



OCTOBER Newsletter

2nd October 2020

Dear parents/carers,

This has been a very eventful week, with our School Council finally elected and in post, our Rights Respecting Steering Group vacancies being offered to our year 4 cohort and with the Senior Leadership team finalising the risk assessment and safety measures to enable our music provision to restart from next week.

As some of you may know, last week the Governing Body held interviews for the head teacher position here at Virginia. The children in year 6, 5 and 4 were part of the process and the interviewing panel commented on how impressed they all were by the learning behaviours, their maturity and the quality of the questions they provided for the candidates. I am so proud of the way the children conducted themselves throughout the process and of how much thought they put in the questions they asked.

I am so happy to say that I have been appointed as substantive head and hope to continue the amazing legacy that Kate left us, and to work hard with staff and parents to provide the best possible education for all of our children to enable them to be the best they can be.

EYFS News

This week we have been thinking about kindness. We read the book 'How to Fill a Bucket'. This story uses the concept of an invisible bucket to show how it can be rewarding to be kind and 'fill someone's bucket' with good feelings. In the outside area we have been developing our gross motor skills by creating and then maneuvering along an obstacle course. In the book corner the children have been thinking about their favourite characters, and why they like them. Ayub and Omar loved talking about the marvel characters. This week everybody has been practicing writing their name. Remember to keep practicing at home, and to check the reception class blog for other home learning activities on a Friday.

Following feedback from parents, we have made the decision to open the back gates between 8:55 and 9:05 to allow parents the opportunity to drop their children off directly to a member of staff rather than having to queue along the very narrow pavement. Please continue to be careful along the pavement and do continue to maintain physical distancing especially if there is another parent at the gates dropping off their child. We hope these measures will help de-congest the area outside the EYFS gates as you will have a 10 minute window to drop your children off.

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:** In Maths, year 1 have been learning about number bonds to 10, they used giant numicon pieces to help them find all the pairs of numbers which make 10.
- **Year 2:** produced amazing artwork inspired by the book "Wild". They used a variety of techniques including collage. The display in the class is amazing!
- **Year 3: Akram, Ayan and Stela** described in great detail how fossils are formed.
- **Year 4:** have been doing lots of geography linked to their Londinium topic.
- They created their own keys to show where different landmarks were in Londinium.
- **Year 5:** have been reading 'Street Child'. This is the story of a Victorian boy that ends up in a workhouse. The main character is called Jim and they have written some of his thoughts about life in the workhouse.
- **Year 6:** have stepped back in time to life during World War 2, they role played being evacuees and described what it might have felt like to be a child then.



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Special mentions:

Nusaybah would like to mention **Sameeha, Sinead, Sara C** and **Adam** because they play with her when she's sad and cheer her up.

Samirah would like to mention **Hannah, Ayesha** and **Firdaus** for playing such fun games with her.

Cara would like to mention **Noureddine** for being such a good learning partner.

Firdaus would like to mention **Ayesha** for being a supportive learning partner.

Sarah B would like to mention **Shezan** for being a good learning partner.

Lydia would like to special mention **Mia, Adam** and **Zaki** for always trying their best!

Mariyah would like to mention **Sabine, Amal,** and **Zainab** for being great role models. Kayden would like to mention **Zakiya** for being a great learning partner.

Attendance and Punctuality Table

Year Group	Number of pupils late	Ranking	Attendance	Ranking
Reception	4	7 th	93.33%	6 th
Year 1	2	4 th	100%	1 st
Year 2	3	5 th	88.15%	7 th
Year 3	3	5 th	99.29%	4 th
Year 4	0	1 st	97.04%	5 th
Year 5	1	3 rd	100%	1 st
Year 6	0	1 st	100%	1 st

Well done year's 1, 5 & 6, I am very proud of your attendance! Well done year's 4 & 6 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.

Dates for the rest of this Year

26 th October to 30 th October 2020	Half Term	School Closed
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
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