

Victoria Park
Primary Academy

School newsletter published bi-weekly (#19) 23.09.22

In full swing... It's our third full week and the school year is starting to take shape. Children have been back in Forest School, out in the Allotment and making use of the school grounds.

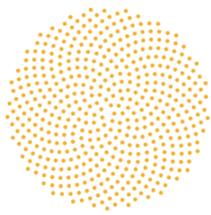
Safeguarding, Child Protection and Attendance Policies: Working together with Sandwell we have updated our statutory Safeguarding Policy. The first section may be of use to families as it lists all of the useful contacts and telephone numbers for services specific to Smethwick and the local area. You can access the version on our website [here](#). A second Policy to be aware of, again guided by Sandwell, is our [Attendance Policy](#). On Pages 3 and 4 it lays out the expectations for families—I'll write out separately throughout the year to highlight the impact of consistent attendance and Punctuality and start to chart our whole school successes through this Newsletter.

PE timetable and kit: Our new West Bromwich Albion Coaches start from Monday and so I'm pleased to confirm classes PE Days. Please can children come to school on these days in their PE Kits (Black tracksuit bottoms/shorts, black pumps/trainers, white tee-shirt, blue jumper). We've made sure that these are the cheapest possible options. Please do not send children to school in branded tracksuits or football kits. Phone calls will be made home to request a change of clothing or discuss alternative solutions.

Reception: Tuesday

1TG:	Monday and Thursday	2AY:	Friday (double lesson)
1FG:	Monday and Tuesday	2KK:	Friday and Thursday
1GH:	Monday and Wednesday	2SP:	Friday and Monday
3TB:	Monday and Tuesday	4PA:	Tuesday and Wednesday
3SW:	Monday and Friday	4OS:	Tuesday and Monday
3JF:	Monday and Friday	4PM:	Tuesday and Wednesday
5SB:	Wednesday and Thursday	6MA:	Thursday and Wednesday
5SU:	Wednesday and Tues (Swim)	6JD:	Thursday and Tuesday
5RG:	Wednesday and Thursday	6MC:	Thursday and Friday

Volunteering in school: We've received lots of interest from families wanting to volunteer in school, either to use existing skills or develop others. We plan to host an open morning and information session to learn more about the ways to get involved (joining trips and visits, listening to children read, supporting in the classroom). To find out more, please see the [join us](#) page of our website or ask the school office for an application form. We will contact those interested and invite them to the open morning on **Monday 17th October**.



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Applying for places in school, Nursery, Reception and Secondary schools : We wrote out recently to all families in year six to remind them to access the Sandwell website to apply for a secondary school place for next year. The deadline is 31 October and online forms can be accessed [here](#).

I would really recommend going to visit and see as many of the schools as possible—the timetable for visits is [here](#). Personally, when I was 10 and visiting schools, it wasn't the closest or the most well known school that I applied for, but the one that I/we felt was the best 'fit' for me.

We still have spaces in our **Nursery** available and are able to provide funded and paid opportunities for 15 or 30 hours, and, in partnership with 4Community Trust, a wraparound service from 7.30am until 6pm. You can contact the office to discuss, or complete an initial application [online](#).

The final few spaces for this year's **Reception** year group are still available, applications are via the Sandwell Website.

If your children are currently in Nursery and you'd like to secure your Reception place with us for next September, please apply through Sandwell [here](#).

Trips, visits and Parents events: This week has seen some early school visitors, Year 2 were treated to Freshwater Theatre in School performing an interactive Great Fire of London Workshop, and next week will be the turn of Year 4's physical fitness hook and Year 5's trip to Dudley Zoo,

6MA will also welcome in families for the first of our class assemblies and 5SU will invite families into classrooms to share our approaches to reading (both on Wednesday).

With best wishes, Mr Reed