



OCTOBER Newsletter

13th November 2020

Dear parents/carers,

We had another busy week of learning here at Virginia. The children have been exploring celebrations and in particular, they have looked at the festival of Diwali.

Today we celebrated Children in Need. It was so great to see so many children and adults taking part, thank you for your generous donations. This year in particular, the focus has been on the impact that the coronavirus pandemic is having on the mental health and wellbeing of UK children, and for those who were already facing disadvantages, life has become incredibly difficult. At Virginia, we feel very proud to be supporting thousands of children and young people and help change lives.

Here is what we have been up to:

EYFS News

Well done to Reception today for taking part in Children in Need. Everyone wore their spotty clothes or pyjamas and had a great day. This week the children have enjoyed reading the story 'The Monster's pet' they have been using their reading strategies to read the words and find out what happens. They have loved making their own stories afterwards... Fateha and Eda made books out of paper and then retold the story of the Three Little Pigs. Hamood made up his own story about a monster and a ghost! In maths the children have been doubling. They know that doubling is adding the same again, and now they are learning their doubling facts to 3. Everyone has been trying to practise their sight words at home, keep up the good learning reception!

Sharing Good Learning

All of our assemblies are now on the website including good learning assembly. Click on the assemblies tab to access the fantastic learning the children are sharing.

- **Year 1** Have been learning about bonfire night and the gunpowder plot. They made amazing fireworks pictures using black paper and bright pastels.
- **Year 2:** Have been exploring finding the difference between numbers. They used giant numicon to help them. They discovered that finding the difference is the same as subtracting.
- **Year 3:** Have been learning about the zones of regulations and devised strategies to help them when they are not in the 'green zone'.
- **Year 4:** This week, Year 4 have been learning about inverted commas. They have created their own dialogue between Grandpa Joe and Charlie from 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl.
- **Year 5:** Have been learning dance in PE. They have explored different motifs and different actions to express themselves.
- **Year 6:** Have read and performed Act 1 Scene 3 of Macbeth. They focused on expression and voice projection to bring their characters to life.

Special mentions:

Ishaq H would like to special mention **Ayaan, Yamin** and **Mohammed** for playing stuck in the mud with him. **Najla** would like to special mention **Aaliyah** for cheering her up when she was in the blue zone. **Yahya I** would like to special mention **Ariya, Tayyibah** for playing a fun game with him.

Alice would like to special mention **Yahya I** for being kind to others. **Usama** would like to mention **Yusef** for joining in his games. **Cailey** would like to mention **Sabine** and **Asma** for playing with her and cheering her up. **Emily** would like to mention **Tazkiya** and **Sam** who bring light and laughter to us all in year 5. You are both truly such wonderful young people who reflect our school ethos and values.



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Positive Relationships

From September 2020, the Relationships and Health Education aspects of PSHE education became compulsory in all Primary schools. However, due to COVID-19, the Department for Education have extended the implementation deadline until the Summer term 2021. Under normal circumstances, as a school we would engage with parents/guardians through face to face information meetings, but this is not possible due to COVID-19 and social distancing. We are, however, still very keen to engage with parents/guardians in our school and want to take their views on board. As we do not know when schools will return to normal, we want to ensure that we are prepared and that our parents/guardians are involved in this process.

We are therefore asking parents to complete a short survey as part of our ongoing online work with parents, so we can hear your initial thoughts about our approach to Positive Relationships. To do so please either follow this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VIRGINIA-RSE-Parents-PrimarySurvey-Nov20>

or log on to our webpage and click on the **Positive Relationships tab**. The survey will be open for two weeks from today, it will therefore close on Friday the 27th of November.

Celebrating your Child's Birthday

Can I please remind everyone when sending in chocolates with your child it must be **Cadburys Heroes**. This is because we have children in school with nut allergies. You can also send in Starburst sweets as an alternative.

Reminder

As part of our **safety measures**, only **small** book bags are allowed in school, please do not send children with large rucksacks.

Attendance and Punctuality Table

Year Group	Number of pupils late	Ranking	Attendance	Ranking
Reception	4	6 th	98%	5 th
Year 1	3	4 th	99.33%	3 rd
Year 2	3	4 th	96.43%	7 th
Year 3	1	2 nd	99.67%	2 nd
Year 4	0	1 st	100%	1 st
Year 5	5	7 th	97.93%	6 th
Year 6	1	2 nd	98.57%	4 th

Well done year 4, I am very proud of your attendance! Well done year 4 on your punctuality!

It is really important that children and parents come to school and pick up at the correct times to avoid over-crowding and excessive queueing. The timings for pick up and drop off for each year group are on the website and remember to wait on the other side of the road until your child's year group allocated time, and then queue along the wall in a physically distant manner.

Please remember to keep the front of the gates clear at all times. Many thanks for your continued patience and collaboration.

Forthcoming events

Dates for the rest of this Year

21 st December to 1 st January 2021	End of Term	School Closed
15 th February to 19 th February 2021	Half Term	School Closed
1 st April to 16 th April 2021	End of Term	School Closed



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19 th April 2021	Inset Day	School Closed
3 rd May 2021	Bank Holiday	School Closed
6 th May 2021	GLA Elections	School Closed
31 st May to 4 th June 2021	Half term	School Closed
23 rd July 2021	Inset Day	School Closed

Best wishes,

Barbara Lo Giudice, head teacher