

Dates for the Diary

Date	Event	Information
Monday 16th October	Parent Teacher Consultation Meetings to be held today.	Appointments issued. You will be contacted to arrange an appointment if you have not arranged one already.
Tuesday 17th October	Football CVL League Skipping day	Letters already issued . Fun day PE kit needed.
Wednesday 18th October	FAST Halloween Special 3.15-5pm	Invited FAST Families attend after school event.
Friday 20th October	Half term holiday commences	School re-opens Monday 30th October. Breakfast and Teatime Club open as usual.
Monday 30th October	Halloween Disco 5.30-7pm	Tickets on sale now at £2.50 to include a hot dog and drink. Prizes for best fancy dress .
Tuesday 31st October	Judo Taster Sessions	All children need a PE kit in school for this popular event.
Thursday 2nd November	Y6 Safety Carousel Visit	Text to be issued about this all day visit to learn about many aspects of keeping safe.
Thursday 2nd November	Spennymoor Town FC CVL Matches	Letter to be issued next week to participating footballers.
Friday 10th November	Author Adam Bushnell visits school.	After half term, details to be announced.



A huge thank you!

As the first half term of the new school year draws to a close, we would like to thank the whole school community for your continued support at VLA.

Thank you for the generous donations towards our school defibrillator that are continuing to come in and the donations of food for our Harvest Durham Foodbank collection was overwhelming. It never ceases to amaze us how generous the communities of Coundon and Leeholme are.

Father Gary and the School Council are pictured below with just some of the many donations that we received. The Harvest Service celebration, led by Father Gary at St James' Church, was enjoyed by all.



Victoria Voice October 2017 School News

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon



Thank you for your fantastic support at our recent Macmillan coffee afternoon, which raised a fabulous £530 for the charity.

Macmillan volunteer, Kevin Richardson, was delighted to be presented with a cheque in school. During an assembly, he explained to our children how the money would be spent.

Congratulations to Mrs Clarke for forty years service at Victoria Lane Academy, formerly Coundon Primary School. After joining the school in 1977 as a teenager, Mrs Clark has become an inspiration to so many families in Coundon and Leeholme. Mrs Clark makes such a difference to so many young lives with her passion for education and amazing support for our school. Thank you for being the life and soul of our nursery and always making learning fun.



PE and School Sport

Please ensure your child has a PE kit in school all week as we have some great activities lined up for them including Judo and Skipping. This week our KS2 girls enjoyed a great football session with an FA coach.

Congratulations to our cross country team, who showed impressive improvement as they competed in gruelling outdoor races. Many thanks for the kind support of parents who are helping with transport.

The boy's football team is going from strength to strength They drew one game this week and then won their final game 5-0, which was a fantastic result!

Thank you to King James 1 Academy where Trampoline Club is being held until Christmas.



Attendance

Our school attendance continues to be scrutinised by the Local Authority School Enforcement Team and you may well be contacted in the near future if your child's attendance falls below 90%.

They have requested we issue the enclosed information. Thank you for your help by contacting school immediately if your child is absent from school and providing medical evidence when required.

We are hoping to trial a new system so that you can report your child's absence online by logging onto our school website and completing a short online form as an alternative way of contacting the school.

We are introducing a termly prize draw so any child with 100% attendance will be entered into a prize draw. The winner will receive a £100 cash prize for the family. There will be three draws a year at the end of each term.

Attendance is improving extremely slowly and whole school attendance is currently 93.4%. We are aiming for 96% to be in line with other schools nationally.