Queen Victoria Primary School

NEWSLETTER

13th November 2026

Key Dates

16th Nov-2H Library visit

16th Nov – Odd Socks Day (Anti-Bullying Week)

18th Nov – Positive Noticing Day (Anti-Bullying Week)

20th Nov – Year 4 SPARKs visit

25th Nov-Year 1 Phonics Workshop Recap

27th Nov – Flu vaccine catch-up session

2nd Dec – Year 3 children's Iron Age workshop

3rd Dec-Year 1 Black Country Museum

4th Dec – INSET Day

10th Dec – Christmas Disco

14th Dec – KS1 Christmas Crafternoon & KS2 Carols on the playground

18th Dec-Last school Day

21st Dec-1st Jan-Christmas Holidays

4th January-Children return to School

This Week's News

On Monday, ten children from Key Stage 2 represented our school at a librarians' conference. It was lovely to see our pupils getting involved in an event that celebrates books and reading. Class 2M also enjoyed a visit to Sedgley Library and enjoyed exploring and choosing books to read.

On Wednesday, we marked Remembrance Day with special assemblies in school. Year 5 visited All Saints Church and joined the local act of remembrance at the war memorial in Sedgley. You can read more about how the children marked the day in our Remembrance feature.

On Thursday, classes joined in with Michael Rosen's Huge Poetry Party, celebrating the fun of sharing poetry aloud.

Thank you to all the Reception parents and carers who came along to our phonics workshop. We hope it gave you a clearer picture of how we teach phonics and some ideas for supporting your child's reading at home. Practising reading little and often is key to building confidence!

On Friday, there was plenty of colour around school as children wore sportswear, yellow and Pudsey outfits for Children in Need. Thank you to everyone who joined in and to those who donated. We also held our attendance tuck shop reward. Well done to all the children who earned a visit!

Have a lovely weekend.

Queen Victoria Primary School

Let's Celebrate!

Celebrating effort, achievement and success



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!

C.A.R.E. AWARD

Care Award Winners This Week

Nursery
Lyla-Rae

Reception
Sidney
Ivy

Year One
Zayyan
Isla

Year Two
Kaiden
Toby

Year Three
Bhuvit
Leia

Year Four
Aliha
Esmee

Year Five
Ava-Rose
Darcy-Mae

Year Six
Rayyanne
Phoebe
Mylo

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Attendance

Every day counts. Every lesson matters

Congratulations to RP, 4S and 5BR, our attendance champions this week. Well done to all three classes!

This week, our whole-school attendance was the lowest it's been so far this school year. Let's give it a boost next week! Please help your child be in school every day they're well enough to attend, so they can join in with all the learning and lovely things happening at Queen Victoria.



Class Attendance

Class	Attendance %
RD	94.8
RP	97.1
1J	82
1T	96.7
2H	96.1
2M	90.7
3B	92.9
3C	95.4
4P	90.7
4S	94.8
5BR	94.8
5S	92.4
6C	92.7
6H	85.7
6M	93.3



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Children In Need 2026









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Librarian Conference Visit

Zines, Book Displays and ‘True or Poo?’

On Monday 9th November, some of our children represented Queen Victoria Primary School at the Pupil Librarian Conference at Midlands Arts Centre in Birmingham. What an amazing day they had!

The children made their own mini-magazines, known as *zines* with Birmingham illustrator Layla Sadiq. They got creative with Wolverhampton Schools Library Service, making colourful book displays to tempt readers to pick up a comic or graphic novel. They also explored how to give pupils a greater say in their school library with the National Literacy Trust and gave some brilliant interviews about their work.

A highlight was meeting author Adam Kay and illustrator Henry Paker, the team behind the *Dexter Proctor* series. The children joined in with a hilarious game of ‘True or Poo?’ and were lucky enough to come home with goodie bags and free books, one signed by Adam Kay!

Every one of our children did us proud. We can’t wait to see which ideas they bring back to our school library!



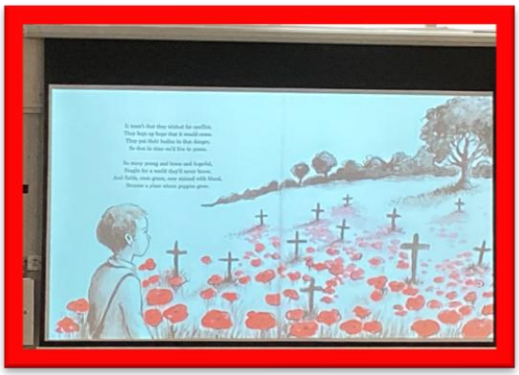
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Remembrance

On Wednesday, every child made a poppy and brought it to their Remembrance assembly. The children learnt a special song for the occasion, and we took time together to think about those who lost their lives in conflict, and the people and families affected by war.

It was lovely to see children wearing their Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts uniforms, as well as uniforms from other groups. Well done to everyone who took part in local Remembrance parades on Sunday, too.

Year 5 also visited All Saints Church and joined the local community in paying their respects at the war memorial in Sedgley.









Queen Victoria Primary School

Starting School?



If you know a family looking for a Nursery or Reception place, we'd love you to tell them about Queen Victoria Primary School and pass on the adverts below. A personal recommendation from one of our families means a great deal, so thank you for helping us spread the word!



Queen Victoria Primary School

Notices





QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL

TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS

Ready
Respectful
Safe

How to use Times Tables Rockstars
A guide for parents

Times Tables Rockstars (TTRS) is a fun, online platform that helps children learn and practise their times tables. It builds confidence, speed and accuracy – skills that support maths across the curriculum.

1 Log in

Go to **www.ttrockstars.com** and log in with your child's school username and password.



2 Choose a mode

Your child can practise in different ways, including:

Garage
Learn the tables at your own pace.

Studio
Quick fire practise with a focus on speed.

Soundcheck
Answer questions in a set time.

Jamming
Play against other children and earn coins.

3 Track progress

You can check your child's progress on the parent page. See how many coins they earn, which tables they're practising and celebrate their achievements!



4 Make it part of your routine

Aim for short, regular sessions
Just 5–10 minutes a day can make a big difference.

Choose a good time
e.g. after school, at the weekend or before bed.

Encourage and praise
Celebrate effort and progress, not just scores.

Top tips for success

- Let your child choose their own times tables to practise.
- Try the different game modes to keep it fun and fresh.
- Look for their coins and certificates – they love them!
- Encourage them to challenge friends and classmates.
- Remind them that 10 minutes a day really does make a difference!



Aspiration, Excellence and Responsibility!



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ADVERTISEMENTS AIMED AT CHILDREN

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Children are particularly vulnerable to the persuasive effects of advertising because of their still-developing critical thinking and impulse control skills. Children are regularly and passively exposed to advertising online, whether through influencers, paid advertisements, or sponsored content. Although 92% of 12–17-year-olds felt confident recognising online advertising, only 37% correctly identified sponsored adverts in search results.

INFLUENCER MARKETING

Influencers are an increasingly prominent part of children's online experiences, with four in ten 3–17 year olds who watch online videos reporting that they watch influencer content as entertainment. Influencers can appear credible, relatable, trustworthy and aspirational. Although seven in ten 12–17 year olds recognised a paid partnership, some believed products were promoted because influencers liked or thought they were 'cool'.

PARENTAL PRESSURE TO PURCHASE

Children's exposure to online advertising can pressure parents to buy products they see advertised. When told no, children may feel upset, treated unfairly or left out when comparing themselves with peers. With children potentially seeing up to 40,000 adverts a year, parents cannot meet every request. This can lead to arguments and put strain on family relationships.

UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

Advertising often focuses on the positive effects of a product, which can create unrealistic expectations among young people. Children may be particularly susceptible to these claims when they do not recognise the persuasive intent behind them. They may be more likely to believe that a cream will 'transform' their skin, clothing will help them fit in, or protein powders will quickly build muscle. Repeated exposure to adverts such as beauty content can normalise unrealistic expectations and create material dissatisfaction or body image concerns.

HARMFUL ADVERTISING

Children can encounter online advertising through games, videos, social media and links, meaning they may see content that is inappropriate for their age. This can include products or messages that influence attitudes towards body image, health or behaviours such as gambling. Repeated exposure to beauty content can normalise adult-oriented beauty routines and psychological pressure.

UNINTENDED PURCHASES

Online advertising can encourage young people to make purchases. Ofcom found that 58% of 8–17 year olds had spent money online, with 27% saying adverts encouraged them to spend and 22% influenced by influencer content. Despite this, a third of the children regretted an in-game purchase, while almost half said they were unclear about what they were buying. This can lead to children spending more than intended or making purchases without fully understanding the cost or product, adding pressure on parents to spend.

LACK OF ADVERTISING TRANSPARENCY

Advertising is not always obvious to children, particularly when influencers promote brands, products or services without clearly stating that it is an advert, or when advertising is embedded within entertaining content and uses positive language. Children may not realise that the adverts are promoting something, making the recommendation seem more trustworthy and more influential.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TEACH CHILDREN HOW TO SPOT ADS

Help children to recognise when content is trying to sell them something. Teach them to look for signs such as '#ad', 'sponsored', 'paid partnership' as well as promo codes or product links attached. Explain to your child that these adverts can be embedded within videos, social media posts, games or influencer posts and are not always obvious to identify. Helping children recognise these advertisements can make them less likely to be influenced by them.

ENSURE PAYMENT DETAILS ARE LOCKED DOWN

Avoid saving your bank card details on children's devices, games or apps wherever possible. This can help reduce the risk of children making accidental or impulsive purchases following seeing an advert. Check the purchasing settings on games and social media accounts and use parental controls or purchase approval settings where possible. Talk to your child about the importance of asking before making a purchase online.

DEVELOP CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

It is important to encourage children to question what they see online rather than automatically believing it. Encourage them to stop and think before clicking. Have them ask themselves, 'Why am I seeing this?' and 'What are they trying to get me to want/buy?'. Remind them that adverts and influencers only highlight the positive aspects of a product. By developing these skills, children will begin to recognise, question, and respond to manipulative marketing practices.

ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

While it is important to set age restrictions on games and social media, inappropriate adverts can still slip through. Talk regularly with your child about adverts or influencer content they see online. Open communication makes it easier for your child to come to you if they have any questions about products or inappropriate content. It also helps you understand what your child is being exposed to online and where they may need support.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Claire Sutherland is an education consultant and digital safety expert, with a background in primary teaching. She combines her PhD research in cyberbullying with hands-on experience, delivering impactful digital wellbeing workshops and policies for schools across Australia and now in the UK.



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Summer Holidays – Planning Ahead!



With the summer holidays fast approaching, we know many families are beginning to think about next year's holidays.

We understand that family time is incredibly important, but taking holidays during term time can have a significant impact on your child's learning, friendships and confidence.

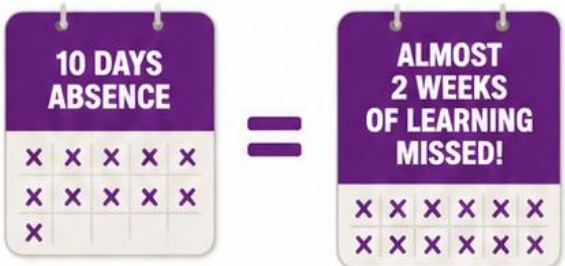
If you're looking to make your holiday budget go further, here are a few ideas that could help without your child missing valuable time in school.

TOP 10 MONEY SAVING TIPS — FOR CHEAPER HOLIDAYS —

1. **BE FLEXIBLE WITH YOUR DATES**
   Prices are often much cheaper at the very beginning or end of the school holidays rather than during the peak weeks.
2. **TRAVEL MID-WEEK**
   Flights on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays are often cheaper than weekend departures.
3. **COMPARE PRICES**
   Use comparison websites such as Skyscanner, Google Flights or Kayak to compare prices and set up price alerts.
4. **CONSIDER DIFFERENT AIRPORTS OR DESTINATIONS**
   Flying from a nearby airport or choosing a less popular destination can sometimes save hundreds of pounds.
5. **THINK ABOUT SELF-CATERING**
   Apartments and holiday parks can often be more affordable than hotels, especially for families.
6. **USE LOYALTY POINTS AND CASHBACK**
   Supermarket reward schemes, cashback websites and credit card rewards can all help reduce the overall cost.
7. **COMPARE ALL-INCLUSIVE WITH SELF-CATERING**
   Depending on your family's needs, either option could offer the best value.
8. **BOOK EARLY (BUT NOT TOO EARLY!)**
   For popular destinations, booking 8–12 months in advance can lock in better prices. For last-minute deals, 4–6 weeks before travel can sometimes be cheaper if operators are trying to fill seats.
9. **TRAVEL WITH FRIENDS OR FAMILY**
   Renting a villa together or splitting costs (car hire, food, pool) can work out much cheaper than booking individually.
10. **WATCH OUT FOR HIDDEN COSTS**
    Check baggage charges, transfers, resort fees and airport parking before booking so there are no surprises.

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

Just 10 days of absence across the school year is almost **two weeks** of learning missed.



Good attendance helps children build **confidence**, maintain **friendships** and **achieve their very best.**

WHEN YOUR CHILD ATTENDS SCHOOL EVERY DAY, THEY BENEFIT FROM:

- **CONSISTENT LEARNING AND PROGRESS**
  They don't miss out on important teaching and build on their knowledge every day.
- **STRONG FRIENDSHIPS AND ROUTINES**
  Being in school helps children feel included, supported and part of the team.
- **IMPROVED CONFIDENCE AND WELLBEING**
  Good attendance builds self-esteem and helps children feel happy and secure.
- **THE BEST CHANCE OF ACHIEVING THEIR POTENTIAL**
  Every day in school is another step towards success and a bright future.

We're here to help!

If you need any support with attendance or have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher or contact the school office.

HERO: EVERY DAY READY ON TIME — HERO — TO SUCCEED

MISS SCHOOL, MISS OUT!

Thank you for working with us to make attendance a priority. Together, we can give every child the best possible start. ♡

CHILDREN FIRST ★ ASPIRATION ★ RESPONSIBLE ★ EXCELLENCE

Every child is worthy and capable of success and happiness.