



Newsletter

22nd October 2021

Dear parents/carers,

As we approach our half term break, I wanted to share with you how proud we all are of the children here at Virginia. Their thirst for learning, enthusiasm and joy are the reason we come to work with a smile every day. As you know, OFSTED visited us this week, we are so proud of the way the children showcased their learning and used their voice to share what they love about our school. Thank you to all the parents and carers who responded to the questionnaire and thank you for all your kind messages of support. We really appreciated them. OFSTED's full report will be out within 30 working days, I will share their findings when it does. Here's what else we have been up to this week:

EYFS News

This week reception have been applying their phonics skills to read a shared text, 'It is a din!' Be sure to check the class blog this evening to find out which sounds to practise over half term. In maths the children have been subitising with numbers 2, 3 and 4. Can you see these amounts anywhere in your home? On dice? At the dinner table? In your room? Well done for an amazing half term everybody, I hope you have a restful and enjoyable break

Harvest Collection

Thank you for your generous donations for our Harvest collection. We will take the food boxes to the food bank on the first week back, so if you have not yet managed to bring food in you can do so on Monday the 1st of November.

New Mud Kitchen

Yesterday the kind volunteers from TH goodgym and Canary Wharf Group delivered and set up our brand new mud kitchen in the EYFS garden! It is a state of the art kitchen designed by the same architects who designed the Tate Modern! We feel so privileged to have been the recipients of such a kind donation and the children (and adults!) absolutely love it!



Squid Game

We have noticed a large number of children playing the "Squid Game" in the playground. This has alerted us to the fact that a few children have watched the series at home. This series is on Netflix but can also be accessed on YouTube, it is extremely violent and has a viewing rating for over 15 only. Please be alert to children accessing inappropriate content on the internet. Should you have any questions or need support with activating child security settings on your devices do not hesitate to contact us.

School Photographs

We are sorry we had to postpone the school photos because of the OFSTED visit. We have now rescheduled them for **Wednesday the 1st of December 2021**.

After School Clubs

Thank you for returning your club preferences; the closing date for returning them is Monday the 1st of November. We will then assign clubs and hope to be able to accommodate every child. We will notify children who have been successful. Please note if your child has not been allocated either of their preferences they will be prioritized in the next round of clubs. We offer the clubs free of charge.



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Parents Evening

We hope to be able to welcome you to attend our parents evening in person this year. In order to do so we will need to make sure certain safety protocols are followed to ensure we minimize the risk of spreading the virus. You will receive a letter explaining our safety measures and with your appointment times. The parents evening will take place, for years 1-6, on November the 16th and November the 18th. The EYFS will host whole class parent sessions first then a parents evening later on in the term.

Absence and sickness procedures

As part of our safeguarding procedures, we need to ensure all children who attend school are accounted for. Should your child be unwell, could we ask you to ring the school between 7:45 and 8:45 to let us know.

Late to school

Please ensure your child comes to school on time. We have had too many late children this week and this means they miss out on crucial learning. Please check your child's drop off and pick up times below:

School timings: The timings will be as follows:

Start of the day

8:45 Years 5 and 6
8:50 Years 3 and 4
8:55 Years 1 and 2
9:00 Reception and Nursery

End of the day

3:15 Years 5 and 6
3:20 Years 3 and 4
3:25 Years 1 and 2
3:30 Reception and Nursery

If you are dropping off your child by car, thank you for switching your engine off. Idling causes pollution which is extremely damaging to children's lungs.

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.

Finally I would like to wish everyone a safe and restful half term.

Forthcoming events

16 th -18 th November 2021	Parents Evening Years 1 to 6
1 st December 2021	School photographs, please make sure your child is wearing their uniform
10 th January 2021	Year 4 parents meeting re: Sayers Croft
7 th March – 9 th March 2022	Year 4 school journey to Sayers Croft
15 th March 2022	Year 6 parents meeting re: Wales in May
18 th March 2022	Red Nose Day – information to follow
21 st March – 1 st April 2022	Year 5 Intensive swimming for 2 weeks
16 th May 2022	Year 6 final parents meeting re: Wales
23 rd May -27 th May 2022	Year 6 school journey to Wales
20 th June -1 st July 2022	Year 6 Intensive swimming for 2 weeks

Date for the rest of the year

25 th October to 31 st October 2021	Half Term – School closed
1 st November 2021	School Open – Children return
20 th December 2021	School Closed – Inset day
21 st December 2021	School Closed – Occasional day
22 nd December 2021	End of Term – School closed
4 th January 2022	School Open – Children return
14 th to 20 th February 2022	Half Term – School closed
21 st February 2022	School Open – Children return
4 th April to 18 th April 2022	End of Term – School closed
3 rd May 2022	School Closed – Occasional day
30 th May to 5 th June 2022	Half Term – School closed
6 th June 2022	School Open – Children return
21 st July 2022	School Closed – Inset day

Best wishes, **Barbara Lo Giudice**, head teacher

Summer Holiday 2021

The last day children attend school is Thursday 22nd July 2021