

VPA News

Issue 4 — 2nd October 2020



Happy Friday!

This week has been a busy one in school with lots of our normal school activity fully resumed. I've had the pleasure this week of visiting all classes and seeing for myself the wonderful learning that is happening from Nursery all the way to Year 6. In all classrooms, your children are doing you proud: focused on their learning tasks and doing their absolute best, which is all I ask of them. I've seen some great lessons in phonics, reading, writing and maths and little people getting back into the learning habits which lead to great things, and it was a pleasure to be back in classrooms after so many months of working differently for us all.

In the coming weeks, our Google classrooms will be gaining momentum, so that children will also be working within their virtual classroom for some of the time whilst at school. This is so that, as soon as any child has to self-isolate for any of the reasons outlined by the government, they can switch straight into virtual learning and know their way around it. Thank you to all parents who have completed our IT survey to tell us about their child's access to a suitable learning device at home. We will be in touch soon to let you know about our next steps there.

Our first week in a Leeds local lockdown is also drawing to a close—I hope that you haven't found the latest batch of restrictions too hard to cope with this week. A reminder that we are here to help if any of you are finding life in Covid-times is bringing you extra challenges that we might be able to assist with. Drop us an email through info@vpaleeds.co.uk if there is anything you want help with, or even if you just want someone to talk to about it all. These are tough times and now, more than ever, we need to look after ourselves and each other...

Have a good weekend and we'll see you all next week.

Mrs Bailey

Parking on Ivy Avenue

I am concerned about the number of parents/carers who continue to park very close to the school gates on Ivy Avenue during drop off and collection. Can I please ask you to park in nearby streets or a little further down Ivy Avenue for the time being, whilst we are using the vehicle gates for pedestrians and a large number of people are therefore walking on the road as they exit the school? Manoeuvring your car whilst small children are walking is not ideal and can easily be avoided. Thank you.

Facemasks in school

Thank you to all parents/carers who have worn facemasks whilst on the school site. We are continuing to record no positive COVID results within our school currently—so our combined efforts are definitely helping us to keep Victoria open! Thank you.



Attendance

This week's whole school attendance is

93.8 %

FS1 89%	FS2 JR 98.2%	FS2 KH 93%	Y1 AB 98%	Y1 JR 93.3%
Y2 HD 89.4%	Y2 HG 100%	Y3 GL 83.1%	Y3 LP 89.0%	Y4 MC 94.8%
Y4 GG 94.4%	Y5 RM 93.6%	Y5 OM 97.4%	Y6 BC 95%	Y6 RK 98.1%



Packed lunches...

Thank you to parents who have not included chocolate bars and fizzy pop or energy drinks in their child's lunchbox this week—please keep this up. We've also noticed lots of children are bringing juice in their water bottles for sipping in the classroom during lessons. We ask that only water is provided in these bottles please—frequent sipping on juice is not recommended by dentists. Thank you also for helping us with children's independence in eating their packed lunch—slightly opened wrappers or chopped up fruit has made a big difference this week. Your help is very much appreciated.



Lost stuff!

It's started! Children are losing their brand new uniform, and not all items have a NAME written in them so that we can get them back to you. Please buy a marker pen and write your child's name on the label—I promise it will save you a fortune!



Stay Safe

Social distancing is the key way to protect yourself from the transmission of COVID-19—we know that the virus can spread via surfaces, where it can live for up to 3 days, but we know it spreads more often through the sharing of droplets from the mouth and nose of those carrying the virus, even if they are asymptomatic.

The government guidance re: social distancing is that:

- We avoid face-to-face contact with others for greater than one minute.
- We avoid close proximity to others and maintain a 2m distance wherever possible. As a minimum, 1m social distancing is important for keeping ourselves safe.

In our playground, you are mostly achieving 2m of social distancing as you pick up and drop off your children. There is a pressure point at the Ive Avenue exit as we near 3pm. Please avoid joining a crowd of people by hanging back and allowing the crowd to disperse.

Parent Governor

We have had a good number of parents who have expressed an interest in becoming a parent governor. Our next step will be to coordinate an election now, with your votes determining who will join the governing body to represent the parent community in our decision making. Look out for the letter which will be coming in the next week or so and make sure you exercise your right to vote. We will keep you posted!

Parent Consults

We would normally be making arrangements for parents to meet with their child's class teacher at this point in the year. It will look a bit different this year but we are looking to arrange a virtual or telephone conversation instead of a face-to-face meeting. Not quite the same, we know. More news next week re: how you book your appointment.

Slight changes to PE days

Monday Y4

Tuesday Y1 and Y5

Wednesday Reception and Y3

PE Days

Thursday Y6 and Y2

Friday Nursery

Have a great weekend - see you Monday!



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