



**Victoria Park**  
Primary Academy

## School Newsletter published bi-weekly (#67) 21/3/25

**School Nurse - visiting for parents today:** Based on the great response to the school nurse visiting Nursery last month, we have booked a follow-up session today. If you have any questions or concerns around your child's health or accessing services, please come to the school office today from 2.30pm.

**Summer Challenge Packs and Home Learning Guides:** Although the Summer term doesn't usually start until after the Easter holidays, we are planning to start our Summer Curriculum early, to reflect the very short 4 week half-term. Next week I will send home the Summer Medium Term Plans and Home Learning guides for all year groups.

**Whitehall Infants:** Victoria Academies Trust is growing. From April 1st we welcome Whitehall Infant School in Walsall as our 11th partner school. We will be taking a small group of children to take part in their launch day, where Victoria Park pupils can share our Trust Values (Unity, Integrity, Courage, Curiosity and Excellence), and what life is like as part of a VAT school.

**Social Media reporting and investigations:** I wrote out to all families in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 this week with an updated approach to online misuse that occurs out of school hours. From the recent Sandwell Shape Survey, 56% of local primary aged children have access to TikTok, 43% have access to Snapchat. Again, across Sandwell, 26% of children feel they have been the victim of cyberbullying and 17% have experienced racist language. I will share our approach in assembly on Monday. In the meantime, if you do learn of online misuse involving children who attend this school, please report this to the class teacher, or directly to me at [headteacher@victoriaparkacademy.org.uk](mailto:headteacher@victoriaparkacademy.org.uk)

**Identity Workshops and Time to Talk:** One way we counter online abuse is through the many external speakers that we invite in to school. This week Year 5 have continued their understanding of personal identity and have been encouraged to recognise their own mental health through Time to Talk sessions.

**Miquill Lunches (pupil tasting team):** Since [Miquill](#) have taken over our canteen, dinner numbers have increased. We were incredibly fortunate to keep hold of Chef Norman and his team, who remain the heart and soul of the kitchen. Next month Miquill will recruit members of our School Council to take part in food tasting challenges aimed at making the meals even better for the children. If you're entitled to free school meals, or your child is in Reception, Year 1 or 2 and you are still sending in a packed lunch, please contact me, or [Chef Norman](#) to explore what we can do to ensure you make the most of our kitchen.



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Congratulations to the two winners of Mrs Sillwood-Monk's recent creative writing competition: Alexis in 6JD and Esrae in 2KK. We celebrated both of their work in assembly this week. Look out for more of Mrs S-M's writing challenges soon!

**5MA starting swimming:** Because of the short Summer Term, 5MA will start their swimming lessons before the Easter Break. Mr Atkinson will contact parents shortly about the kit required and arrangements for travel. 5RG also have a bonus trip to the West Brom Football Academy next week as they participate in their staff training programme, another bonus of our continued close relationship with the Baggies. Let's hope they make it up into the Premier League next season...

**Dropping off children before school:** We've had a few incidents of very young children being left at school alone, or walking unaccompanied. Until the children enter the classroom we have no way of guaranteeing their safe arrival. Please can you ensure that children are supervised before school, and that younger children especially are handed over, in person, to an adult in school. This also applies to parents using the 4CommunityTrust breakfast club.

**Parent Teacher Association:** Since last asking for volunteers to join a VPA Parent Teacher Association I received three firm contacts. That's enough for [a Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer](#)! Across the Summer Term I'll be working with ParentKind to help set this up. If you would like to be involved, please do get in touch.

We are also expecting to have a Parent Vacancy on our Academy Council. If you'd like information on what this role would look like, please get in touch to explore.

**Corporate Social Responsibility and Fundraising:** And finally, a pleading request - as a school we are always looking at ways to raise funds and grow capacity. We are now looking at this more widely as a Trust. In July we'd like to invite as many Local Business Representatives together to share ongoing partnerships. This might look like event sponsorship, CSR opportunities or providing experiences for our pupils inside or outside of school. If you know of anybody that you think would be interested in finding out more, please do get in [touch](#).

Remember, school is closed next **Friday 28th March** for the final Teacher Training day of the year.

*With best wishes,*  
*Mr Reed*