

Friday 17th July
2026

Queen Victoria Primary School Newsletter



Key Dates

20th July—INSET Day

Term Dates

17th July— End of Summer Term 2

Tuesday 1st September—INSET Day
(school closed)

Wednesday 2nd September—INSET
DAY (school closed)

Thursday 3rd September—Children
back to school

Friday 4th September—Our first
Festival Friday of the year

23rd & 24th September—Harvest
collection

Friday 23rd October—Kidz Fit day



This Week's News

And just like that, another school year has come to an end! As the children finished for the summer holidays on Friday, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for your support throughout the year. Whether you've attended school events, helped with homework, supported our fundraising or simply encouraged your child each day, your partnership makes a real difference.

This has been a year filled with so many highlights. Our children have worked incredibly hard, embraced new opportunities and continued to make us proud every single day. It has also been a memorable year for our school, and one that we will look back on with great pride.

To our Year 6 children, thank you for the wonderful contribution you've made to Queen Victoria Primary School. You've been fantastic role models for our younger children and we know you'll continue to do amazing things as you move on to secondary school. Good luck—you'll always be part of the Queen Vic family!

The end of the school year also means saying goodbye to some much-loved members of staff.

After many years at Queen Victoria, Mrs Pedley begins a very well-earned retirement. We thank her for everything she has done for our children and school community over the years and wish her a long, happy and relaxing retirement.

We also say goodbye to Mrs Hall, who starts an exciting new chapter in September as Headteacher of another primary school. We know she'll do an amazing job, and we're incredibly grateful for everything she has contributed to Queen Victoria over the years.

Finally, we wish Miss Oakley and Miss Scott every success as they move on to new opportunities. Thank you both for your dedication, kindness and the positive impact you've had on the children during your time here.

We know you'll all be missed, and we wish each of you the very best for the future.

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer break. Have a fantastic holiday, enjoy making special memories together and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Thursday 3rd September**, refreshed and ready for another exciting year.



More News

Year 6 Puberty Session

On Monday, our Year 6 children took part in a puberty session led by our School Nursing Team. As part of our Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) curriculum, the session helped prepare children for the changes they experience as they grow up. It was delivered in a calm, supportive way, giving children the opportunity to ask questions and build their understanding ahead of starting secondary school.

themselves into the experience with huge enthusiasm. There was plenty of imaginative play, teamwork and laughter, making it a brilliant way to round off the school year for our youngest children.



Reception Road Safety

Our Reception children enjoyed a road safety workshop on Tuesday, learning how to stay safe when out and about. Through fun activities and discussion, they explored how to cross roads safely and recognise potential dangers. These are such important life skills, and the children represented the school brilliantly throughout the session.

Year 2 – Sewing in Design & Technology

Our Year 2 children have been busy developing their sewing skills in Design & Technology, creating some fantastic finger puppets. Many of the children chose to bring their favourite characters from The Enormous Crocodile to life, showing great creativity alongside their growing confidence with sewing techniques. The finished puppets looked brilliant, and we're sure they'll inspire plenty of storytelling over the summer!



Adventure Street Visits Queen Victoria

Wednesday brought a real treat for our Nursery and Reception children as Adventure Street transformed our school hall into a fantastic role-play village.

From running shops and cafés to taking on different community roles, the children threw



Farewell Year 6!



Tuesday – Year 6 Leavers' Party

On Tuesday evening, our Year 6 children enjoyed their leavers' party—a chance to celebrate the end of their time at Queen Victoria together. There was plenty of pizza, chips, music and

dancing, making for a fantastic evening full of laughter and happy memories.

One of the loveliest things about the evening was seeing every child celebrate in their own way. Some arrived looking ready for the red carpet, dressed in suits and party dresses, while others came in shorts and T-shirts, happy to be comfortable. Some spent the evening dancing with friends, others sang along to every song, and some simply enjoyed chatting and soaking up the atmosphere.

There was no expectation to fit in or be anyone other than themselves—and that's exactly what made the evening so special. Seeing our children feeling confident to celebrate in the way that suited them best was a wonderful reminder of

the inclusive and caring community we have at Queen Victoria. It was a fantastic way to mark the end of their primary school journey together.



Wednesday – Year 6 Safari Park Trip

Our Year 6 children enjoyed their end-of-year visit to West Midlands Safari Park on Wednesday. They loved seeing some of the animals, but if you ask them what the highlight of the day was, I think most would say the rides! It was a fantastic day and a well-deserved opportunity for the children to celebrate everything they've achieved together before heading off to secondary school.

Friday – Year 6 Graduation

We finished the week by celebrating our Year 6 Graduation at Sedgley Community Church. Thank you to everyone who joined us to celebrate this special milestone. It was lovely to look back on the children's time at Queen Victoria and celebrate everything they have achieved before wishing them every success for the future. This week also brought the children's Key Stage 2 SATs results. We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils. The results reflect the hard work, determination and resilience they have shown throughout the year, and they should all be proud of the progress they have made during their time with us.



A message from Mrs Hall



As I leave Queen Victoria after 19 wonderful years, I just wanted to say a heartfelt thank you to all of the children, parents, carers and staff who have made my time here so incredibly special.

There have been many highs and lows along the way, but it is because of the wonderful people I have worked alongside, the amazing children I have had the privilege to teach and support, and the opportunities I have been given that I now feel ready to take the next step in my career as a Headteacher.

I wasn't able to say everything I wanted to in assembly today, as saying goodbye was much harder than I ever imagined. So, to all of the children, thank you. Thank you for making me smile every day, for making me laugh, for challenging me to be a better teacher and leader, and for reminding me why I chose this profession all those years ago. It has been an absolute privilege to watch so many of you grow, achieve and flourish.

Queen Victoria will always hold a very special place in my heart, and I know that for many years to come I will be sharing stories from my time here. Although I am walking out of the school gates for the last time, the memories I have made here will stay with me forever. Every child, every family and every member of staff has played a part in my journey, and I will always be grateful for that.

Thank you for 19 unforgettable years. I wish each and every one of you every happiness and success for the future.

With my very best wishes,

Mrs Hall



Thank You

to our amazing colleagues
who are leaving!

♥ From us all at Queen Victoria ♥

Good Luck Mrs Hall!

Love from
us all
at Queen Victoria



Happy Retirement Mrs Pedley!

Love from
us all
at Queen Victoria



To Miss Oakley

From us all at Queen Victoria



To Miss Scott

From us all at Queen Victoria



♥ Thank you for everything! ☆

Queen Victoria Primary School

Attendance



Class Attendance This Week

	Attendance (%)
RD	88
RF	98
1S	89.2
1P	9.5
2J	86.9
2O	89
3B	85
3M	87.9
4CB	93.7
4P	92.1
5H	91.4
5S	91.7
5M	91.3
6C	89.1
6H	98

Attendance Matters

Congratulations to Reception F and Year 6H, who both finished the year with an excellent 98% attendance. What a fantastic way to end the academic year!

As we head into the summer holidays, we'd like to thank all of our families for supporting good attendance throughout the year. Every day in school really does make a difference.

Looking Ahead to September

September is a fresh start for every child. One of the best ways to help your child have a successful start to the new school year is to make sure they are in school from the very first day. Research shows that children who miss school in the opening weeks of September are more likely to develop poor attendance patterns across the rest of the year. The habits children develop in the first few weeks of September often continue throughout the rest of the year. A strong start helps children establish routines, settle quickly and build confidence for the months ahead.

Learning starts from day one, and we want every child to begin the year feeling confident, included and ready to succeed.

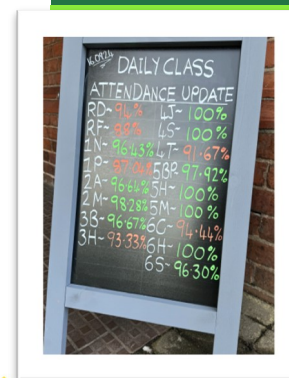
The first week back isn't just about learning - it's about belonging. Children reconnect with friends, get to know their new classmates and teachers, learn classroom routines and become part of their new class community. Being there from the very beginning helps children feel settled, confident and ready to learn.

The first few days of school are some of the busiest of the year. Teachers introduce new routines, explain expectations and begin new learning immediately. Missing these early days can make it harder for children to catch up, even after just a day or two.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another fantastic year at Queen Victoria Primary!

School Attendance this week: 91.23%

**Keep checking
the attendance
boards each
week!**



Queen Victoria Primary School

Notices



DBleisure

School holiday
activities | DB
Leisure

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Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

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We are working with Dudley Performing Arts (DPA) to provide music lessons in school. Dudley Performing Arts offer high-quality instrumental tuition from specialist music teachers. Group lessons are available for just £10 per week and individual lessons for £14 per week. Lessons are offered on a wide range of instruments making it easy for every child to find something they will enjoy.

Learning an instrument is not only enjoyable and rewarding, but it also supports children's wellbeing by building confidence, resilience and creativity. Music lessons can enhance concentration and listening skills all of which can have a positive impact on achievement across the wider curriculum. To find out more and enrol for lessons starting in September, visit the Dudley Performing Arts website:

<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/things-to-do/dudley-performing-arts/information-for-parents-and-young-people/music-lessons-in-schools/>

FAMILY FUN DAY

Ellowes Hall Sports College
DY3 2JH

FREE picnic | Bible story | Fun activities & craft

TUESDAY, 4TH AUG | 10AM-1 PM

SCAN QR CODE TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING CHILDREN GOING BACK TO SCHOOL

Returning to school after the summer holidays can be both exciting and daunting for children of all ages. Different routines, classes, schools, and academic pressures can cause anxiety or uncertainty. Parents play a vital role in easing this transition. This guide will help you support your child emotionally, mentally, and practically as they return to school.

1 RE-ESTABLISH ROUTINES

Gradually shift back to school-time routines a week or two before term starts. Regular bedtimes, wake-up times, and mealtimes can help children feel more secure and reduce the shock of change when school begins. Having a routine creates predictability and stability, helping to reduce anxiety while improving sleep and concentration.

2 TALK ABOUT FEELINGS

Encourage open conversations with children about their feelings. Ask them how they feel about returning to school, such as what they're looking forward to and anything they might be feeling unsure or worried about. Validating their emotions can help reduce anxiety and show them it's okay to talk about their emotional wellbeing.

3 SUPPORT WITH SLEEP

Children need adequate sleep for concentration, brain function, memory, and emotional regulation. Establish a wind-down routine without screens at least an hour before bed, and encourage relaxing activities like reading or listening to calming music.

4 LOOK OUT FOR SIGNS

Some children hide their anxiety. Watch for changes in their behaviour, such as withdrawal, stomach aches, and irritability. If worries persist, speak with their teacher or the pastoral team early to ensure your child receives support.

5 REFRESH SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

Help children reconnect with school friends by arranging playdates or video chats in the week before school starts. Familiar faces and social interactions help the transition and provide emotional comfort on that first day back.

6 CREATE A CALM MORNING

Mornings set the tone for the day. Plan ahead with a consistent morning routine that allows time for breakfast, getting dressed, and talking calmly about the day. Avoid last-minute rushing to reduce stress for everyone.

7 FOCUS ON POSITIVES

Talk about the fun and interesting parts of school – seeing friends, favourite subjects, or exciting activities. One simple but powerful change parents can make is swapping “How’s your day been?” for “What’s been good about your day?” This invites more of a positive, open response. Focusing on positives can help shift children’s anxious thoughts and reframe school as a safe and engaging place.

8 VISIT OR VISUALISE SCHOOL

If possible, encourage visits to the school grounds before the first day, especially if it’s a new school. Walking the route or even looking at photos of classrooms and teachers can make the environment feel familiar. The school website is always a great go-to place for this. This is particularly helpful for younger children or those with additional needs.

9 PLAN AHEAD TOGETHER

Involve children in preparing for school – buying supplies, packing their bag, or choosing lunch options. This gives them a sense of control and builds excitement. Use checklists or calendars to prepare together, helping reduce last-minute stress.

10 STAY POSITIVE AND PRESENT

Children pick up on your outlook. Stay calm, positive, and present, especially during drop-offs. Avoid lingering goodbyes, and let them know you’ll be there at pick-up. A consistent, reassuring presence builds their confidence and resilience.

Meet Our Expert

This guide was created by Jo Morton-Brown, an Emotional Health Practitioner with nearly 15 years’ experience supporting children and young people’s mental health. She produces uplifting YouTube content for pupils and trains adults to better support young people’s wellbeing, with a mission to help every child feel valued and understand their emotions.



#WakeUpWednesday®

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