

# Victoria Road Newsletter June & July 2024

This has been my first full year as Head of School at Victoria Road and I have continued to love every minute. Your children have worked incredibly hard, aimed high and never fail to make me feel proud. We've had trips, events, Ofsted, competitions and your children have been a credit to you all so I would like to thank parents and carers for your continued support.

I would also like to thank all of the staff and governors at Victoria Road Primary School for their enthusiasm and dedication in taking the school through a journey of improvement. Very often they go above and beyond their roles to ensure we give our children the best education and opportunities possible.

Sadly, we will be saying goodbye to two of our support staff members at the end of this school year. Mrs Katrina Pilling has worked at Victoria Road since 2017 and Miss Rebecca Bellis has worked here since 2016. They are both leaving to pursue other opportunities and will be very much missed by all children and staff. Both have supported your children in the classrooms to develop their education. In addition, Mrs Pilling has also given valuable pastoral support through her ELSA sessions and Miss Bellis has successfully run the breakfast club. We all wish them lots of luck in the future and would love them to keep in touch.

Future dates for July 2024 are:

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Year 6 party 4pm – 5.30pm (see additional letter).

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Green house non-uniform day. Winners of Summer term 2.

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 leavers & Celebration Assembly in the morning 9am – 9.45am.

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – Ice cream van at school 11am – 12.00 (see additional letter).

**School will close at 1:15pm on the last day of term (24<sup>th</sup> July).  
Please note that there will be no Afterschool Club that day.**

Future dates for September 2024 are:

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 – Staff INSET day

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Staff INSET day.

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September – Welcome back. Children return to school. Reception staggered start.

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September – Children's disco 4.30pm – 5.30pm. More details to follow.

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September - LAC governors meeting – 4.30pm – 6.30pm (please let us know if you would like to become a parent governor).

Thank you for your continued support  
Sue Minor (Head of School)  
head@victoriaroad.cheshire.sch.uk

## **AFTER SCHOOL AND BREAKFAST CLUB PROVISION**

Due to low demand for the 7:30am slot, Breakfast will open from 8am starting September 2024 and will be ran by Miss T Jones. Please book sessions in advance via the school office (phone, email or in person). Payments are to be made via parent pay or cash.

Breakfast club will increase as follows:

- 8:00am - £3.00 – breakfast included

After school club will increase as follows:

- Short After School Club (until 4:15pm) £4.00 – small snack and drink included
- Long After School Club (until 5:55pm) £8.50 – full snack and drink provided

## Summer water safety

Accidents are mostly preventable with the correct knowledge and judgment and here are our tips to staying safe in the water during the summer:

To enjoy the water safely and make the right call...

- Enter slowly and carefully  
Think carefully about your ability to splash or swim in cold outdoor water. 49% of those who lost their life were classified as swimmers\*. Are you really a good swimmer?
- Stay within reach  
Don't go too far and stay within a standing depth.
- Always be supervised  
Over 70% of fatal accidents occur in the absence of professional supervision. Seek life guarded areas and always make sure some one is available to raise the alarm.

Summer is an amazing time to enjoy our beautiful waterways but we must be mindful that warmer weather is directly linked to an increase in fatal drowning incidents.

Rivers and Lakes/Lochs pose the greatest statistical risk as there are often hazards that the average person is equipped to handle and there is a lack of professional supervision.

### In an emergency...

- Call 999  
Ask for the Fire and Rescue Service when Inland and the Coastguard if at the coast. Don't enter the water to rescue.
- If you're in trouble FLOAT and call for help  
Fall in or become tired – stay calm, float on your back and call for help. Throw something that floats to somebody that has fallen in.



# GOAL FREE Friday

## football Sessions

# ARE BACK

Professionally run by the Cheshire FA Coaches

**2nd August , 9th August**  
**16th August , 23rd August** For Ages **10-15YRS**  
**30th August**  
**6pm - 7pm**

Cheshire FA 3G Pitch , Moss Farm Leisure  
Complex  
CW8 4BG

To book contact - [Lee.robertson@cheshire.police.uk](mailto:Lee.robertson@cheshire.police.uk)  
with subject heading - FOOTBALL SESSIONS

We understand that there can be health problems, but:

Don't believe that the 'odd day off can't harm.' Research carried out on the effects of broken weeks and achievement is astounding. A student can have 95% attendance but still have 10 broken weeks! Hugely detrimental to a pupil's learning, leaving big gaps in knowledge!

- Try to judge how 'severe' the pupil's illness is. Do they really need to stay at home?
- How many of them are better by lunchtime? Send them back to school!
- If a pupil has an extended or intermittent but persistent condition, contact the attendance officers and arrange a meeting to set up a supportive action plan. There are lots we can offer to do, to prevent a pupil missing education.
- Non-urgent doctor, dental appointments and check-ups should be made outside school time – school finishes at 15:15.
- If an appointment must be set in school time, absence will only be authorised for a reasonable margin of time. Not half a day to go to local GP/dentist. We understand orthodontic treatments and hospital clinic appointments may take longer. Try to minimise time out of school.
- Try to vary the days of these treatments to avoid missing the same lessons in a cycle.

Pupils need to be in school to maximise their learning and success.



School Attendance aspiration = 96%

School Attendance to 30/06/2024 = 94.13%

Top class year to date = Year 3 / 4 = 94.67%

## UNAUTHORISED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Taking holidays in term time will affect a pupil's schooling as much as any other absence and we expect parents to support school by not taking pupils away in school time. There is no entitlement in law to time off in school time to go on holiday.

School will respond to your request, advising whether the planned absence will be authorised or unauthorised. If the absence is unauthorised and is for 5 consecutive school days or more, a notification will be sent to the Local Authority and you may receive a Fixed Penalty Notice.

*Our full Attendance Policy can be found on our school website.*

The following will not be deemed to be an exceptional circumstance:

- Family holiday
  - Availability of a less expensive holiday.
  - Availability of holiday accommodations.
  - Parent/ Carer working commitments.
  - Holiday pre-booked by another family member.
  - Overlap with the beginning/end of term/half term.
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- With effect from the 19 August 2024, the law changes and Penalty Notices will increase. Penalty charges will be £160 if paid within 28 days reducing to £80 if paid within 21 days per parent/carer per child.
  - The National Framework for Penalty Notices introduces a new national limit of two penalty notices that can now be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling three-year period. If a second Fixed Penalty Notice is issued to the same parent for the same child, within three years of the first Fixed Penalty Notice, the second Fixed Penalty Notice is charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days.
  - Once two Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued, if a third unauthorised leave of absence occurs within a three-year period, the Local Authority is able to move to prosecution immediately.

# Holiday dates 2023 TO 2024

	Date of opening (First day back at school for pupils)	Date of closing (Last day in school for pupils)
<b>2023 Autumn Term</b>	Wednesday 6th September	Friday 20th October
<b>Autumn Term</b>	Monday 30th October	Friday 15th December
<b>2024 Spring Term</b>	Wednesday 3rd January	Thursday 15th February
<b>Spring Term</b>	Monday 26th February	Thursday 28th March
<b>2024 Summer Term</b>	Monday 15th April	Friday 24th May
<b>Summer</b>	Tuesday 4th June	Wednesday 24th July

1:15pm finish

## INSET DAYS 2023-2024

INSET DAY 1 - Monday 4th September 2023

INSET DAY 2 - Tuesday 5th September 2023

INSET DAY 3 - Friday 29th September 2023

INSET DAY 4- Tuesday 2nd January 2024

INSET DAY 5 - Friday 16th February 2024

INSET DAY 6 - Monday 3rd June 2024

## HOLIDAY DATES 2024 TO 2025

	Date of school opening (First day back in school for pupils)	Date of closing (Last day in school for pupils)
<b>2024 Autumn Term</b>	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October
<b>Autumn Term</b>	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December – 1:15pm finish
<b>2025 Spring Term</b>	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>Spring Term</b>	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April - 1:15pm finish
<b>2025 Summer Term</b>	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April (Bank holiday Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April & Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May)	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May
<b>Summer</b>	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July - 1:15pm finish

## INSET DAYS 2024-2025

INSET DAY 1 - Monday 2nd September 2024

INSET DAY 2 - Tuesday 3rd September 2024

INSET DAY 3 - Friday 25th October 2024

INSET DAY 4- Monday 6th January 2025

INSET DAY 5 - Monday 21st July 2025

INSET DAY 6 - Tuesday 22nd July 2025