

### After School Clubs

A wide range of free after school clubs are available for children to attend this half term until Friday 13th February. Many of our clubs have a waiting list and if your child is not attending the club for any reason, please can you inform school. If your child does not attend a club regularly, their place will be issued to another child on the waiting list.

### Messy Hands

From next week, Messy Hands will move to a Thursday evening so it is not on the same night as Fit for Fun as many children are wanting to attend both clubs.

### Y2 and Y6 Booster Clubs

Thank you to all of the Y2 and Y6 parents for their support with our forthcoming SATs by attending the recent parents meetings and ensuring that children complete any homework set as well as attending Booster clubs that are running after school. Y2 clubs run on a Monday and a Thursday while Y6 sessions will begin next Wednesday. If you were unable to attend these meetings, please contact school for further information on how you can help support your children

### Breakfast Club

Our popular breakfast club is thriving and many thanks to Mrs Freer who ensures all the children attending are well fed, happy and ready to start the school day. Please can we ask that if your child requires breakfast that they are in the club by 8.40am at the latest so they are able to have their breakfast before the club closes at 8.45am.

### Wrap Around Care

We are currently in the process of considering opening an after school club that would run every night until 5pm to provide child care for families who require this. A questionnaire will be issued shortly and we would really appreciate your honest opinion so we know whether this would be financially viable and how much people would be willing to pay. The cost would simply need to cover the cost of staff who would be running it as well as the cost of providing a snack for the children who would attend.



# Victoria Lane Academy

## January 2015

Welcome back to the Spring term at Victoria Lane Academy, which has got off to a flying start. Planned events this term are outlined overleaf in the Dates for the Diary section.



### **KennelPals**

Our recent visit by the Durham Police Dog Unit for a KennelPals Assembly was a great success and watch out for the KennelPals Information Board appearing in school this week. Victoria Lane now has our own police dog mascot, Bob.

### **New PE and School Sport Kit**

PE and school sport is an important part of school life here at Victoria Lane Academy. It is also a compulsory part of the curriculum. We are intending to purchase a PE school kit for our sports teams to wear when they represent the school at sporting events. **For PE lessons, please can you send in a white T shirt and black/navy tracksuit bottoms or leggings.** Strictly no jewellery including earrings are to be worn for PE so please ensure your child can remove them independently as staff are not able to remove them or leave earrings at home on PE days. Please send in PE kit on a Monday and it will be returned on a Friday for washing.

### **Attendance and Lateness**

Our school is working hard to improve attendance to meet Government targets of 95%. Last term, we only achieved **94.07%** which is below national targets that all schools must achieve. As a result, the Education Welfare Service will be monitoring our absences and lateness closely, working with school to improve this. Information will be sent out next week detailing your child's current attendance figures. Additional letters will also be issued if there are any concerns.

### **School Uniform**

Please can we remind you that all children are required to wear their school uniform every day to attend school. This consists of grey or black for trousers/skirts, a white/sky blue polo shirt and a royal blue sweatshirt/cardigan. If children are not required to wear their uniform for any reason, you will be notified by text. Thank you for your support. Uniform can be ordered from the school website at <http://www.victorialane.durham.sch.uk>

### **Dates for the Diary**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Key Date</b>	<b>Information</b>
<b>Basketball Festival</b>	<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Letter previously issued</b>
<b>Feb Fest Art Project</b>	<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>Whole school will take part in a project run by Daisy Arts</b>
<b>Multi Skills PE Festival</b>	<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>Separate letter with further information to follow</b>
<b>School closes for half term school holiday</b>	<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>School reopens Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>
<b>Parent Meetings</b>	<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>More information to follow</b>

### **Y3 Football Festival**

Class 3 were a credit to the school this week when they represented the school at a football festival at the Alun Armstrong Centre at Shildon. Next week, two teams of Y5/6 pupils will participate in the annual Basketball festival at Spennymoor Leisure Centre, where we wish them every success.

### **Weather**

Please can you send in additional shoes for your child to wear indoors as it is uncomfortable to wear wellies and/or heavy boots all day.