



Village Voice



DATES

Break for Half Term

Friday 20th October 2017

Back to school

Monday 30th October
2107

Break up for Christmas holidays

Friday 15th December
2017

INSET Days

Monday 18th and Tuesday
19th December 2017

Back to school

Wednesday January 3rd
2018

Future INSET Days

Friday 23rd March 2018

Friday 25th May 2018

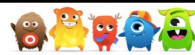
School News

Another school year has begun and the staff and pupils at Village Primary School have been working hard. The children settled quickly back into school after the summer break and the teachers are impressed by their positive attitude to learning.

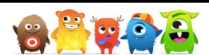


Letters have been sent out for parents/carers to book Parent Consultation appointments. This is your opportunity to discuss the progress your child has made so far this year. You can ask questions about your child's learning and where they are in relation to expected standard. You can also find out ways that you could support their learning at home.

Appointments for KS1 and KS2 will be held during the week commencing Monday 6th November. We are pleased that many of you have already booked your appointment. If you have not yet booked a time to see your child's teacher please return the slip or speak to their class teacher.



Class Dojos



Village Primary School uses the Class Dojo reward system to reward children for good behaviour, working hard and being positive role models. Parents can sign up and receive instant notifications via text message/email that informs them that their child has been rewarded with a Dojo (and what for). We kindly ask that if you haven't yet signed up, please could you speak to your child's teacher about how to do this. It only takes a minute to complete the sign up process. The Dojo system offers a messaging service from which staff can send message reminders about PE kit, reading books or upcoming meetings. If you are not signed up to Class Dojos, you will not receive these important messages.



Information Zone

Attendance and Punctuality



The staff at Village Primary School would like to remind you about the importance of your child attending school and being on time each day. In our celebration assemblies, the children are informed of their class attendance levels in our Attendance Race. We encourage the children to remind parents/carers that pupils need to attend school each day and arrive in plenty of time for the start of morning registration.

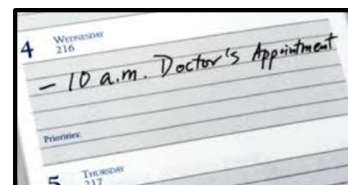
Our Attendance Officer reports that there has been an improvement in the school's attendance levels and more children are arriving on time each day. Please help us to improve this further by getting your child/children to school on time and encouraging them to attend school even if they feel a little bit under the weather. Village Primary has an excellent first aid team that will contact you if your child becomes too unwell to stay at school. They will care for them until you are able to arrive to collect them.

Thank you for your continued support in our drive to improve attendance and punctuality at Village primary School.

Medical Appointments

Polite Reminder

Please try and make any medical appointments for your child/children outside of school learning hours. We understand that this is not always possible, but if you wish to take your child out of school for a medical appointment, we ask that you bring their appointment confirmation letter/email. This allows us to arrange for your child to be sent from their class at the correct time.



Children should not be taken out of school for appointments that are not theirs-for example an appointment for a sibling or parent. We kindly ask that you endeavour to arrange appointments in any of the 13 weeks of school holidays, and not in term time wherever possible.

This newsletter is published on our Federation Website

alvastonjandvillagefed.co.uk/village-primary-school

Copies will also be displayed in the Entrance of school. If you would like more information about anything published in this newsletter please contact the school office.



Information Zone

Parent and Pupil Forums



At the end of September, the first Parent Forum was held where parents could speak to members of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss their views of the school. Thank you to those that attended- we greatly value that you took the time to share your opinions. Many positive things were discussed as well as things you would like the school to improve.

Changes are being organised and we hope you will see these in place soon. One change that has already been put in place is the way parents/carers collect children from the Year 1 building. This has been altered to ensure that children can be safely and quickly sent out to the adult who is collecting them. These changes have had a positive impact so far and we thank the Year 1 parents/carers for their co-operation. If you would like to attend the next Parent Forum Meeting it is on Tuesday 12th of December at 2.15pm. A reminder will also be sent out using the Class Dojo messaging system.



A Pupil Forum was also held a couple of days later and pupils were asked to share their opinions about Village Primary School. The children who were asked to attend impressed Mrs Beeston with their mature and sensible attitudes. The next Pupil Forum meeting will be held next half term.

Harvest Assembly



To celebrate Harvest, Year 1 performed the story of the Enormous Turnip in an assembly to other pupils and to parents/carers. The children acted and sang beautifully and the staff were so proud of how well they performed. In the story, the turnip was so large that there was enough to share with the whole village. The story really helped to show the meaning of Harvest- that it is important to share what we have with others. Village Primary pupils had collected an overwhelming amount of food to donate to people who are less fortunate than themselves, and the Year 1 children collected this all together.



Our Harvest food collection covered two tables and the children still had more to add during the assembly as they sang their final song. Thank you to those parents and carers who donated food, and to those who attended the assembly. The staff would also like to say thank you to those that found the song words on their chair and joined in as the children sang.

A final and VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to parents Polly Farrar and Lynne Perry who created marvellous art displays to decorate the performance area for the Year 1 Harvest Assembly.



Information Zone

Collection Passwords



Please be reminded that you should inform school if you need someone else to pick up your child at the end of the school day. For children in Year 2 and below, school staff will ask you for a password that you must also give to the person that will be collecting your child. We can only let children leave with a different adult if these passwords match or if we have prior written consent from you. We greatly appreciate your co-operation with this important safe-guarding matter.

Thank you.

Konga Fitness Lessons



Some of our pupils have been trying out a new way to stay fit this half term- Konga!!

Former pupil, Bethan Moorley has returned to Village Primary having trained as a Konga Fitness Instructor. Alongside her is Lisa Leigh who is also an experienced fitness instructor. The pair have been taking over some PE lessons where they have been showing children (and their teachers!) what Konga is all about. Konga is a mix of dance, cardio exercise, boxing and kick boxing and the children have thoroughly enjoyed the high energy lessons. Other classes will experience Konga during the next half term.



Village Primary hosts 24Fit Derby in the evenings and Konga fitness classes currently run for adults at the school and at other locations in Derby. Find out more at www.24fitderby.co.uk



Look out for information regarding a Konga Kids after school club and Parent and Child Konga sessions in the new Year at VPS!

Federation Cup

Our first Federation Cup Competition was held on Wednesday 11th October. This half term, the sport was New Age Kurling. Pupils from Lakeside Primary School, Village Primary School and Alvaston Junior School competed to win the trophy. All of the pupils showed dedication and great team spirit whilst competing. The results were;



SAFEGUARDING CHILD PROTECTION ONLINE VIDEOS

SCARPA SCHOOL NSPCC BARMADES LSCB INSET HANDOUTS
SSD ECPAT CEOP SOCIAL
POLICE STAFF CPD RESEARCH LOCAL AUTHORITY AGENCY INSERVICE

Now Autumn has arrived, the nights are getting longer and it is of course getting dark at an earlier time each day. The safety of our pupils is important all year round however, we would like to remind you that during the Autumn and Winter months, it is important to revisit the rules about staying safe in the dark with your child.

There is an excellent road safety advert that can be viewed on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IemaPHDPQ54>) that reminds children to Be Safe and Be Seen when it is not light outside.



Other important reminders to tell your children are:

- Always tell a parent/carer where you are going and never talk to a stranger!
- Play in safe areas. Do not play in places that are out of bounds or where you cannot easily be seen by other people- especially in the dark.
- Always leave enough time to get home whilst it is still light, do not wait until it is nearly dark, as it will get dark very quickly.



Information Zone



Academy Consultation

You may be aware that many schools are considering their future status in the light of the Government's policy that all schools should become academies. Over the past year, the Governing Body of Alvaston Junior and Village Primary School Federation have been exploring a range of options to secure the best future for our schools. Having investigated a number of local and regional multi-academy trusts and the possibility of forming our own multi-academy trust within Derby, it was agreed to examine further, the opportunity of converting to academy status as part of a Derby Hub of Harmony Multi -Academy Trust.

I would like to assure parents, carers and members of our local community, that by consulting on this issue now, Alvaston Junior and Village Primary Federation is able to maintain more control over its ultimate destiny and protect those aspects which drew you to the schools in the first place. It is our belief that this development will only enhance the educational experience and opportunities for all children at our schools, even further.

If anyone would like more information regarding our plans around academisation please see the 2 letters in the newsletter section on our website or contact school on admin@village.derby.sch.uk or attend our consultation meeting at 9.00 a.m. on 2.11.17.

You may wish to learn more about 'The Harmony Trust' and their current schools/existing hub by visiting their website.

