

**Mr Singh's weekly message**

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Vale Primary Academy is YELLOW! House Derwent made it a clean sweep by winning the house games on each night. A massive well done to all who took part. We cannot wait for the next round! I would like to thank parents for their support with getting their children to school.

A huge shout out to Years 2, 3 and 6 who are all above 96.9% - these classes will be rewarded with a Dominos Pizza Party. Reception, Years 1, 4 and 5 are very close and should they get above 96% by the end of the half term – they will also be getting a Pizza Party!

Please can we encourage anyone who has not, to please update their details on the MCAS App to ensure you stay informed of all the exciting things that are happening in the academy.

Please see below for our key messages and celebrations from this week:

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

School photos will take place on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October. Children will have their individual and sibling photos taken and for our Year 6 children – these will be used for their end of primary school yearbooks.

**CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY**

Next week our children will be continuing their celebrations of and understanding the importance of Black History Month. Children will be treated to a special themed menu, exploring music and taking part in two exciting workshops: an African Dance workshop and a Virtual Reality tour through history. The food on the day will be: piri piri chicken drumstick, chips and peas or piri piri sweetcorn, peas and chips with a dessert of upside-down pineapple cake. There will also be option of jacket potato.

**PHONICS WORKSHOPS**

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Year 1 will be hosting a Phonics workshop for parents. This will take place between 09:00-09:30. This is an opportunity for parents to see how Phonics is taught within a classroom setting and will give you some insight and ideas how to support your child with reading at home.

**FIRE FIGHTERS' SAFETY TALK**

On 19<sup>th</sup> October at 1:30, the children in Year 5 and 6 will be having a fire safety talk, Hosted by Firefighters from the Pontefract station. This will also give all students in school a chance to speak with a firefighter and see the equipment they use to keep people safe.

**PARENTS EVENING**

Parents evening will be taking place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November between 12:00-18:00. Appointment slips will be sent out to parents next week. Please return these at your earliest convenience.

**PTA EXTRAVAGANZA**

The PTA is excited to announce our upcoming event on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, with doors opening at 4:30 PM. Tickets are on sale at the early bird price of £3 per person or 4 tickets for £10. Children under 3 years old get free entry. Tickets at the door will be £5. On the night, be sure to wear your best Halloween costume – we'll have prizes for the best costumes in both children and adult categories. Enter the best-carved pumpkin competition for a chance to win a prize. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Join us for a night of Halloween fun!

**AUTHOR VISIT**

This week we hosted our Patron of Reading – Conrad Burdekin. He came to share his love of poetry for Poetry week and wrote a poem with each class which they used as inspiration for their own poems.



Best wishes  
Mr J Singh



<u>PUPIL OF THE WEEK</u>	
CATERPILLARS	Lottie M
BUTTERFLIES	Edie B
PANDAS	Klani B
TIGERS	Anna-Marie N
GAZELLES	Millie S
ELEPHANTS	Grayson W
PENGUINS	Lincoln G
SNOW LEOPARDS	Lucas B

<u>Attendance</u>	
CATERPILLARS	94%
BUTTERFLIES	92%
PANDAS	98.6%
TIGERS	97%
GAZELLES	97%
ELEPHANTS	90%
PENGUINS	99.2%
SNOW LEOPARDS	98.6%

<u>HOUSE POINTS</u>			
<b>WHARF</b>	<b>SWALE</b>	<b>DERWENT</b>	<b>AIRE</b>
<b>41</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>51</b>



**Key dates for your diary**

**SCHOOL EVENTS AUTUMN TERM:**

01.10.23: Black History Month  
16.10.23: School Photos  
18.10.23: African dance and Virtual Reality Tour  
26.10.23: PTA Halloween extravaganza  
27.10.23: Halloween Disco  
11.11.23: Remembrance Day  
27.11.23 & 28.11.23: Christmas Glass Art Workshops  
01.12.23: In school Pantomime (A Christmas Carol)  
12.12.23: Y3-6 Theatre Visit

**PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT AUTUMN TERM:**

19.10.23: Y1 Phonics workshops  
13.11.23: Y1/2/3 Anti Bullying workshops  
14.11.23: Y4/5/6 Anti Bullying workshops  
23.11.23: Parents evening  
28.11.23: Family assemblies (please see your child's class newsletter for more information)  
04.12.23: Y1/2/3 House Games  
05.12.23: Y4/5/6 House Games  
15.12.23: EYFS Nativity  
18.12.23: Reception & Y1 Family Christmas dinner  
19.12.23: Y2 & Y3 Family Christmas dinner  
20.12.23: Y4, Y5 & Y6 Family Christmas dinner  
21.12.23: Christmas Concert/Fayre

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