



Victoria Park
Primary Academy

School Newsletter published bi-weekly (#46) 02.02.24

Next Friday, as we break up for half-term, we will be at the half-way point of the year! How has that happened? Read on to learn about some of the exciting plans still to come...

On Monday, Year 1 launch their [Comics Can](#) challenge pack with a visit from a superhero theatre group, for an interactive performance and workshop.

Safer Internet week (Children and Parents): It's not the only theatre group in this week. OpenView Education theatre group will be in to support children to use the internet safely, to identify danger, and to report anything that they find suspicious. Parents also have the opportunity to take part in a workshop (Tuesday 6th at 2pm), or access online training. Please see information from yesterday's Parentmail, or contact Mrs Mahal via the office.

Children in Years 5 and 6 will get further lessons, from our local link Police Officers, around the impact of Peer Pressure and County Lines.

Year 6 - SATs revision booklets and Parent Workshop: We have ordered Maths, Reading and Grammar revision booklets from CGP for all children in Year 6. These should go home with children next week. Teachers will guide them to which pages to complete each week so that they can look at the answers together in class. Year 6 teachers will also host a SATs Parent Workshop on **Tuesday 27th February**, to explain how they work, what to expect, and how best to support children in the run up to May.

Free School Meals and £15 holiday food vouchers - more children could be entitled: We encourage all families to apply for Free School Meals, even those in Reception, Years 1 and 2, where all lunches are provided - so that this can continue into Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. If you successfully apply you will automatically be sent a £15 food voucher for each child, for each week of each school holidays. You can check eligibility and apply [here](#).

We know that not all families will qualify, but we may be able to extend free lunches to families who have: a student visa, seeking asylum, have no recourse to public funds, Zambrano or Chen carers, spousal or work visa holders, or those with no immigration status. If you think you may qualify, or would like more information, please ask to speak to Mrs Uppal in the school office.



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Values Champions: Our pupil representatives have been to every classroom in the school this week to ask all children how and when they demonstrate our Trust Values (Unity, Integrity, Courage, Curiosity and Excellence).

They then met with Ms Philpot, our CEO, and children from our 9 other partner schools to share their ideas. Ms Philpot has set VPA a challenge - to illustrate these in a poster that can be reproduced and displayed in all of our schools across the West Midlands.

I'll send out more details next week for a specific homework challenge across the half-term holiday.

Measles: Yesterday I met with the Public Health team for Sandwell. We have had no confirmed cases at VPA, but there have been up to 10 in schools and nursery settings across the borough. The symptoms to look out for include: a fever, cough, runny nose and a rash that can often start behind the ears, mouth, nose and then body.

Scarlet Fever/Strep A is still a high risk locally, can appear very similar to measles, but more likely to have red cheeks and a sore throat than a rash.

Measles can make young people very ill but it can be prevented entirely by having the MMR vaccine. To check if your child has already had it, please look in their red medical book that the hospital would have given at birth or contact your GP.

There are three pop-up clinics scheduled locally across the half-term break. Anybody can make an appointment and receive the vaccine. I encourage all families to take this up.

Saturday 10th February

9.30am - 2.30pm

West Bromwich Central Family Hub,
Claypit Lane, B70 9EZ

Tuesday 13th February

9am - 3pm

Tesco Cradley Heath
Fox Oak Street B64 5DF

Thursday 15th February

9am - 3pm

Tesco West Bromwich
46 New Square B70 7PR

To make an appointment - call 0121 592 1110

Thank you to families who attended 2SP's INSPiRE workshop this week. Next week it is the turn of 2OP and 5SC will share their Class Assembly.

With best wishes

Mr Reed