



**Victoria Park**  
Primary Academy

## **School Newsletter** published bi-weekly (#70) 16/5/25

**Summer term 1, almost done!** It has certainly felt like summer term recently. Children have been building dens in the OPAL playground and pupils from Year 5 took their bikes out onto the road as they completed their cycle proficiency training. Remember, if you'd like to join us to learn about our lunchtime play next Tuesday, please click [here](#) to book a place.

**Year 6 SATs DONE!** Congratulations to the staff and children in Year 6 - they have completed their SATs this week. We were so proud of the calm atmosphere, the well-prepared, confident children having the opportunity to show how far they have come. Next up for 6; casting for the end of year production. There is still a lot to look forward to before they leave us - Moneywise Classes, real-life maths projects and challenges, inflatables celebration day and further trips out of school...

**Year 4 Multiplication check:** The next national measure is during the first two weeks back after half term. All pupils in Year 4 will complete an online test of their times table knowledge. Their results will be shared with the DfE and included on their end of year school reports. The children have been busy practicing. A great way to help them to prepare at home is to use the [ttrockstars.com](https://ttrockstars.com) website. All children have a paid for school login and it is remarkably similar to the actual test.

**KS1 Phonics Screening:** During the second week back, all children in Year 1 (and some in Year 2) will complete a Phonics Screening Check. It's a list of 40 words that they read back to a teacher. The pass mark is usually around 32. Again, support at home would be to practice the sounds covered by Rocket Phonics, but more generally listening to them read little and often so that they become familiar and fluent with age appropriate words.

**Parent Academy Council Nominations and PTA interest:** Last call for parents to express an interest in joining our Academy Council, or becoming part of our Parent Teacher Association. If you would like any further information on either opportunity, please [get in touch](#).

**Sports Week:** A reminder, during the first week back after half term all year groups will be taking part in Sports Week. Led by Mr Waldron and Year 6 helpers, children will take part in a series of events in the playground. I've listed the dates below. Parents are welcome to spectate. The morning sessions will run from 09.30—11.00, the afternoons from 1.30-3.00.

**Monday 2nd June** - EYFS Sports day (am)

**Wednesday 4th June** - Year 1 (am) Year 2 (pm)

**Thursday 5th June** - Year 5 (am) Year 3 (pm)

**Friday 6th June** - Year 4 (am) Year 6 (pm) \* *(Subject to Eid confirmation, may be Mon 9th)*



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**Tuesday 3rd June:** Class photo day. Following the individual school photographs taken in the Autumn, are the whole class versions, taken the day after they get back from half term.

**University of Birmingham Medical Student Placements:** For the 3rd year running, we are pleased to welcome student doctors into school for a week in June. Working alongside the University, we feel it's a great opportunity for both sides: the doctors get an opportunity to meet and understand children from a range of ages to observe how they communicate and interact, and the children get to hear how to access both Further Education and the range of different specialisms within Medicine.

**Year 1 - Black Country Museum trip and follow up workshop:** Increasingly we are trying to source trips and visitors that are free. The first of these has been this week with Year 1 visiting the brilliant Black Country Museum in Dudley today. Next week, Museum staff will return here to school to follow up with a workshop for Year 1 children. We have sourced a similar experience next year with Year 5 to Chester Zoo.

I've written before regarding the impact of school funding upon the cost of trips and visitors. We can no longer afford to cap these at £5 or make them optional. Instead, from September we will be asking for a contribution of £10 per child each term to help to cover these. This is still well below the actual cost of trips, and below what most local schools request.

**Parent Workshops in EYFS:** On Wednesday 21st May there is a trip to Birmingham Library for parents completing the English as a second language course. The course will continue so any parents wanting to join please get in contact with Ms Howell in EY.

On Wednesday 4th June Nursery are hosting an NHS Sunscreen Roadshow from 9am - 10am. All parents are welcome to attend.

**VAT Community Partner Day (June 13th):** One way that we are working with our Trust to try and limit these cost to families, is to draw in commercial donations and sponsorship. If any of you, or people you know, work for a large business who may be able to help out here, please can you pass my details or get in touch at:

[Headteacher@victoriaparkacademy.org.uk](mailto:Headteacher@victoriaparkacademy.org.uk). On Friday 13th June we are hosting an open event in the centre of Birmingham for potential sponsors and supporters to come and find out more about what we do and what we need.

*With best wishes,  
Mr Reed*