3.15-4.15pm	Y4-6	Mr Blake	PE kit needed



Victoria Lane Academy September 2013

"Welcome back for the start of the 2013/2014 new school year at Victoria Lane, which promises to be an exciting time with a wide range of exciting events planned to enhance the education of your children."

Mrs Richardson and all the staff at VLA.



KEEPING SAFE WEEK

As part of our keeping safe week, Jet and Ben the police dogs visited our school yesterday. We would like to thank Durham Police for bringing them and for talking to our classes about how to keep safe. We would also like to thank all the parents who attended today's coffee afternoon and saw the fantastic work the pupils produced!

Due to new safeguarding regulations, school is currently in the process of improving site security. Both school gate entrances will be electronically controlled and will be opened at specific times when there will be staff on duty. If you need to enter the school grounds at any other times, you will need to press the intercom button for the gate to be opened so you can access the school grounds. This work is ongoing but from this Monday the gate will be open for breakfast club from 8.05-8.20 and then from re-opened at 8.40 -9.05.

Staff Changes

We would like to welcome two fantastic new members of staff this term. Miss Bibby is our new Class 1 Teacher and Miss Gibson is the new clerical assistant.

PE and school sport

This year all primary schools will receive funding from the government to help improve School Sport. While sport already has a high profile within VLA, we welcome this funding and look forward to purchasing some new kits and equipment.

To help maximize every child's success at school, the Education Welfare Officer, Helen Lyons, is now working closely in partnership with both our school and St Joseph's Primary to identify ways to improve school attendance and punctuality. Reward systems are being set up for children who attend school regularly. Can we remind you that if your child is too ill to attend school, please can you notify the school office **before 9.15am** to avoid an absence call and letter.

To ensure your child is not marked late, please can you ensure they are on the school yard **before the bell rings at 8.55**.

Under new regulations, School is no longer able to authorise any holidays during school time unless there are exceptional circumstances. **The Government may now issue fines for parents who take holidays during school term-time.**

The **Breakfast Club**, which is available for all children including nursery pupils, is continuing to go from strength to strength. Children are welcome from 8:10am for a breakfast of toast, cereals, fruit juice and milk followed by an opportunity to play with their friends at the cost of 50p a day. Please contact the office for a form or download one from the website if you would like your child to attend.

Friends of the school Meeting

Anyone who would like to come along to join our thriving Friends of the School is welcome at 3.30pm on Monday 30th September. Children can be supervised in the breakfast club during the meeting.

Dinner Money

We are now trialling a new computerised dinner money system from next week. Please can you send in dinner money on a Monday in a labelled envelope or money bag. School dinners now cost £1.80 a day, which is £9.00 per week. Nursery lunches cost £1.95 per day, £9.75 per week. Please try to pay with the correct money as no change will be available. Any extra money paid will be credited to your account and will be deducted from the following week's money.

Uniform

Please can we remind you that all children should wear school uniform and tracksuit bottoms and jeans are not acceptable as school attire. School policy allows the wearing of stud earrings only for health and safety reasons - please can you ensure that your child does not wear other types of earrings. If you have any questions or issues regarding uniform, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Richardson.

Class Topics

Class 1 - All About Me

Class 2 - Roald Dahl

Class 3 - Hats

Class 4 - Tudors

Class 5 - Ancient Greece