

# The Vale Academy Newsletter: February Half Term 2018

Dear All,

Christmas holidays now seem a distant memory and the new year is well and truly in full swing; we have had a busy half-term at The Vale.

Years 2 and 6 have had their Mock SATs; we are really proud of the children's attitude and hard work. Road Safety has been addressed in school with "Oscar" the car visiting to engage the children with an understanding of how to be safe on the road. A particular thank you goes to our recently formed Junior Road Safety Officers for their enthusiasm and dedication to educating their fellow pupils on this important subject. They have collaborated to create an introduction to themselves and the concerns they have, so please take the time to read their requests.

Although the weather is typical for the time of year, the outside space continues to be a great place of enjoyment and activity at break and lunchtime, as well as some outdoor learning. Preparations for the school production in July have begun with auditions completed and roles assigned; an excited buzz has been running through staff and pupils.

Enjoy your half term break, rest and prepare for another action packed term!

Mrs Kate Hooft  
Head of School

### Parent Communication

Please be aware that we will be using text message to inform you of such events as:

House point winners each week  
Mufti winners  
Sports fixtures

and remember to refer to website for recent updates and confirmation of dates and times of events.

**Twitter: You can follow us @TSLTValeAcademy  
and on Facebook**

**Please remember  
to park safely  
when dropping off and collecting your child.**

**We also request that  
you respect our neighbours and  
leave access to their properties and the pathways.**

**Thank you for your continued support.**

**If anyone wishes to provide further information regarding an altercation which took place off school premises in Wilbury Drive on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 3.15-3.30pm, please contact the police on 101 and quote Crime Reference No: JD 4108-2018. Thank you.**

## Junior Road Safety Officers (or JRSOs for short!)

Hi! If you haven't heard of us already, we would like to introduce ourselves! We are **The Vale Junior Road Safety Officers (or JRSOs for short!)**, and we work with Central Bedfordshire's Road Safety Team.

Our job is to ensure that our community is using the road as safely as possible for themselves and others around them, particularly for our pupils at school. We meet each half term to discuss road safety, and have a few projects planned for the future, so please look out for them, and do let us know if you have any suggestions to make our roads safe!

At The Vale Academy, we follow three simple rules: **Safe, Ready and Respectful**. Us JRSOs believe that these rules are very important to remember, not just in school, but also when travelling to and from school around the local community and beyond.

We do notice that most people travel to and from school safely, following the Green Cross Code correctly. However, unfortunately, we have found that not all people follow the rules, particularly when parking outside the school. Some people are not being safe, not allowing everyone to be ready on time to enter the school gates, and not being respectful towards others around our local community.

For example, lots of us walk to school, and often we have found that some children have to walk into the road because people have parked inconsiderately. Also, some people are unable to leave their homes on time because others have parked in front of their driveways or cars. This is just not fair! Parking like this is breaking all of our school rules (**Safe, Ready, Respectful**).

We have a few ideas of how to follow the rules, and to ensure everyone is safe outside of our school. Please try and follow our guidance:

<b>SAFE</b>	<b>READY</b>	<b>RESPECTFUL</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park in the recommended spaces where there are no yellow lines</b></li><li>- <b>Allow enough space for people to walk on the pavements</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Allow enough time when travelling to school so you are not rushing</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Consider our neighbours' driveways and houses</b></li><li>- <b>Park where there are no yellow lines</b></li><li>- <b>Listen to each other</b></li><li>- <b>Be kind and considerate towards each other</b></li></ul>

**TOP TIP:**

***If you are able to, you could try walking, cycling or scooting to school! Not only will this help with space for others to park safely, but it also helps to save our environment! It will save money on petrol, and it's a great way to keep active for a healthy body and mind!***

Thank you for reading our suggestions for keeping our roads safe. We hope that it will make you think before you park!

Kind Regards,  
The Junior Road Safety Officers

Skyla (5GB)  
Isabelle (5PM)  
Kameira (5PM)  
Yosola (5PM)  
Leah (6DB)  
Erin (5PM)  
Sophie (5PM)  
Mia (5GB)  
Emma (5PM)



## SMSC – Enrichment Afternoons.

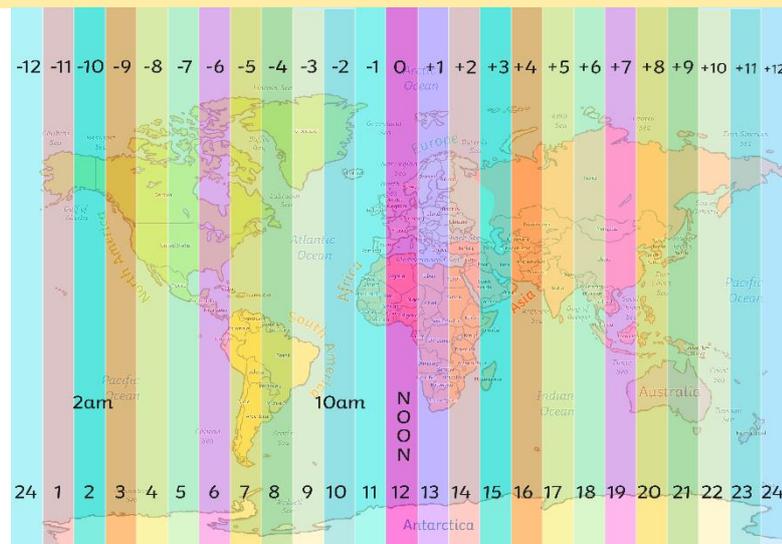
Enrichment afternoons allow us to look at a variety of social, moral, spiritual and cultural topics. This allows us to develop a wider understanding of our world and celebrate our similarities and differences. They are wonderful afternoons filled with great learning, sharing and creative opportunities.

Below is a snap-shot of the topics covered this term.

### New Year Resolutions:

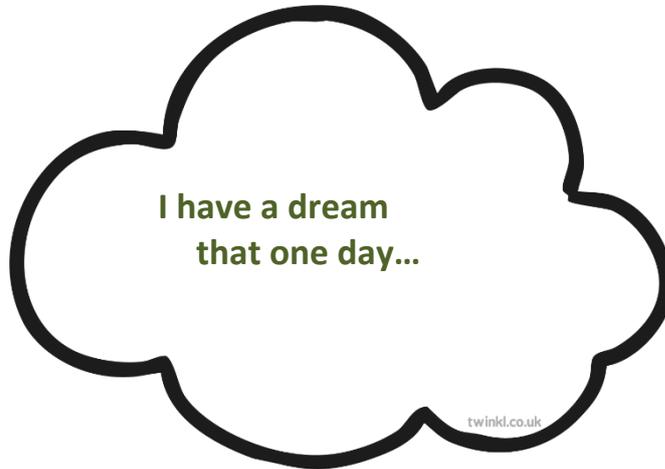
Looking at the reasons for celebrating new year and how it is celebrated around the world.

Not every place in the world welcomes in the new year at exactly the same time because different places are in different time zones.



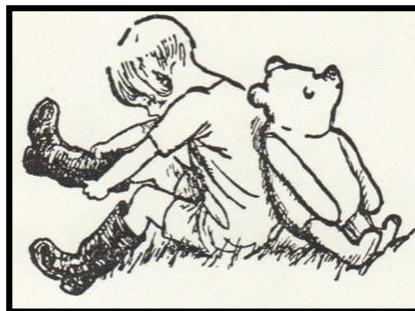
## **Martin Luther King Day:**

Understanding the importance of equality and fairness. Who was Martin Luther King? What did he achieve? Why was this so important to the world?



## **Winnie the Pooh Day:**

In 2016, it was 90 years since Winnie-the-Pooh was created by A. A. Milne. It was also the year in which Queen Elizabeth II turned 90! We looked at the history and creation of one of the world's most loved bears.



### **Australia Day:**

An opportunity to research Australia and recognise a truly unique country.



### **NSPCC Number Day:**

We dressed in mufti to raise money for the NSPCC whilst having great fun with maths.



### **Shrove Tuesday:**

Learning that the four countries of the United Kingdom celebrate Shrove Tuesday with different traditions and the reason for Pancake Day.



Please check the updated Key Dates for the next half term.

**Gain Functional Skills qualifications from Entry Level to Level 2.**

We are also including some information regarding free Maths and English classes for adults over 19 years of age that may be of interest. English classes run every Tuesday 11am - 3pm and Maths classes run every Thursday 11am - 3pm

Please see the attached leaflet for further details.

***Wishing everyone a safe holiday***

***See you on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018***

