



Victoria Bulletin



MESSAGE FROM MR SMITH

Happy New Year! I do hope all of our children and families had a relaxing few weeks away from school, and that the Christmas period was a peaceful one.

Last term was an incredibly difficult period for all concerned with very high levels of staff absence not seen since Covid 19. In school, the whole team rallied round to cover each other and make sure that no child missed out but it came at a cost to the improvements that we have been making to our curriculum. Thank you for bearing with us, and I wanted to give a 'shout-out' to the staff team for their flexibility, also. Hopefully, this term will bring much needed better health all round.

I'd like to re-welcome Miss Hughes, who comes out of retirement to teach in Year 2 (Ahlberg) for a term, and I would also like to remind everyone that Miss Brooks will, from this term, be placed in Reception and Year 1. We are working hard to bring in fresh faces who can really help us raise the bar and move the school forward to even greater heights - an advert for a new permanent Year 2 teacher is out there and we'll have more news soon.

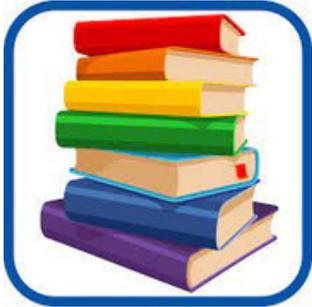
Last term, we brought in a few changes to our safeguarding procedures at the end of the school day. You may now notice that staff are wearing high-visibility jackets and a one-way system is in place at BOTH sites, once again. We have also set up a Nominated Pick-Up procedure - we will NOT send your child home with someone who you have not given consent to so please make sure you let us know if your preferences change. Finally, we have increased the number of staff who are positioned on the school gates at pick-up time and made sure we are standing roadside of the gate. Thank you for your co-operation, we want our school to be as safe as it possibly can be.

Here's to a term full of promise and real focus!

OUR NEW LIBRARY IS OPEN

A massive thank you to those parents and members of the local community who have given us donations towards our new library in recent months. We are truly grateful and are really blessed by your generosity. The school has put these kind donations to other funding in order to give our library at Victoria Road a much needed face-lift and it now has a new location in school. We are so pleased that it is open!

In school, your child will visit the library every week with their teacher, and they will be invited to take home a book of their choice. Mr. Smith's School Parliament representatives are keeping a close eye on things to make sure it continues to be well-looked after and in order.



Please can we ask for pushchairs to be left outside as we do not have space within the library to accommodate them.

COME AND USE OUR LIBRARY WITH YOUR CHILD

From next week, Monday 15th January, the new library at Victoria Road will be open after school EVERY NIGHT.

3:30 pm until 4 pm

Mrs Bick will be on hand to support the children and parents who want to take out books, simply look at the books or share a story. Children may wish to change the books they got in their class library session too.

Parents and relatives who wish to use the library should come to the back door off the school yard - this is just near the exit from the playground.

NEW TO THE VICTORIA FAMILY

Please say a warm welcome to the new children starting our school.....

JOINING Nursery (Little Victors)

- Javeria
- Rehan
- Muhammad Hadid
- Sufiyan
- Zayan
- Smaa
- Mahenoor
- Abdulah

JOINING SLC

- Jack P
- Charlie
- Jack C

JOINING Year 2

- Eshal
- Toba
- Angelica-Alexia

JOINING Year 3

- Minahil

JOINING Year 4

- Het



NURTURE GROUP

One of the many successful things we have implemented in recent weeks is a Nurture Group at both sites. Nurture is a 10-week intervention package to support some of our children with their feelings, their social interaction skills, and their confidence and self-esteem. We are keen to help children who are going through a tough time and show them that we are there to help them. If we can support our children with these things then it means that they can learn better in the classroom and they are more ready to access the work.

Mrs Burrows and Mrs Kunsir lead Nurture sessions on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at Orchard Site, whilst Mrs Waheed and Mrs Thompson lead Nurture sessions at Victoria Road.

I am pleased to say that the first two cohorts of children for Nurture have just graduated! They have made really amazing progress and we are all so very proud!



PARENT COUNCIL – WE NEED YOU!

We are keen to set up a group of parent representatives to meet with Mr. Smith and Mrs Akhtar (Teacher for Rundell) each term. The idea is that they'll be one parent per year group and this person will be the spokesperson for each cohort of parents.

The parental representatives will:

- Meet with Mr. Smith and Mrs Akhtar once per term (and in school time) over a cuppa and a piece of cake!
- Get to know what is happening in school so they can pass on key messages and support other families who are asking questions, or who are unsure
- Be there to pass on general concerns and worries to Mr Smith, which are heard around the 'school gate' and to ask any questions on behalf of other parents
- 'Champion' the school and be positive in promoting the hard work that goes on



As you know, we are working hard to improve our school and there is much which requires change in order to move things forward. It does take time but we need the support of you, as parents, to join the journey and help us move forward.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED THEN PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE AND GET DOWN YOUR NAME. MR SMITH IS KEEN TO HEAR FROM YOU....

**FIRST MEETING IS PLANNED FOR...Tuesday 30th January @ 3:45 pm
(There will be a creche!)**

READING LESSON HEADSTART

Starting this week, we are bringing back school homework but with a difference!

We want our children to be able to read effectively and for them to understand what they are reading so we are changing how we are teaching Reading in school. ALL CHILDREN will be learning to read age-appropriate text and will be supporting them to understand new words. We will also be helping them to develop good expression and fluency.

In order to help your children, we need you to support with the following:

- **Every Friday your child will bring home a piece of text that they'll be using the next week in class. This will be in a YELLOW / GREEN FOLDER.**
- **We will also send out a link on Class Dojo of the class teacher reading this text (it will be a recording – so your child can get to learn the correct expression and intonation). It will also help them learn to read new words**
- **We ask that your child simply practices reading the text to a grown-up, they read it to themselves, and that they listen to the video clip of Dojo whilst following with the text in front on them.**
- **Then you sign the slip which is attached to the text that is brought home – this is so your child can 'cash' it in for Dojo Points**

Dojo points will be given out to children who do this and who have practised the text ahead of their reading lessons, over the weekend.

BY GIVING THE CHILDREN A BIT OF A SNEAK PREVIEW, AND SOME EXPOSURE TO THE TEXT THEY WILL BE USING IN THE NEXT WEEK, WE THINK THE CHILDREN WILL BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO LEARN WELL IN OUR WHOLE CLASS SHARED READING LESSONS.



A NEW VICTORIA – 150 YEARS OLD

As part of our drive to move the school forward, and develop its standing & reputation in the wider Burton area, we are going to start a process of consultation for a new school logo and a new school name, in time for September 2024. For this to happen – we want our children and parents involved!

In September, our school is **150 years old** and we want to mark this with a re-brand of our vision, our values, our logo and our school name. Of course, our school has not always been known as Victoria Community School but we know that many parents will fondly remember it so.

When our school became a two-site school in 2015, it became very confusing for parents and children (and it still is now) because there was the original school building in Victoria Road (always known as Victoria Community School) and then a 2nd building called Orchard Site. The other interesting thing is that our school name fails to reference us having our own nursery. We clearly want our school to appeal to everybody in the Burton area and we want to promote the extensive facilities we have.

Having a change is about showing everyone that we have new expectations and any potential negative associations or particular misconceptions about our school and its children are eradicated. Many schools have successfully gone through this process, and particularly those in a similar position to us in terms of the improvements which are needed. Fairly recently, Kingfisher Academy (formally Belvedere Juniors) became Burton Fields Junior School and this precipitated a fresh start on their journey out of Special Measures to Ofsted 'Good'. It said to everyone that this is a new start! Equally Waterside Junior School in Stapenhill became River View Primary a few years back.

This term, our School Parliament will be working a graphic designer for a new logo and we'll be talking to parents at both my Cuppa and Cake session, and also at the first Parent Council Meeting. They'll be a chance to vote on which logo/name you prefer. I am sure you have lots of questions around this but rest assured, we have everything in hand! **MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW.**

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Each week we will celebrate some special achievements of the children, so watch this space for announcements to see if your child has been awarded a Special Mention. Make sure you celebrate with them should their names appear here.



Autumn Term's Special Mentions



Donaldson
Imanbillah, Madani, Harris,
Aliraza, Raahim, Masrour,
Yusuf, Qasim

Jeffers
Falak, Husnain, Zunaira,
Madeena, Musa M, Zofia,
Siranjuddin, Enija

Murphy
Mubashsherah, Tymon,
Ibrahim, Eva, Manahal,
Benett, Sophie, Gloria, Marsel,
Taya

Ahlberg
Abdurahman, Amaan, Adam,
Muhammad, Aisha-E, Lorelai,
Hassan, Dyar

Tomlinson
Mirha, Mairah, Haider, Liliana,
Mustafa, Mirha, Yusuf, Lina,
Mustafa, Khadeja

Fletcher
Dominykas, Amina An, Abu-
Bakr, Mariella, Yashfa, Alicia,
Alisha, Anas, Inaaya, Susanna

Dahl
Sehar, Maryam, Yusef, Maikls,
Aizah N, Chloe, Sehr

Cowell
Alisha, Hasan, Abdus-Salam,
Zaki, Aaryan, Eden, Leo-
James, Alisha, M.Imran, Sofia,
Nikola

Lewis
Anaya, Arriba, Mariana,
Hoorulain, Safiyyuallah,
Ebonie-Rae, Fatima, Arriba

Morpurgo
Urwa, Urwa, Ahmed, Rehan,
Ayana, Kundanasri, Urwa,
Lukmaan, Ahmed H, Maryam W

Rundell
Arooj, Luis, Amelia, Ayaan,
Muhammad H, Pria, Zahra Kh,
Musa, Mohammed N, Zahra Ka

Horowitz
Hamna, Sehar, Dre, Nargis,
Waras, Zainab, Maisam,
Shahzain, Hanin, Hamzah

Pullman
Usman, Lois, Amelia, Taqwa,
Hareen, Ayaan, Liam, Umniyah,
Fatima

Seuss
Jaxon, William, Ava, George,
Max, Jaxon, Ava, Max

**WELL
DONE!**

Rosen
Ollie, Casey, William, Ollie, Rhys,
Casey, Henry, Ollie

Victoria Road:
92.2% in Tomlinson
Orchard:
93.7% in Horowitz

**ATTENDANCE
FOR AUTUMN
TERM**