

**Mr Singh's weekly message**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome our children back to school this week - it was great to see children getting re-acquainted with their friends and peers and hearing the buzz of excitement in classrooms.

It has been a lovely and exciting week at The Vale Primary Academy; our new free flow area has been completed and is now being enjoyed by our children, we are also excited to announce that all children will be receiving weekly music lessons and this year we are also pleased to announce that children will be taking part in Forest Schools!

Please see below for our key messages for next week

**KEY MESSAGES**

**HOUSE TEAMS**

This week both, staff and children have been organised, at random, into the 4 houses:

**Aire – Blue Swale – Green Derwent – Yellow Wharfe – Red**

Children and staff will be taking part in competitions and activities throughout the year which will contribute toward house points. All children will be provided with the correct House PE t-shirt in September. The winning house will receive a reward at the end of the year. The house competitions will take place termly and will include Football tournament (October), Art competition (December), Athletics (February), Spelling Bee (April), Cricket tournament (June), Sports day (July).

**MCAS (PARENT COMMUNICATION)**

Please note that our new system for school communication is called MCAS.

MyChildAtSchool [MCAS] is a portal enabling parents to view their child's academic performance in real-time via a web browser. This facility allows exclusive access to the child's Attendance, Assessment and Behaviour. As well as student performance data, the portal also provides general useful information about school such as the Academic Calendar and Announcements.

Please see below a link to the MCAS Parent Guide:

[MCAS Parent Guide \(secureservercdn.net\)](https://secureservercdn.net)

**AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

After school clubs resume on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September, clubs will start at 15:30 and end at 16:30. Children have already been allocated their clubs and would have received their letters this week.

Monday:

KS2 Forest School (Elite)  
KS2 Classroom Kitchen (AR)  
KS1/KS2 Art (ET)  
KS2 Rugby (Elite)  
KS2 Football (Elite)

Thursday:

KS1 Forest School (Elite)  
KS2 Stem Club (EB)  
KS1 Classroom Kitchen (WB)  
KS1 Rugby (Elite)  
KS1 Football (Elite)

Have a lovely weekend!

**Attendance Message**

At the start of each new school year, we take the opportunity to remind parents/carers of the importance of all children benefiting from regular school attendance. We would like to work closely with you to ensure that every child is successful, through continuity of learning, and is able to achieve their full potential at our school.

This year, a key part of our attendance strategy will be to effectively monitor and address patterns of school attendance through our 'Traffic Light' Attendance approach. Parents/carers will be in receipt of a coloured letter informing them of their child's 'Attendance Zone' at the end of each school half-term. The table below explains the different attendance categories:

| Colour Zones | Attendance Thresholds            |
|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Green Zone   | Attendance of 96% and above      |
| Amber Zone   | Attendance between 90% and 95.9% |
| Red Zone     | Attendance below 90%             |

Furthermore, the table below explains the different attendance categories and what it converts to in days/weeks:

| ATTENDANCE DURING ONE SCHOOL YEAR | THIS NO. OF DAYS ABSENT | WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY THIS NO. OF WEEKS ABSENT |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 95%                               | 9 days                  | 2 weeks   |
| 90%                               | 19 days                 | 4 weeks   |
| 85%                               | 29 days                 | 6 weeks   |
| 80%                               | 38 days                 | 8 weeks   |
| 75%                               | 48 days                 | 10 weeks  |
| 70%                               | 57 days                 | 11.5 weeks                                      |
| 65%                               | 67 days                 | 13.5 weeks                                      |

Should you wish to discuss your child's attendance with us, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

**Attendance**

|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| Nursery   | 96.8% |
| Reception | 96.8% |
| Y1        | 92%   |
| Y2        | 98%   |
| Y3        | 96%   |
| Y4        | 97%   |
| Y5        | 99%   |
| Y6        | 92%   |

**Key dates for your diary**

16.09.22: Celebration Assemblies resume  
20.09.22: Reading Morning (08:45 - 08:55)  
23.09.22: Jeans for Genes Day  
30.09.22: Governors Coffee Morning  
10.10.22: Mental Health Day  
17.10.22: Parent Voice Questionnaire  
23.10.22: End of Autumn 1 (half term)  
31.10.22: Staff Training Day (School Closed)  
01.11.22: School re-opens (Autumn 2)

This half term we will also be conducting family assemblies, this will be an opportunity for you to come into school and gain an insight into what your child/children have been learning about.

We will also be having visitors in school for Black History Month and Diwali.

We will also be hoping to invite parents into school for the end of term House games/tournaments. More information will be shared closer to the event.

**Twitter**

Please follow us on our twitter feed:

[@Vale\\_Primary](https://twitter.com/Vale_Primary)

**PE Days and Forest Schools**

**PE**

PE days for the Autumn term are as follows:

Y1 – Thursdays  
Y2 – Mondays  
Y3 – Fridays  
Y4 – Wednesdays  
Y5 – Mondays  
Y6 – Thursdays

Please ensure that your child dresses appropriately (depending on weather) for PE and is in full school PE uniform. New PE t shirts, linked to your child's house team will be issued this half term.

**FOREST SCHOOLS**

Forest Schools (children can wear their PE uniform. Warmer clothes, including a coat to be worn during Autumn (weather depending) and Winter.

This term, Year 1 and Year 2 will be taking part in Forest Schools.

Y1 – Mondays  
Y2 – Thursdays.

### Communication

Should you have any queries or would like to speak to a member of staff regarding anything – please follow the Communication plan – this will ensure your queries are dealt with in a swift and succinct manner.

#### The Office

- Reporting Absence
- Change of phone numbers, address etc
- Payments such as dinner, trips etc
- Repeat/reprint of letters
- Special Leave forms

#### Safeguarding Team (please contact the school should you wish to speak to the Safeguarding Team)

- Issues within the family that may affect your child's education, for example housing, separation, social care etc
- Attendance issues
- Safeguarding concerns or queries
- Circumstances that affect your child's well-being

#### 1: Class Teacher

- Progress
- Class work
- Bullying concerns
- Friendship
- Transition
- Dietary issues
- Behaviour issues
- SEND

*If you have spoken with the class teacher and you feel the issue remains.*

#### 2: SLT

- For Early Years – Mrs Pearson
- For Years 1, 2 & 3 – Mr Rollin
- For Years 4, 5 & 6 – Miss Cartwright
- SEND – Mrs Rowse

#### 4: Executive Principal/ Chair of Governors

*You are unhappy with the outcome of a concern that you have made, and you wish to take it further*

#### 3: Head of Academy – Mr Singh

*Spoken with Senior Leader and you feel the issue remains.*

