



# Principal's Newsletter

## January 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to school and a very Happy New Year to you all. I hope that your Christmas was full of quality time spent with family and friends.

Our second term of the school year is now underway and we have a number of activities and events planned that I will share with you throughout this newsletter.

A few things to look out for during the next term:

- Mid-year assessments taking place.
- Parent – Teacher interviews
- The Caring Connection Coffee Morning
- Parent and Toddler Group
- SCHOOL SHOW – Matilda

As always, as a school, we will continue to keep you updated on events and activities as the term progresses.

Many thanks,

Mr C. Fulton

Principal

### **BREAKFAST CLUB BOOKINGS**

Please can parents / carers ensure that bookings for Breakfast Club are made via the school money app by midnight on a Sunday for the week ahead.

We have seen a dramatic increase in the number of children turning up who have not booked. Some children arrive with payment and others do not. This is causing a large amount of additional admin work for school staff as all additional bookings must be manually added to the school money app.

We do not mind children coming to breakfast club, when not booked, in a real emergency. However, this should be very rare.

Thank you for your continued support with this matter.

### SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

#### Principal

Mr C. Fulton

#### Vice Principal and Special Needs Co- ordinator

Mrs L. Kernaghan

#### Head of Foundation & Key Stage 1

Mrs R. Miskelly

#### Nursery Lead

Mrs P. Addis

#### Head of Key Stage 2

Mr J. Clarke

#### Pastoral Lead

Mrs J. Orr

### I'M WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD IN SCHOOL.



If you are concerned about the welfare of a pupil in school, please speak with Mrs Orr (Designated Teacher for Child Protection and Pastoral Lead).



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### JANUARY ASSESSMENTS



In preparation for Parent – Teacher Interviews taking place in February, children in P4 – P7 will complete mid – year assessments.

These assessments will provide an overview of how each child has embedded their knowledge from previous years' learning up until this point in time.

The assessments will not assess current year learning as children have not yet completed this academic year.

An updated standardised score will be provided to parents / carers at the next round of parent – teacher interviews.

### PARENT – TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent – Teacher Interviews for children in Primary 1 to Primary 7 will take place on the week Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

Parent Interviews for Mrs Galbraith's class will take place earlier as Mrs Galbraith will complete her interviews before leaving us to start her maternity leave.

Interviews will take place in person or via telephone.



### EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

School-led extra curricular clubs will begin next week – w/b Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January. Letters confirming a child's place in a club will be sent out by the end of this week, however, as advised before the Christmas break, most clubs will remain the same.

A £5 fee for clubs for this term will be sent out to parents / carers via School Money and this should be paid by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024. During this term, we will have a number of staff training evenings. Clubs will be cancelled on these days.

### **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**





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### The Caring Connection

COFFEE, CONVERSATION AND SUPPORT @  
VPS

After having a range of very successful parent coffee mornings, parent training evenings etc, we intend to extend our provision for parents by introducing **'The Caring Connection – coffee, conversation and support @ VPS'** during Terms 2 and 3.

We will be running a range of coffee mornings to support our children and families through a range of issues and concerns. These may include support for parents of children with Autism, Special Educational Needs and much more.



We are delighted to welcome Tiny Life charity to lead our first **Caring Connection Coffee Morning** with an informative programme called Tiny Learners on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 9.15am in our Canteen. This charity supports families of babies born prematurely or who will start life in the neonatal unit.

The PRISM training will provide information for our Staff and our parents on how to help children at home and how we can meet their needs in school. We will send a Google Form out via the school messaging service and ask

you to sign up if you would like to attend. As you know we are always keen to provide a free breakfast too! If you would like more information, please visit [www.tinylife.co.uk](http://www.tinylife.co.uk)



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**PARENT AND  
TODDLERS**  
@ Victoria Primary School

Our weekly Parent and Toddler Group is back again this week.

Open to all parents and carers and their children from ages 0 – 4years.

We still have a few spaces left for this week and you can book via the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/parent-and-toddler-group-vps-tickets-772224894447>

Our group takes place each Wednesday, from 9am – 10:30am (we may finish a little earlier).





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## Policy of The Month

Each month, I am going to give you a bit of an oversight of 1 policy within school.

This month I want to update you on our policy: **Play.**

This policy outlines the many different ways, in school, that we support the continued attainment and progress of your child with a focus on play based learning and activity based learning. This policy directs school in managing all aspect of play based and activity based learning that can be provided for your child.



### Play Policy

Date of next policy review	2024
Name of person responsible for this policy	Mrs Jayne Orr
Issued to	Staff, governors, parents, pupils
Date of issue	2021

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Click on the image of the policy to be taken to an online copy.

### **Start of the Day**

A reminder that children in P2 – P7 **should not** go through the double gates by Mrs Ritchie's office, in the morning, until the bell goes. We do not have any members of staff in the playground to supervise children until this time.

Parents / carers should not pass the double gates.





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It was lovely to meet so many parents, carers and children and to have the opportunity to chat, show you around our school and to see your children interact with our staff and our school environment during our Open Morning.

It was a VERY busy morning with so many visiting our school.

It would be both an honour and a privilege for Victoria Primary School and Nursery Unit to be part of your child's education journey.



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### TERM DATES FOR 2023 / 24

Term Dates	
<b>January</b>	Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> – Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> – <b>School Closed (Christmas Holidays)</b> Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> – P2 – P7 pupils return to school. OPEN DAY (Nursery and P1 pupils off today) Tues 9 <sup>th</sup> – Nursery and P1 pupils return to school.
<b>February</b>	Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> – <b>School Closed (Half Term)</b>
<b>March</b>	Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> – School closes from 11:50am-12noon for all pupils (No school canteen and transport) Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> - School closes from 11:50am-12noon for all pupils. Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> – <b>School Closed (Easter Holidays)</b>
<b>April</b>	Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> – Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> – <b>School Closed (Easter Holidays)</b>
<b>May</b>	Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> – <b>School Closed (Bank Holiday)</b> Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> – <b>School Closed (Half Term)</b>
<b>June</b>	Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> – P7 pupils finish at 12noon. Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> – School closes for Summer Holidays