

Victoria Road Newsletter Autumn 1 2024 (Sept & Oct'24)

After welcoming you back in September'24 our new year's 1-6 and also new starters in Reception have settled in brilliantly this half term.

Our new class names this year are as follows:

Class Name	Year Groups	Staff
Robins	Reception/Year 1	Miss McIntyre & Miss Moore
Wrens	Year 1/Year 2	Mrs Clarke, Miss Breau & Mrs Jevirajasingham
Goldfinches	Year 3/Year 4	Mrs Tatler, Mrs Dodd, Miss Dutton
Starlings	Year 4/Year 5	Mrs Bell, Mrs Dodd & Miss Roberts
Owls	Year 6	Mrs Dodd, Miss Jones, Miss Roberts

We are also pleased to announce that we will be welcoming Miss Batty at the start of November'24 who will support many of your children across the school. She is a teacher and will cover some of the children's classes too.

We have had a busy half term with many events happening. Forest schools have been regularly exploring the outside area and sharing this via our Facebook page. We will rotate the children after Christmas and include more children in this valuable experience.

Year 6 have taken part in their 2-night residential trip to Petty Pool and tried kayaking. This included a trip to Llangollen for the day. They represented the school excellently.

We also had a Halloween Disco to raise school funds and this was supported by our staff and PTA members giving up their own time to make this happen.

Parents/Carers evening was attended by the most families we have had since my arrival. We really appreciate sharing your child's progress and celebrating their achievements with you. Robins was attended by 100% of families, Wrens 89%, Goldfinches 82%, Starlings 87% and Owls 86%.

We are looking forward to the next half term together.

Miss Thompson
Head of School

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

ATTENDANCE



School Attendance
aspiration = 96%

School Attendance
to 15/10/2024 =
93.81%

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.

FUTURE DATES IN AUTUMN 2 (NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2024)

Monday 4th November – Children return to school and Miss Batty starts.

Thursday 7th November – Reception'25 Open Day 1.30-2.30pm

Thursday 7th & 14th November – Year 5 Bikeability Training both days.

Friday 8th November – Orange House non-uniform day (Autumn 1 dojo point winners).

Monday 11th November – 1-minute silence in school 11am for Remembrance Day.

Monday 11th – 15th November – Anti-Bullying week

Friday 15th November – Non-uniform day for all. Monetary donations will be for Children in Need and/or raffle prize donations for School Christmas raffle for school funds.

Monday 18th November – Goldfinches (Y3/4) trip to Weaver Hall all day.

Tuesday 26th November – Starlings (Y4/5) trip to Weaver Hall all day.

Tuesday 26th November – Christmas Bingo 4.30-6.30pm.

Tuesday 3rd December - Children's Flu Nasal Spray in school.

Friday 6th December – Aspire Trust Council with Year 6 school councillors 1-2pm (virtual).

Tuesday 17th December – KS2 (Goldfinches, Starlings & Owls) church rehearsal 1-3pm.

Wednesday 18th December – EYFS & KS1 (Robins & Wrens) Christmas performance in school 2.15-3pm.

Wednesday 18th December – KS2 (Goldfinches, Starlings & Owls) Christmas performance in church 5-6.30pm.

Thursday 19th December – Children's Christmas parties in school. Party clothes/non-uniform can be worn.

Friday 20th December – Celebration Assembly 9am including Christmas Raffle.

Friday 20th December – **School closes at 1.15pm.**

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.
-
- 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 2024 TO 2025

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

INSET DAYS 2024-2025

INSET DAY 1 - Monday 2nd September 2024

INSET DAY 2 - Tuesday 3rd September 2024

TRUST 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

HOLIDAY DATES 2025 TO 2026

	Date of opening (First day back at school for pupils)	Date of closing (Last day in school for pupils)
2025 Autumn Term	Wednesday 3rd September	Thursday 23rd October
Autumn Term	Monday 3rd November	Friday 19th December 1:15pm
2026 Spring Term	Tuesday 6th January	Friday 13th February
Spring Term	Monday 23rd February	Thursday 27th March 1:15pm
2026 Summer Term	Monday 13th April	Friday 22nd May
Summer Term	Tuesday 2nd June	Friday 17th July 1:15pm

INSET DAYS 2025-2026

INSET DAY 1 - Monday 1st September 2025

INSET DAY 2 - Tuesday 2nd September 2025

TRUST INSET DAY - Friday 24th October 2025

INSET DAY 3- Monday 5th January 2026

INSET DAY 4 - Monday 1st June 2026

INSET DAY 5 - Monday 20th July 2026