

Friday 15th  
May 2026

# Queen Victoria Primary School Newsletter



## Key Dates

**20th May**—Book Bus

**22nd May**—INSET Day

**18th June**—Year 2 Trip

**26th June**—Careers Day

**6th July**—Y3 Art Exhibition

**6th July**—Class Photographs/  
Individuals catch ups

**7th July**—Year 6 Production at  
Dormston

**14th July**—Y6 Leavers' Party

**15th July**—Y6 Leavers' Trip

**17th July**—Y6 Graduation

**20th July**—INSET Day

**Sports Day**  
**Summer Fair**

### Term Dates

**22nd May**—End of Summer Term 1

**1st June**—Children return to school.

**17th July**—End of Summer Term 2

## This week's News

This week, our Year 6 children completed their SATs tests and we could not be prouder of the attitude they have shown throughout the week. The children approached each day with excellent focus, determination and concentration, demonstrating maturity and resilience from start to finish.

Most importantly, whatever their final results may be, the children should feel incredibly proud of the way they conducted themselves this week. Their effort, attitude and commitment have been fantastic and they have represented our school brilliantly.

Of course, there is still plenty of important work ahead! The children will now continue preparing their writing for teacher assessment, which contributes towards their final outcomes. Alongside this, there is lots still to do as we prepare the children for their exciting transition to secondary school – not to mention the important matter of their end-of-year production!

We would also like to thank the rest of the school community for supporting Year 6 so thoughtfully this week. Children across school helped create a calm environment by remaining settled in classrooms, waiting patiently for later playtimes and moving quietly around school. Your support and cooperation really helped our Year 6 children focus during such an important week.

A huge thank you must also go to our wonderful school staff and catering team who helped provide our free SATs breakfast each morning. It was lovely to see the children starting the day together in such a positive and relaxed way before their tests.

On Friday, Year 6 enjoyed celebrating the end of SATs week with well-earned ice creams! We also held a fantastic 'Fun Friday Festival' at lunchtime, including the Queen Vic Mile challenge. Well done to all of the children who joined in and gave it their best effort whilst running along to the disco tunes – it was wonderful to see so much energy, fun and positivity across the playground!

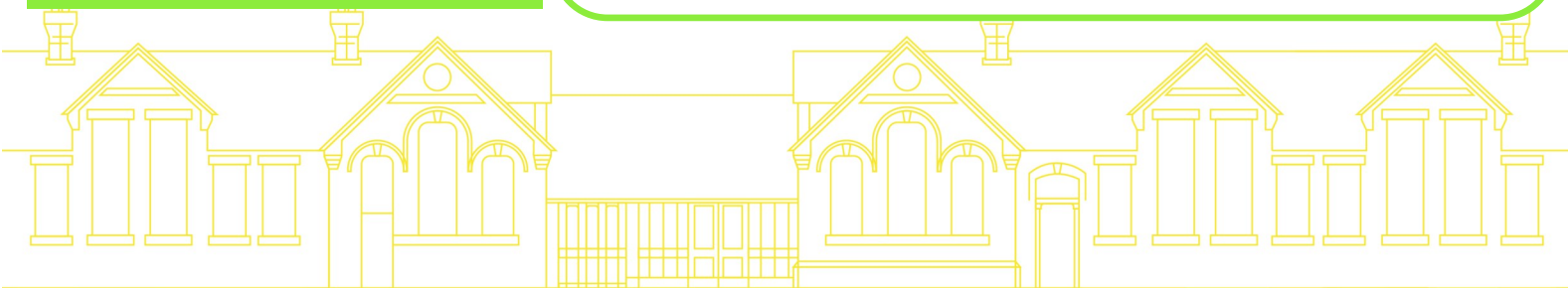
## Notices

### **Book Bus Visit – Wednesday 20th May**

We are pleased that the Book Bus will finally be returning to school next Wednesday. Thank you for your patience whilst we waited for this rearranged date following previous cancellations.

### **INSET Day and Half Term Reminder**

Please remember that next Friday is an INSET Day and school will be closed to pupils. Children will break up for May half term on Thursday 21st May and return to school on Monday 1st June.



# Queen Victoria Primary School Attendance



## Attendance Matters!

We are absolutely delighted to celebrate the best attendance we have seen across the last two weeks this year – what a fantastic achievement by our children and families!

A huge thank you for your continued support in ensuring children are in school every day, on time and ready to learn. The improvement in attendance across school has been brilliant to see and shows what we can achieve when we work together. Let's keep this momentum going and make excellent attendance the norm for the rest of the term!

## Friday Festival Success!

Our Friday Festival has been a huge success and the Queen Victoria Mile was a fantastic way to end the week together. It was amazing to see children across the school encouraging one another, showing determination and teamwork as they completed the mile and proudly received their medals. The atmosphere around school was wonderful and the children thoroughly enjoyed the event.

A huge thank you to staff and families for supporting these events and helping us make attendance something we celebrate together.

Look out for next week's Festival fun – there is still lots more excitement to come!

## Great Attendance Across School

Congratulations to all classes who achieved strong attendance this week. Every day in school matters and helps children succeed both academically and socially.

**School Attendance this week: 95.27%**

## Class Attendance

	Attendance (%)
RD	91
RF	100
1S	91.9
1P	98.2
2J	93.3
2O	94.5
3B	93.8
3M	98.2
4CB	95.6
4P	96.7
5H	91.8
5S	95.8
5M	91.7
6C	95.3
6H	100

Thank you once again to all families for supporting our drive to improve attendance across school. Together, we can continue building a culture where every day counts!



**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:

Willow

#### Reception:

Ethan and Archie

#### Year One:

Irsa and Arabella

#### Year Two:

Casian and Daisy-May

#### Year Three:

Alfie and Lacey-May

#### Year Four:

Lola and Rejoice

#### Year Five:

Lauren, Leighla and Phoebe

#### Year Six:

6C and 6H





## Notices



### Dudley Performing Arts Super Demo Evening!

Thursday May 21st - 4.30pm -7pm  
Cable Plaza, Waterfront West,  
Brierley Hill, DY5 1LW

Would you like to learn a musical instrument but unsure which one?  
Why not come along and see what's on offer?

- See and hear the different instruments.
- Try out instruments you are interested in.
- Meet the teachers.
- Find out about music lessons in school or at Cable Plaza.
- Ask any questions you may have.

No need to book, just turn up.  
Any further questions contact [dpa.cs@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:dpa.cs@dudley.gov.uk)  
or phone 01384 813865



### TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

# BATTLE OF THE BANDS

## QUEEN VICTORIA ROCKERS!

FEATURING

1P, 1S, 2J, 2O, 3B, 3M, 4CB, 4P, 5H, 5M, 5S, 6H, 6C

08:45 6 MAY 2026 - 12:00 5 JUNE 2026

- ANSWER AS MANY QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE
- PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE
- WINNING GROUP WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER PLAYER
- ASK YOUR TEACHER FOR FULL DETAILS AND RULES



# 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!](#)

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## ENCOURAGING HEALTHY FRIENDSHIPS

Navigating the complexities of childhood and adolescent friendships can be challenging – but with the right guidance, children and young people can cultivate meaningful, supportive relationships, some of which may last for many years. These top tips provide a comprehensive approach to fostering healthy friendships among children and young people. It's important to remember, however, that each child is different, and will require an individual approach to relationship support.

### 1 GRANT FRIENDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Encouraging children and young people to join extracurricular activities can foster healthy friendships by providing shared interests and common ground. Engaging in these pastimes offers a platform for interaction, sometimes alleviating the social pressure of knowing what to say, and helps children develop meaningful connections.

### 2 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

The children and young people in our lives see how we behave, the connections that we've made and the interactions between us and others. When we model healthy friendships, we set an example and help youngsters to understand what healthy friendships looks like and how to navigate them.

### 3 HELP THEM LOVE THEMSELVES

Healthy friendships aren't just about dynamics with other people. They're about our relationship with ourselves. For overall wellbeing, it's important for a child to have the space to build their self-esteem and a positive self-image, as these factors can have a notable influence on the friendships they form throughout life.

### 4 MONITOR SCREEN TIME

Too much screen time can affect some children's wellbeing in general, but it can specifically impact friendships if it results in fewer positive social interactions. In some cases, reducing screen time and encouraging children and young people to find ways to interact face-to-face can have positive results. It's also important to remember that young people can make positive friendships online, but they will require support to do this safely.

### 5 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING

Inevitably, friendships can run into problems. However, this is also an opportunity to support children and young people to work through any difficulties that may arise. It can be tempting to intervene and try to fix these issues for those involved, but helping them consider ways of resolving conflict or managing difficult situations for themselves can help them create stronger friendships.

### 6 EMPOWER THE CHILD

When we give children and young people the confidence to choose their friends, navigate interpersonal boundaries and consider how they want to interact with the different people around them, we empower them to take control of the friendships they have. When young people feel in control of these things, they're more likely to make positive choices and remain aware of the signs of a negative relationship.

### 7 TEACH EMPATHY

'Healthy friendships' doesn't always mean 'perfect.' Sometimes, disagreements can happen. When we teach children and young people to have empathy, we help them to see both sides of a relationship; to be mindful of the challenges a friend might be facing or whatever else might be going on. This can help children and young people to build stronger friendships.

### 8 BE OPEN TO QUESTIONS

Talking to young people about their friendships, who they spend time with and who they interact with can open the door to questions if they have concerns. Initially, these queries may be straightforward, but if we are receptive to discussion from the outset, young people are more likely to come to us for help when they are older as well.

### 9 UNDERSTAND BOUNDARIES

One of the keys to a healthy friendship is honouring boundaries. This can include anything from respecting personal space and belongings to acceptable language and behaviour. Understanding the importance of setting these limits and upholding those set by others can help children stay safe. If young people figure out their boundaries and feel comfortable enforcing them, they're more likely to call someone out if they go too far.

### 10 SPOT THE SIGNS

We can't always supervise young people: sometimes, we need to step back and give them some space. However, it's important to consider any indicators that they may be struggling in their friendships. Are they becoming increasingly irritable? Does their behaviour alter when they've been with their friends? Are they becoming withdrawn or reluctant to take part in certain activities? These could all be signs that they're finding things difficult, and we should remain alert to such changes.

## Meet Our Expert

Becky Dawson is an experienced educator who has worked in primary and secondary schools for 20 years. She is a facilitator, consultant and coach working with young people and the adults who work with them, with a focus on developing understanding and skills around mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College