# **VPA News**



Issue 7 — 23rd October 2020

#### Happy Friday!

3pm today brings us to the end of our first half term back together under one roof—and what a half term it has been. With so much in the news about Coronavirus and matters changing by the hour, it is very hard to keep up with the levels of restrictions we are all being asked to comply with in our day to day lives. As a school, however, we can be very satisfied with our teamwork in Autumn 1. I am grateful to you all for doing your bit to keep our community safe—both in and out of school. I have been delighted with the very sensible attitude of all parents in relation to keeping their children off school wherever any symptoms associated with Covid have been present—I think what we have all learned this half term is how many different ailments lead to a temperature in children! You have, though, been brilliant at securing your child (or other members of your households) a test within the same day and, therefore, once a negative result is in—the child can return to school. This is so important as we want to see our lovely little people in school as much as possible in the year ahead—thanks for helping us to do that. Mask wearing, hand sanitising, one way systems, social distancing and disposable dinnerware... All things I would have thought bonkers 12 months ago are all now part of our day-to-day. Keep on, keeping on.... This dreadful period will come to an end at some point.

Turn your attentions now to the half term holiday and whatever plans you can make for the days ahead... Enjoy every minute and we will see you on Monday 2nd November.

Mrs Bailey

## Parent Consults

We have today released our days and times for this years parent 'meetings' with your child's class teacher. As you know this year it will look a little different—with no face-to-face meetings able to take place. Instead, we are asking you to book a time-slot to speak to your child's teacher over the phone.

The appointments are all on our Arbor app, where you can click on Parent Consults and book a slot. Then—you've just got to remember your appointment and be by your phone ready for the conversation.

Parents of pupils with SEND will be offered meetings in the week commencing 9th November, and all other pupils during the week commencing 16th.

Please sign up and if you don't know how—get in touch and let us help you.

#### Attendance

This week's whole school attendance is

94%

FS1 90.6%	FS2 JR 89.47%	FS2 KH 98.64 %	Y1 AB 93.4%	Y1 JR 95.36 %
Y2 HD 100%	Y2 HG 88.8%	Y3 GL 88.57%	Y3 LP 99.56%	Y4 MC 93.5%
Y4 GG 95.17%	Y5 RM 95.82%	Y5 OM 96.68%	Y6 BC 94.55%	Y6 RK 90.68%

### School Photos

Individual and sibling photos were taken on Monday and Tuesday this week and we think we've managed to capture some beautiful photos of your children! Proofs will be with us during the week commencing 2nd November (first week back) and you will then be able to place an order for your photos thereafter. We will send the proofs out to you as soon as we get them and hope you love them as much as we do!

### Phonics

We have a phonics-first approach to reading and we invest a lot of time each week into enabling your child to read using the sounds of the English language and the letters on the page that correspond to them. It is really important that your child learns this alphabetic code so that they go on to be a fluent reader who loves reading. We have children all the way up to Year 4 currently who do not know the sound-letter correspondence they need to access books for children their age. I've included the code sheet for you—if there is any work you can do together in the next 6 weeks to 'close that gap' alongside your daily reading your help would be much appreciated! Start with a row at a time.. Children learn the code using the pictures to aid them—e.g. they say "s as in sun". Give it a go—you'll be amazed how fast your child can pick this up!

## October Attendance Extravanganza

What a fantastic half term for Victoria's attendance! Over this half term, we have been running our October Attendance Extravaganza and the results have been impressive. Classes reaped the rewards for this with any class getting 100% each day receiving biscuits galore. It seemed like almost every day the biscuit bear arrived at Y3LP. EYFS also received our top prize of each child getting 30 dojos after a fantastic week where every single child came in. A well-deserved treat. Overall, it was RKH that had the highest attendance with 97.5% - nice work.

Our final rewards for excellent attendance were brand new scooters. From the beginning for October, children have been writing their name on a raffle ticket. Today, that raffle was drawn! Congratulations to all of the children who won prizes throughout. Please see our Facebook page for a video celebrating our attendance success.

During this event, we have seen more children in seats learning, more children flourishing and creating memories and more children smiling. Let's make November even higher than October!

## bogs

Please can we ask parents not to bring dogs onto the school site during drop off and collection. Much as we love dogs and we understand how much they love their walk to school to pick up their little friends—dogs on site pose H&S risks and cannot be permitted. Sorry!



#### have a great week - see you on the 2nd November



Fmail:

info@vpaleeds.co.uk



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0113 2482449



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