



Victoria Park
Primary Academy

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Bank holiday - the start of Summer? Where is this year going? We're into May and only another three weeks before the Summer Half-Term break! But there is still lots to do this year - starting with the KS2 SATs in two weeks time...

The OPAL project (Outdoor Play and Learning): Families using the Suffrage Street entrance couldn't fail to notice the colourful playground last week as children experimented with chalk and our existing toys. This week saw the introduction of music and instruments; we have seen elaborate dance routines and the creation of 'bands'. Next week will see costumes and masks to introduce more imaginary play. From next week though, **we will need your help**. We will introduce cardboard for modelling and art, and will leave a large bin in the playground for collection. Ideally brown cardboard that the children can paint on, or large cereal type boxes that they can stack and build. Please can you donate as much cardboard as possible into these bins so that children have lots to create with. Another 'bin' will be for the collection of unwanted kitchen equipment - old pans, pots, safe stirrers - so that we can help to build our messy kitchens (but please, keep these quiet from the children - we like the element of surprise on their faces as we announce the new materials in their OPAL assemblies every Friday afternoon...)

Collecting for medical appointments: Because children are now more spread out at lunch, if you know that you will need to collect your child for medical appointment over lunchtime, please inform the office, with your evidence, so that we can arrange swift collection.

Jewellery - not in school please (and labelled clothes, bags and lost property): As part of our uniform policy (but more from a Health and Safety perspective), children are not allowed to wear any jewellery in school. We have had several injuries to ears recently, and as children venture further onto the field at lunchtime the chance of them finding lost pieces gets harder. Similarly, as the warmer weather arrives and children opt to take off jumpers and coats - it is far easier to find the owner if the child's name is on the label. Our Play Leaders can then drop it straight back to class rather than add it to our growing lost property basket.

Values day - June 25th: Its been 12 months since we launched our new trust values of: **Unity, Integrity, Curiosity, Courage and Excellence**. To celebrate, children from VPA will be visiting 6 of our other schools in June to learn about school life across the West Midlands and to champion what makes us Excellent.

KS2 SATs Arrangements: From Monday 13th until Thursday 16th May Year Six children will be asked to come into school from 8.30, so that we can ensure all have had a drink and snack together, and are ready to start their assessments on time.

Reception and Nursery - registration and rolling enrolments: All families starting in our Reception classes in September should now have received their invitation to enrol and dates for events across the Summer. We still have places in both Reception and Nursery and will now be accepting Nursery applications throughout the year. Please contact Mrs Uppal for more information. (Transferring Nursery families still need to apply to join our Reception, you should have already been sent a link)

With best wishes, Mr Reed