



Victoria Park
Primary Academy

School newsletter published bi-weekly (#21) 21.10.22

Autumn half-term round up:

We're 1/6 of the way through the year already! School leaders have spent this week in classes, listening to readers and taking part in maths lessons. It's been fantastic to watch and listen to the engagement and enthusiasm for learning (and to check if Mr Blackkey-Harris has learnt all of the staff and children's names yet).

Black History Month: Some families have asked how we've recognised Black History Month in school throughout October, as we haven't overtly flagged events and learning. Ms Blackstock is our Diversity Lead in school and we have representative guidance for each of our Subject Areas, so that when we are deciding which historians, musicians or role models to study, we refer to local or national figures who reflect or represent our community. This allows our commitment to span the school year rather than aligned to only a month. Each classroom has a Diverse class library of identify texts, the musicians from our 'bands of the week' have been considered, and Ms Blackstock delivered a specific assembly around identification to Key Stage 2.

When we come back on Monday 31 October...

Year 6 visit from West Midlands Police: Our oldest children will be learning how to keep safe, and about their rights as young citizens from local Police Officers. Can you prompt the children to consider the questions they may have in advance around the changes they will face as they prepare for the transition to secondary school?

Individual and sibling photographs On the first Friday back (4th November), the school photographer will visit. We've audited the local suppliers this year to hopefully provide the cheapest possible option for families who would like to purchase these.

Students, volunteers and Sports coaches: We've been joined by three student teachers from the University of Birmingham who will be observing teachers in Years three and six for the rest of this term. Mr Choudhury from WBA has been a real hit delivering extra PE sessions and clubs to children, and we have 9 volunteers ready to start in classes in November. We also look forward to welcoming students from Sandwell College to lead games and activities over lunchtimes to help keep children active and engage in sports.

Parents evening: Date for your diaries - this term's Parents Evening will be held on Wednesday 23 November—look out for a message on ParentMail with guidance on booking your place.

We wish you a happy and healthy half-term break and look forward to seeing you on 31st October. Mr Reed