

Friday 24th
April 2026

Queen Victoria Primary School Newsletter



Key Dates

1st May—Times Table Rock Stars competition starts (KS2)

4th May—Bank Holiday—School closed

11th May—Year 6 SATs week

17th June—Class Photographs/
Individuals catch ups

6th July—Y3 Art Exhibition

14th July—Y6 Leavers' Party

17th July—Y6 Graduation

20th July—INSET Day

Term Dates

22nd May—End of Summer Term 1

1st June—Children return to school.

17th July—End of Summer Term 2

Class Assemblies

4CB—30th April

4P—7th May

All assemblies start at 9.15am

This week's News

It has been another busy and positive week in school.

Year 6 Practice SATs

This week, our Year 6 pupils completed one of their final rounds of practice SATs, working through the tests in a way that mirrors the real experience. I have been incredibly impressed with the focus, maturity and effort shown by the children – they approached each test with determination and a positive attitude. To our Year 6 pupils: keep going! You have worked so hard this year and should be proud of the progress you have made. Remember, these tests are just one opportunity to show what you know – believe in yourselves, stay calm and do your best. We are all behind you.

A reminder that SATs week is fast approaching, and it is vital that all Year 6 pupils attend every day during this week. Your support in ensuring children are well-rested, on time and in school is greatly appreciated.

Class Assembly – 3B

Well done to Class 3B for a fantastic class assembly on Thursday. They confidently shared their learning from across the last two terms in Year 3 and entertained us all along the way. Thank you to all parents and family members who joined us to support the children – it always means a lot to them.

Attendance Awards

Last week, we celebrated our half-termly and termly attendance award winners. Today, those children were invited to attend our special attendance tuck shop as a reward for their excellent commitment to school. Well done to all of our winners – we are very proud of you!

Nursery Update

It has been wonderful to welcome our new starters into Nursery over the past two weeks. They have settled in brilliantly and are already becoming part of our school family.

We are now accepting applications for Nursery places for September. If you have a child who will turn 3 before September, we encourage you to apply. As always, word of mouth is incredibly powerful – if you have friends or family who may be interested in a place for their child, please do pass this information on

New Clubs This Term

We are delighted to have introduced some exciting new clubs this term. Our Archery club (Mondays) and Cheerleading club (Fridays) have both got off to a fantastic start, with children showing great enthusiasm and teamwork. In addition, our sports coaches from Premier Education are continuing to provide a wide range of extra sporting opportunities on Monday and Friday lunchtimes. This week, children have been enjoying cricket sessions on the field, developing their skills and having lots of fun being active outdoors. It's great to see so many children getting involved and trying something new!

Wishing all of our families a lovely weekend!



Queen Victoria Primary School Attendance



Every Day Counts – Let's Keep Attendance Strong

We are really proud of how many of our children are making a strong effort to be in school every day and have made a great start back after the Easter break.

Regular attendance helps children stay confident, keep up with their learning and enjoy being part of their class community.

At this time of year especially, attendance is very important. Many classes are in the middle of exciting science investigations, new writing units and key maths learning. For our Year 6 pupils preparing for SATs, being in school every day makes a real difference to confidence and readiness.

Children also miss out on valuable time with their friends when they are away from school, as well as special moments like our Friday Festival, which continues to be a lovely way to celebrate the end of the week together.

We understand how important family time is, but we kindly ask parents and carers to avoid taking holidays during term time wherever possible, as even a few days away can mean missing important learning that is difficult to catch up on.

A reminder that school gates open at 8:30am, and arriving on time helps children settle calmly and start the day ready to learn alongside their friends.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping your child attend school every day and on time. Working together really does make a difference.



School Attendance this week: 90.71 %



Class Attendance

	Attendance (%)
RD	88
RF	89.5
1S	85.9
1P	94.6
2J	89.7
2O	89
3B	95.4
3M	88.3
4CB	95.9
4P	92.5
5H	92.3
5S	94
5M	91.2
6C	85.5
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!

CARE Award Winners

Nursery:

Harnav

Reception:

Talia and Miller

Year One:

Tilly-Rae and Finley

Year Two:

Kaylee-Anne and Micheal

Year Three:

Roxie and Esmae-Rose

Year Four:

Tyler and Hussain

Year Five:

Evie, Kaydon and Jake

Year Six:

Lacie and Ava



Dying Matters **THE MARY STEVENS HOSPICE** **The Mary Stevens Hospice Open Event**

We welcome everyone from our community to gain insight into the care and services that The Mary Stevens Hospice provides.

As part of the event you are invited to join us in our:

Children's memory making sessions

Children can take part in simple, creative activities to make keepsakes they can take home.

Children should be accompanied by an adult, who is encouraged to join in, support them, and enjoy the activities together. (Booking required)

You can also take part in:

- A tour of our Bereavement Services Lodge
- Talking Cafe (booking required)

221 Hagley Road, Day Services Unit at The Mary Stevens Hospice

Saturday 9th May
Drop in between 10am - 1pm

To register your interest or book onto the activities, visit marjstevenshospice.co.uk or by scanning the QR code.

Dudley Performing Arts is holding a drop in Super Demo evening on Thursday 21st May at Cable Plaza between 16:30 – 19:30 for children interested in starting instrumental lessons.

DPA teachers will be on hand to show you the range of instruments that children can learn, either in school or after school at Cable Plaza. Children can have a go at playing an instrument, find out about singing lessons, meet the teachers and ask any questions you have.



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.





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 day.



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.



Queen Victoria Primary School

Reading at the Heart



Change your story

Reading is not just a good way to fill the time. It has important and far-reaching benefits which go beyond a love of a good book. When children and young people enjoy reading, they are more likely to create a habit and read more often which in turn will help to build vital reading skills and bring with it a wider range of benefits...

Reading for pleasure can help grow empathy

Enjoying books and discovering new perspectives within the pages of a story can be a great way to introduce children to a range of experiences and viewpoints. The more a child reads, the more likely they are to be exposed to new narratives which can help them develop empathy.

A love of reading can build a child's confidence

In fact, National Literacy Trust's research showed that 26.0% of children and young people who read in their free time at least once a month said it helps them to be confident.

Reading for enjoyment can spark imagination...

...and provide escape as well as inspire creativity. Even fantasy can still speak truth to a child about their place in this world.

Reading can expand horizons

A book can provide children with a way to discover new worlds, meet new people and learn about the past. Whether that's through non-fiction books and autobiographies, or books and magazines exploring historical events or figures.



Reading for pleasure can support your child's learning

Recent National Literacy Trust research also revealed that twice as many children and young people who enjoy reading in their free time have above average reading skills than children who don't enjoy it (34.2% vs 15.7%) - reading skills which will support them in their school journeys and beyond.

How much should my child read a day?

It can feel daunting to factor in more time for activities such as reading with your child each day or encourage your child to find time to read on their own in their free time. We know that life is busy for many reasons, with competing priorities on your time. As children get older, they are also more likely to have higher demands on their own time from homework and sports to other activities including simply spending time with friends. We want to encourage you that it is not about the specific length of time a child reads that is significant, although we love the idea of even finding time to take 10 minutes a day to read. Finding ways to make reading fun, fit it into your day-to-day routine and not becoming stressed or overly caught up with the length of time your child spends reading will help build a manageable habit and grow a love of reading, rather than it feeling like a chore.

Grow a love of reading

What you are doing as parents and carers at home has a significant impact on your child. Finding time to read with your children or encouraging your less-than-enthusiastic readers at home to pick up a book can feel like a challenge. However, there are lots of simple, everyday ways you can encourage your children to grow a love of reading.

[See the National Literacy Trust Website for more ideas!](#)

Top Tips for...

MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

GET OUT AND ABOUT

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

TRY A TIMED TRIAL

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

GO DIGITAL DETOX

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

BE MINDFUL OF TIME

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

SWITCH ON DND

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

WIND DOWN PROPERLY

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



DEVICE BOX

The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday