Victoria Park Primary Academy

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Bella Italia! This week our resident chef Norman delivered one of his speciality menus—a full scale Italian banquet: 'homemade' meatballs, vegetarian pasta, biscotti and tricolore cupcakes. By having our own chef, and not outsourcing to a large company, we're able to minimise the amount of frozen foods and cater from scratch using fresh ingredients. What he doesn't tell the children is just how many vegetables he squeezes in—secret beetroot into the chocolate brownies and several vegetables blended into his creamy tomatoes sauces. He's able to ensure halal suppliers and an awareness of individual allergies based on his coloured lanyard systems and knowledge of the children. Buon Appetito Norman!

Top table: - **attendance rewards** Another initiative of Norman's is to partner with our attendance team. They will share with him a list of all children with 100% attendance and punctuality and he will select at random 12 pupils and deliver them a free Friday banquet. Look out for tweets from the first banquet later this month, starting with the children in year 6.

First class Assembly: Speaking of Year 6, we thank 6MA for the first class assembly of the term. The class shared a huge amount of learning from their Conflicts Challenge Pack, bringing to life the experience of an evacuee and gaining full audience participation. It's 6MC up next, on Wednesday 18 October. All Year 6 will develop a deeper understanding of the World War 2 Experience when the visit RAF Cosford on the 26th October.

CEO Values visit: Sharron Philpot, the Chief Executive of our Trust visited all year groups in assemblies this week to share our updated Trust Values, and to introduce children to all of the ten schools within our Trust. Several of our own children recognised themselves on the videos she shared! She also asked for volunteers to join her Values Champions—we'll open up nominations and votes for these alongside our other pupil voice roles this term: Changemakers, Clear Advisors and our new Opal Play Leadership team.

Reception workshop (first of many...) Thank you to the families who joined Mrs Howell and Mrs Kehla at our Reception Workshop this week. It was great to share our classroom routines and expectations and how we will introduce our Rockets Phonics teaching. We'll send invites for our wider Rocket Phonics workshops later this month!



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World Mental Health Day Tuesday 10th October: Miss Sillwood, our PSHE lead has organised and shared a range of activities for children to learn in their classes on Tuesday to help them understand <u>World Mental Health day</u> at an appropriate level for their age group. HEALTH DAY

This will start with identifying and recognizing different feelings in the early years, to knowing who and how to talk to when you experience

unusual feelings as you get older. All classes will share the storybook, 'Rain before Rainbows' to start conversations.

Brilliant Brushers: And finally, a shout out to our youngest members in Nursery who are participating in the NHS Brilliant Brushers programme. As well as getting into good habits with their daily registering and family groups, they are also learning how best to look after their wide, toothy smiles.

With best wishes

Mr Reed