

Victoria Lane Voice

November 2019



Christmas Is Coming To VLA!

Christmas preparations are well underway here at Victoria Lane Academy. Thank you for your extremely generous donations towards our annual Christmas fayre, which is going to be our best ever! There is a fantastic range of hamper prizes to be won and the raffle draw will take place at the Christmas fayre at 3pm. There are some free activities at the fayre including several Christmas stalls for children. This is the last week that we are collecting toys including soft toys, games, party toys etc. The fayre will be taking place on Friday 6th December at 2pm. Please collect your child at 1.55pm on that day so the fayre can begin promptly at 2pm. **There will be no Tea Time club on this day as all staff are involved in this whole school event.** Santa is making his annual visit to our grotto (which will be located in the Nursery) and appointments are filling up fast. Please send in your slip along with payment so your child can visit Santa and receive a gift.

Christmas Parties/Disco (Zunzo Disco)

All children from Reception up to Y6 are having their Christmas parties/disco on the afternoon of **Wednesday 18th December**. Children will need to bring their party clothes into school that day in a labelled bag. The children have decided that they would like to bring in party food themselves so a list will be made in each class for children to pick what they would like to bring. This way each class will have a variety of sweet and savoury food. Thank you for your support!

The final day of term is Thursday 19th December and school will close for the Christmas holidays at the end of this day. Please note that there will be no breakfast or teatime club on that day so all children should arrive at school as normal at 8.40am until 8.55am and be collected at the end of the school day. The final day of term is a non-uniform Christmas dress up day. Children can come to school dressed in Christmas costumes/Christmas jumper etc. and this is the day that all the Christmas trips/rewards are taking place, Information overleaf.

Christmas Performance Tickets

Tickets for each performance are selling out fast. Please can we ask that all forms are returned to school as soon as possible (Friday 6th December at the very latest) so that any additional tickets that families have requested can be allocated. Tickets will then be issued on Monday 9th December.

St James Christmas Tree of Light/Cancer Food Bank Collection

We are delighted to announce that St James' Church is once again holding a Christmas tree festival that many organisations in the village are supporting. All of our children from Reception-Year 6 classes will be participating in this Festival of Light on the afternoons of Thursday 12th and Friday 13th December at 1.30pm.

Parents are invited to attend this event. Children will be singing and there will be a short service by Father Gary. After the service, parents will collect their children and be able to view all of the beautiful Christmas trees, refreshments will be on sale and there are also a variety of Christmas stalls. In Santa's Grotto, Father Christmas will be presenting every child with a free Christmas present.

Due to the large number of children in the school and capacity in the church, **all families have been allocated by text the day that your child/children will be performing at the church.** We are once again collecting food for the Solan Connor Fawcett Family Cancer Trust (Team Solan) and we would ask that parents coming to the church can bring a food donation on the day that they are attending to ensure that affected families receive a Christmas food parcel for over the festive period. These can be any dried, tinned or packed foods e.g. Tea bags, Dried pasta, Soups, Tinned meats, Christmas cakes and treats.

Fundraising

School would like to thank the generous school community of Coundon, who continue to support our charity fundraising for a range of excellent charities. This month, we supported both Children In Need and the Great North Air Ambulance. The Children in Need appeal raised £187.93 and our Great North Air Ambulance bag collection raised £60.00.

If any families are struggling financially and require any support, school is able to issue foodbank vouchers. Please contact Miss Hodgkinson for more information or advice. We also have a Red box collection of free sanitary products that are available for older pupils to use.

Dates For Diaries

Date	Event	Information
Friday 6th December	Christmas Fayre 2pm	School will close at 1.55pm All children need to be collected by an adult.
Tuesday 10th December	Christmas Lunch	Letter issued today
Friday 13th December	First Christmas Performance for Grandparents 10am	Tickets going fast
Monday 16th December	Second Christmas Performance 2pm	Tickets going fast
Tuesday 17th December	Last Christmas Performances 10am and 2pm	Tickets going fast
Wednesday 18th December	Christmas Disco 1-3pm	Children need to bring their party clothes to change into
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Dress Up Day (Non Uniform)	£1 Donation
Thursday 19th December	Santa Visit in school Nursery/Reception/Y1/Y2	Christmas visit from Santa on his sleigh All children will receive a gift.
Thursday 19th December	Y3 Bamboozles Christmas Trip Lunch included	Children will have lunch with Santa and receive a gift
Thursday 19th December	ROF 59 Trip Y4/Y5/Y6	Christmas Bounce and Climb session
Thursday 19th December	School closes for the Christmas holidays and re-opens on Monday 6th January	