

# The Vale Academy

## Newsletter Spring 2 2017



Dear all

It is official, spring is here; just in time for the holiday.

What a fantastically busy term this has been. We have received many visitors to The Vale this term including local MP, Andrew Selous. He was very impressed by the children, staff and learning environment during his visit and is quoted saying “I was really impressed by my visit to The Vale Academy and can see why the school has had such a phenomenally strong set of exam results”

The children have had many opportunities to attend clubs, trips and workshops. As we continue to develop our range of extra-curricular experiences we will be asking our children and parents to put forward suggestions for other activities which they feel would support their learning or would simply be good fun. This feedback will then support us in planning next year’s programme.

As we approach the SATs season we recognise that this is a potentially worrying time for our year 2 and year 6 parents. We hope that you have managed to attend at least one of the SATs workshops available to you or have spoken with your child’s class teacher about any concerns that you may have. Your children will be supported by all staff throughout this process and their well-being will remain at the forefront of all that we do throughout the testing week. If you do have any questions or concerns about the process please come and talk to us. Meanwhile please free to log onto <http://vale.thesharedlearningtrust.org.uk/curriculum-ks1-ks2-ks3/> to access the information provided by the STA for parents of year 2 and 6 children.

Thank you to all of you who have come and supported the children in this year's production of The Lion King. The three performances were the result of a significant amount of hard work from staff and children. Your support with rehearsals, learning lines and coping with any 'Lion King Drama's' is, as always very much appreciated. It does make all the difference. Again, a huge thank you to all of the children who have given so willingly of their time to produce such a wonderful spectacle; and to Miss Stone, Miss Chowdhary, Mr Bengner and Mr Barker who made it all happen.

Thank you.



Bex Howe

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

**Important Communication Notice**

Please be aware that we now regularly communicate with parents/carers via e-mail rather than an actual letter sent home with your children.

It has come to our attention that sometimes our e-mails will deliver into your junk box. Please check your junk boxes regularly to ensure you are not missing important communications from us.

Please can you ensure we have a current e-mail address for you to receive information.

Also, check our website for information (all letters are posted here for your reference) and our half termly Newsletter which will outline all key dates for your diary. Key Dates are posted in the notice boards at the school entrance.

Thank you for your understanding.

This term has seen complaints from parents regarding unsafe driving and parking from others when dropping off and collecting children. This is a great concern for everyone's safety. No-one should be parking on the zig zag lines or in the red zones as per the signs on the lamp-post.

Please have consideration for our neighbours when parking at the beginning and end of the school day; unfortunately, there have been some incidents where driveways have been blocked to the residents' homes causing understandable frustration and upset.

Entrance to the school gates must be kept clear at all times for access and safety reasons.

Many thanks for your cooperation.



**Please do not smoke around the school gates.**

**Thank you**



**Mobile Phones**



For Safeguarding reasons, we have a **no mobile phones on site policy**. Could you please adhere to this policy when dropping off or collecting your child from the school premises.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

**Any concerns or worries?**

**We now have Parent Drop-Ins to support you and your child**

We offer Parent Drop-Ins with:

Miss Dutton - safeguarding and social, emotional and behavioural concerns

**Miss Dutton will be available Monday-Thursday 8.45-9.15.**

**No appointment necessary**



**Notices**

- **Please be aware that in line with the firm guidelines from the government, we will no longer be authorising any holiday/ Leave of Absence requests.**
- **Please do not park in the staff car park or block the entrance. Please be advised that no parent should park in the school grounds unless booked for a meeting. If you choose to do this we will pass your registration to the police**
- **We have an increasing amount of unnamed lost property; please name all your child's possessions and clothes to avoid loss**
- **As the summer term is beginning, please ensure you send your child with a water bottle. They can re-fill this during the day. Unfortunately, we cannot continue to supply cups.**

### The Vale Nursery

This spring the nursery children have been learning about the life cycle of a chicken, they have watched the eggs as chicks hatched and observed them closely growing and changing, every child had the opportunity to hold and help look after a chick.



### SMSC

Tolerance Patience Collaboration

## The Vale Academy Theme for Summer 1 is: Being a Good Friend

*Use kind words*

*Talk to / spend time with people in my class outside the friendship group*

*Offer help and support to others*

*Pay someone a compliment*

*Consider other people's feelings*

*Reflect on how we treat others*

**Compassion**

**Fairness**

**Respect**

**Reception** have been very busy this term. They have celebrated World Book Day, made Mother's Day cards and clearly enjoy role play. Additionally, they have been preparing for Easter.

Victoria Parry



This half term we had a World Book Day. I dressed up as a pirate because we made cards for Mother's Day.

### Year 1



This half term in year 1 the children have had lots of fun learning about transport.

As part of our topic the children visited Stockwood discovery centre to learn more about transport and compare how transport has changed over the years. We had lots of fun during our time there and found out lots of interesting facts.

The children explored the different discovery galleries and also had the chance to sit in different modes of transport and discuss the materials they were made of and who may have used it. The Mossman carriage collection was a big hit and the children were excited to know that it is the biggest of its kind on display in the UK.

## Year 2



In Year 2 we were visited by Amy from the Blue Cross animal charity. We found out all about their work to help people look after their pets and how they help furry animals to find new homes.

For World Book Week, Year 2 enjoyed reading 'There's a Snake in My School!' by David Walliams, where Penelope the Python comes to school for the day. Mr Hoft came to tell us about his own pets – tarantulas! We were inspired to write a set of instructions to look after our own exotic pets.

In Science week we found out about solids, liquids and gases. We mixed together cola and popping candy and the gas that was produced could blow up a balloon!

## Year 3

This half term, we have been learning about the Rainforest. It has been really fun and our teachers have been teaching us lots of things. We have been using the library and the internet to research and find facts. My favourite animal is a jaguar because I like its spots. We have been creating rainforest pictures in art and writing rainforest poetry in English.

Fun fact- Did you know it is called the rainforest because it rains almost every day?

Phoebe Pender 3AB



### Year 4

Year 4 have gone back in time, and across oceans, to explore Native America! We have had bundles of fun learning about the importance of the beastly buffalo, building lovely longhouses, making dreamy dream-catchers, just to name a few activities!

One of our favourite things to learn about was why Native American tribes used animals in a lot of their stories, and this linked to our learning about the Totem Pole. Miss Knight was very proud of all of our homework ideas, and loved how much effort went into our home learning. Look at Jake's totem pole. Each animal represents a member from his family. We wonder what yours would look like?



### Year 5

This term has been a great one in Year 5. We celebrated World book Day with a variety of activities, but our favourite was our 'Ratburger' day. We celebrated our author for the half term, David Walliams by making our own Ratburger cakes. In groups we made two types of cakes, a normal sponge for for the burger bun and a chocolate sponge for the burger. We used jam for the ketchup, and a strawberry lace for the tail. They looked fantastic.

We toured the school and offered our Ratburger cakes to different teachers and they all loved them! We had planned to have some available for the 'David Walliams tea party' (which was packed with David Walliams fans and reading fans alike), but they were far too delicious to share!

We have also developed our love of reading by working really hard to do well on our Accelerated Reader quizzes. We can't wait to see who wins the prize in the 100% raffle at the end of the term. The list of people getting 100% on their quizzes increases daily, with new names added frequently!



### Year 6...



#### Macy McLaughlin

For World Book Day – Year 6 read Nigel Nit-Boy story from the book *The World's Worst Children*. Then as a class we decorated a picture (of Nigel Nit-Boy) with different coloured pieces of paper. We also created a comic strip about one of Nigel's adventures. One of the scenes that I loved was when Nigel Nit-Boy threw broccoli at Mrs Droop because she served broccoli with every meal even DESSERT!

These activities were really fun and active.

I really enjoyed reading the book by David Walliams as he is one of my favourite authors. I would recommend this book and activities to everyone as year 6 loved it!



### Kaylah Hurd-Smith

Year 6 read the story of Nigel Nit-Boy by David Walliams. We then created a collage, this is what we used: brown wool for the hair, cut-up pieces of coloured paper for the body. We took it in turns to stick all of the pieces on and labelled the picture.

We also created a comic strip of one of Nigel's adventures: Mr Sourchops was the Head teacher and he ended up in the wheelie bin. I love books by David Walliams, but this might just be my favourite. I really enjoyed doing this and would recommend the book.

### Kayla Gaiger-Hurley

On World Book Day, we read the story of Nigel Nit-Boy from the book The World's Worst Children by David Walliams.

We made a collage of Nigel Nit-Boy by using wool for his hair and coloured cut up pieces of paper for his body. I really enjoyed doing this activity, it was fun. David Walliams is my favourite author and I would recommend you read the book, as I'm sure you'll love it!

### NSPCC Number Day



To raise money for the NSPCC the children and staff were asked to dress as digits or come to school in mufti. We raised a fantastic £245.80 – well done everyone.

### Red Nose Day



Everyone was invited to come to school in mufti to raise money for this great charity. We held a special red nose day assembly where the children wore their red noses and there was even the opportunity to tell a joke or two!

We raised a magnificent £290.25!

Finally...a roaring success to the end of term:

### **The Vale Academy Presents**

### **'The Lion King!'**

The Vale Academy had a roaring time presenting Disney's classic theatre show 'The Lion King'.

From the leaping antelope to the fierce lion, all pupils put in such an effort and were prepared to make this show a royal success! Our performances were a big hit, with the audience feeling the love; there wasn't 'Timon' to be heard! Our staff members are full of pride for our pupils, and we just can't wait for the next show!

Well done to everyone who participated and supported during the lead up to the show. And always remember, 'HAKUNA MATATA!'

