

Friday 27th
March 2026

Queen Victoria Primary School Newsletter



Key Dates

- 15th April**–Year 4 Multiplication Workshop
- 4th May**–Bank Holiday–School closed
- 11th May**–Year 6 SATs week
- 17th June**–Class Photographs/Individuals catch ups

Term Dates

- 27th March**–End of Spring Term 2
- 13th April**–Children Return to school
- 22nd May**–End of Summer Term 1
- 1st June**–Children return to school.

Class Assemblies

- 3M**–16th April
- 3B**–23rd–April
- 4CB**–30th April
- 4P**–7th May

This week's News

This week, our Year 5 pupils took part in their **Bikeability** training, delivered across two groups (Monday–Tuesday and Wednesday–Thursday). Read more about it on the next page.

We have also been carrying out home visits for our new Nursery children who will be joining us after Easter. These visits are an important part of helping children settle into school life, allowing us to get to know them in a familiar environment and begin building strong relationships with families. We are very much looking forward to welcoming them into our school community next term.

On Wednesday, we welcomed parents into school for two important **workshops**: a Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Workshop and a Year 6 SATs Workshop. Thank you to all families who attended. We hope you found the sessions useful and that they helped you feel confident in supporting your child at home during this important time.

On Thursday, our **Year 1 children visited Sedgley Community Church**. The children represented the school beautifully, showing respect and curiosity as they learned more about the church and its role in the local community and all about how Easter is celebrated by Christians.

Our **Easter Disco** took place on Thursday and was a fantastic success—full of energy, excitement and plenty of dancing! A huge thank you to our staff for organising such a brilliant event, and to families for your continued support. Alongside the Easter raffle, we are raising funds to further enhance the children's experience in school. We have already used some of the funds to purchase an additional outdoor speaker and an additional bubble machine. These are already helping us bring even more fun, music and "party vibes" to our Friday lunchtimes across both playgrounds! We will be asking our School Council to help decide how future funds raised will be spent, ensuring the children have a real voice in shaping their school experience.

Today marked the end of term with a lovely **KS1 craft afternoon**. It was wonderful to see so many parents join us—the atmosphere around school was fantastic and full of creativity. Children also enjoyed taking part in an Easter egg trail around the playground, successfully completing challenges to earn a prize. We have also awarded Easter Egg raffle prizes and colouring competition prizes. Well done to all of our winners!

Return to school: Monday 13th April

We are heading into an important Summer Term, with children preparing for their statutory assessments. Attendance will be crucial, so thank you in advance for your support.

After Easter, we are also pleased to be introducing additional sporting opportunities at Monday and Friday lunchtimes, as a new sports coach will be working with us to further enrich provision for the children.

We wish all of our families a happy, safe and enjoyable Easter break, and look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed for the Summer Term.



Queen Victoria Primary School

Attendance



Attendance Matters – Let's Finish the Term Strong!

A friendly reminder to all families about the importance of children being in school every day and on time. Every day in school really does make a difference. When children attend regularly, they don't just keep up with their learning – they also enjoy the social side of school, spending time with friends, taking part in class activities and feeling part of the school community.

Missing even a small amount of school can mean children miss important parts of lessons, exciting learning opportunities and special moments with their classmates.

Remember... Miss School, Miss Out!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping our children be Here, Every day, Ready and On time.

This week's attendance:



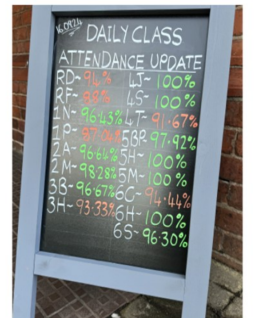
91.73%



Class Attendance

	Attendance (%)
RD	89
RF	87.4
1S	90.4
1P	97.5
2J	90
2O	95.4
3B	88.3
3M	85.9
4CB	93.3
4P	86.9
5H	96.5
5S	95.8
5M	90
6C	90.3
6H	93.5

Keep checking the attendance boards each week!



Queen Victoria Primary School

Let's Celebrate!

Children at the Heart. Aspiration. Responsible. Excellence



Positive Notes & Behaviour Recognition

We love letting our families know when their children have been caught doing something great in school! All staff give out **Positive Notes** regularly for children who are going out of their way in role modelling our school CARE values. We also love recognising children who follow our school rules: Ready, Respectful & Safe, and conduct themselves well in school by adding them to class recognition boards. Children who demonstrate exemplary behaviour are awarded a **Behaviour Recognition Note** to bring home to let their grown-ups know they have been golden.

CARE Awards

Each week, teachers award one child in their class who has had a remarkable week in demonstrating our school values or going above and beyond to follow our school Golden Rules: Ready, Respectful and Safe. Children are awarded these certificates during our Friday Celebration Assemblies and are invited to have squash and biscuits with a senior leader as a special treat.

A huge well done to this week's super stars!



Year 5 Bikeability

Across two two-day bikeability courses for Year 5, children have been provided with valuable practical skills to help them cycle safely and confidently on the road. They learned how to control their bikes, understand road positioning, signal clearly, and develop awareness of traffic and potential hazards. It was fantastic to see the children approach the training with such enthusiasm, maturity and determination. They represented the school brilliantly and should be very proud of themselves. A big thank you to the Bikeability instructors for their expert guidance, and to staff who supported the sessions.



Queen Victoria Primary School School Disco



Year 1 Church Visit



On Thursday, our Year 1 children visited Sedgley Community Church. The children represented the school beautifully, showing respect and curiosity as they learned more about the church and its role in the local community and all about how Easter is celebrated by Christians.



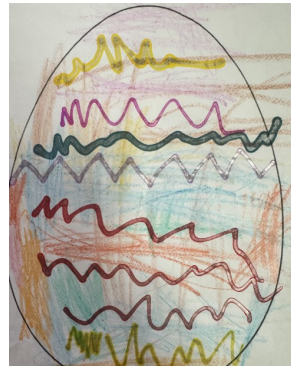
Queen Victoria Primary School

Easter Egg Competition Winners



We were absolutely delighted with the response to our Easter colouring competition – the effort, creativity and attention to detail on display were fantastic! It was no easy task choosing winners, as every entry showed such care and imagination.

A huge well done to all the children who took part – you should be very proud of your designs.





Spring Sparks

Holiday, Activities & Food Club

This Easter half term we'll be providing hands-on crafts, exciting challenges, active games and nutritious meals at our **Spring Sparks Holiday, Activities & Food Club!**

Every day is packed with energy, imagination and best of all, it's **FREE** as part of the HAF programme!*

Spaces are limited - Book NOW!



Tuesday 31st March - 9:00AM to 5:00PM
Wednesday 8th April - 9:00AM to 5:00PM



Alder Coppice Primary School, 90 Northway,
Dudley, DY3 3PS

For more information on HAF please visit:



dudleyholidayactivities.org.uk



*Children must be on free school meals & live in Dudley or attend a Dudley School



A Polite Reminder – Smoking & Vaping

We kindly ask all parents and visitors to refrain from smoking or vaping on the school site or around the entrances to the school grounds. This includes the main gates and surrounding areas at drop-off and collection times. Our priority is to provide a safe, healthy and welcoming environment for all children, families and staff. We appreciate your support in modelling positive behaviours and helping us maintain a pleasant environment for everyone in our school community.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



School Library Volunteers Needed

We are looking for friendly, reliable volunteers to support our school library a few times each week.

You might help with:

- ◆ Supporting children to choose books
 - ◆ Listening to readers
- ◆ Organising and shelving books
- ◆ Promoting a love of reading

No experience needed – just patience, kindness and a love of books.

- ◆ Flexible times (even 1 hour helps)
- ◆ DBS and safeguarding checks required (we support this)

If you are interested, please contact the school office or speak to Mrs Reece.
Together we can help every child become a confident reader ♥



Queen Victoria Primary School

Uniform



Uniform is an important part of our school's identity and we want all of our children to feel proud to be a part of the Queen Victoria community. All children are expected to wear the correct uniform every



PE Kit

The PE kit is the expected uniform to be worn for PE lessons and must only be worn on PE days.

- Plain white t-shirt
- Plain black shorts or black tracksuit bottoms
- Plain black hoodie (with or without school logo)
- Plain trainers

No logos on schoolwear are permitted apart from the Queen Victoria Primary School logo.

Hair accessories, such as small bows or hairclips may be worn in the school colours.

Winter Wear:

- School yellow polo shirt (with or without school logo) or a plain white shirt or blouse
- Grey trousers, grey skirt, or grey pinafore dress
- Green school cardigan, jumper or sweatshirt (with or without school logo)
- White/grey socks
- Sensible, flat-heeled, plain black shoes

Summer Wear:

- School yellow polo shirt (with or without school logo)
- Grey trousers shorts or skirt
- Green/white checked gingham dress
- Green school cardigan, jumper or sweatshirts may be worn (with or without school logo)
- White/grey socks
- Sensible, flat-heeled, plain black shoes

Jewellery

- One pair of stud earrings may be worn – no dangling or hoop earrings
- A wristwatch may be worn
- No jewellery can be worn for P.E. lessons



Make-Up

- Make-up is not permitted
- Nail varnish is not permitted, including false or acrylic nails

Pre-loved uniform is available at school. Please contact Mrs. Farmer for further information.

Please ensure all uniform, clothing and equipment are labelled clearly with your child's name. Reuniting lost items with their owner is much easier if they are labelled.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

1 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT

Before integrating technology, consider the types of text that a child engages with. If they need help on occasion, digital reading pens can assist by scanning and reciting words or sentences. These tools are especially useful for students with reading difficulties, and can even be used in exams if they're part of their routine learning process. Proper training and practice are required, but they can be a great help when tackling printed text.

2 READING ON SCREEN

Many devices now allow users to customise text for better readability. Adjusting font type, size and background colour can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, white text on a black background is the easiest to see, whereas other styles – such as dyslexia-friendly fonts – are designed to help those who are struggling. Teaching children how to personalise text settings on their devices empowers them to read more comfortably and with greater confidence.

3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support readers. These features can be found in Settings under Accessibility and may include text-to-speech, speech-to-text and screen magnification functions. Enabling these tools can make digital reading more user friendly, especially for children with learning difficulties or visual impairments, who might have an easier time with spoken language than the written word, or who might simply require a closer look at the text.

4 INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES

Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, offer features like word highlighting, adjustable text speed and built-in dictionaries. These tools help learners to break down complex words and phrases while maintaining an appropriate reading pace. Some programmes even allow users to track their progress, making reading a more structured and motivating experience.

5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS

Many video games require players to read instructions, character dialogues and mission objectives, making them an unexpected but effective literacy tool. Games that involve storytelling, puzzles or problem-solving often include large amounts of text – encouraging children to read these texts aloud or discuss them can improve their comprehension and vocabulary in a fun, engaging way.

6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS

Watching videos with subtitles or closed captions is an effective way to enhance reading skills. As children watch their favourite shows or online videos, they can follow along with the text, gaining a better understanding of how written words sound when spoken aloud. This is particularly beneficial for reluctant readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Repeatedly watching content with subtitles reinforces word recognition and comprehension.

7 USING AUDIOBOOKS

Audiobooks are an excellent way to develop listening and reading skills simultaneously. Children can follow along with the text while listening to a narrator, reinforcing word recognition and fluency. For struggling readers, listening to an audiobook before attempting to read the text independently can boost their confidence and comprehension.

9 TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY

Text-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to follow along. Most smartphones, tablets and computers come with this function built in. When enabled, users can highlight a passage or sentence and press Play to hear it read aloud. This tool is particularly helpful for auditory learners and those who struggle with decoding written words.

8 VOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING

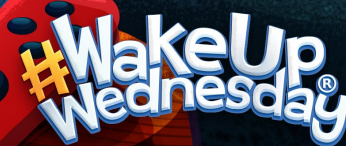
Voice-to-text tools allow users to dictate words, which are then transcribed into text. This feature helps children see the connection between spoken and written language. By using text-to-voice to have their dictated words read back to them, learners can identify mistakes and improve their reading and writing skills simultaneously.

10 SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media provides opportunities for reading, most platforms have age restrictions of 13–16 years old, making parental guidance essential. Many social media videos include captions and comments that can encourage reading. However, it's important to use the platform's parental controls (such as time limits and content filters) to create a safe and educational online environment for children. Encouraging responsible social media use can ensure a balanced and productive approach to digital literacy.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced SENCO. She recently launched her own site, [Neuroteachers](http://Neuroteachers.com), which offers a library of short, 'how-to' and explanation videos for educators. Catrina also writes and delivers online training and events for multi-academy trusts, businesses, schools and training organisations.



The National College®