

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Viridis, we value every child's ideas and believe their voices matter. Our Pupil Voice groups give children the opportunity to take responsibility, develop leadership skills and help improve school life for everyone. Through these groups, pupils learn teamwork, confidence and how to make positive changes in their community. We have a range of roles including Peer Mediators who help develop playground friendships, Librarians who promote a love of reading, Language Captains who help us learn Spanish, Junior Road Safety Officers who encourage safe travel and Digital Leaders who support safe and responsible technology use. These groups empower pupils to lead by example. Parents can find out more about their important work on our website.

You will often hear our staff saying that 'reading is the gateway to all learning'. We aim to change home reading books at least once a week (more often for younger children), and returning home readers to school will help us to do this. We make sure that children have a wide selection of books to choose from but the breadth of books available reduces when these are left at home. Please could you check for any school home reading books that may have slipped behind the sofa or under the bed, pop them in your child's book bag or give them directly to any member of staff during morning drop off.

Children are expected to know all of their multiplication tables by the end of Year 4, and they will benefit hugely from any support you can provide at home. Quick recall of times tables builds confidence and supports learning in many areas of maths. All children in Years 3 to 6 have been given a password to access Times Table Rock Stars, our online programme designed to make practising fun and engaging. Please encourage your child to use this regularly. You can also help at home by practising little and often while walking to school or at home. Chant tables together, use flashcards or spot multiplication in real life (e.g. "4 plates with 3 carrots each"). Short, frequent practice makes a big difference!

It just leaves us to wish you a wonderful half term break. We look forward to seeing the children returning with their holiday homework projects in just over a week. Please remember that school will reopen at the usual time of 8.55am on Monday 23rd February.

Many thanks for all of your support.

Ms Rachael Carr - Headteacher

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Reminders

School Start Time

School starts at 8.55am. Please ensure children arrive on time to line up and enter the school with their class teacher when the bell goes.



Book Bags & Reading Diaries

Remember book bags and reading diaries need to be brought to school every day. This teaches both responsibility and independence.



Chinese New Year

This week EYFS celebrated Chinese New Year. They performed a dragon dance and enjoyed learning about the traditions behind the celebration. The children also explored Chinese traditions by creating colourful lanterns and learning about the story behind the zodiac animals.



Pointillism

As part of their Art unit focusing on the work of Georges Seurat, Year 1 have been exploring the pointillism technique. The children learned how artists can use small dots of colour to create pictures and experimented with this method in their own artwork.



Investigating Yeast

As part of their micro-organism topic, Year 6 investigated the most effective conditions to activate yeast. They carried out their investigation, made observations and drew conclusions. Their results demonstrated that the blood temperature water was had the most vigorous reaction!





Spanish Spelling Bee

We are incredibly proud of these three Year 5 pupils who represented Hoxton Garden at the Spanish Spelling Bee competition, held at Waterside Academy. Competing against many schools from across the borough, they did a fantastic job and even brought home an award. ¡Enhorabuena!



Peer Mediators

This week our Peer Mediators have been supporting their peers and promoting positive relationships in the playground. They have been supporting children in KS1 to resolve minor disagreements, encouraging kind communication and helping everyone to feel included during playtimes.



Key Dates

Year 4 Lilac Class Assembly

Wednesday 4th March at 9:15am - Middle Hall

Year 4 Carnation Class Assembly

Wednesday 4th March at 9:15am - Top Hall

World Book Day (Children can dress up)

Thursday 5th March

Class Photographs

Tuesday 10th March

Year 5 Foxglove Class Assembly

Wednesday 11th March at 9:15am - Middle Hall

Year 5 Orchid Class Assembly

Wednesday 11th March at 9:15am - Top Hall

Parents Evening

Thursday 12th March - School closes at 1pm

Year 1 Lily Class Assembly

Wednesday 18th March at 9:15am - Middle Hall

Parents into Learning: Design and Technology

Wednesday 25th March at 9:00am

Easter Bonnet Competition

Thursday 26th March

Children break up for the Easter Holidays

Friday 27th March - School closes at 1pm

Coffee Mornings

Parents/Carers are invited to drop into our sessions on various themes which are held in the Middle or Lower Hall at 9:15am on a Friday. These allow you to meet with other parents as well as to learn more about what the school does and get some practical tips on how to support your child with their learning from home.

Date	Focus
Friday 6 th March	<u>Reading</u> : How can I support my child to develop pleasure for reading at home?
Thursday 19 th March	<u>Music</u> : How do we develop children's music skills from Reception to Year 6? (Children can attend this coffee morning)
Friday 27 th March	<u>Parent Reading Assembly</u> : EYFS and KS1 Parent Reading Celebration Assembly

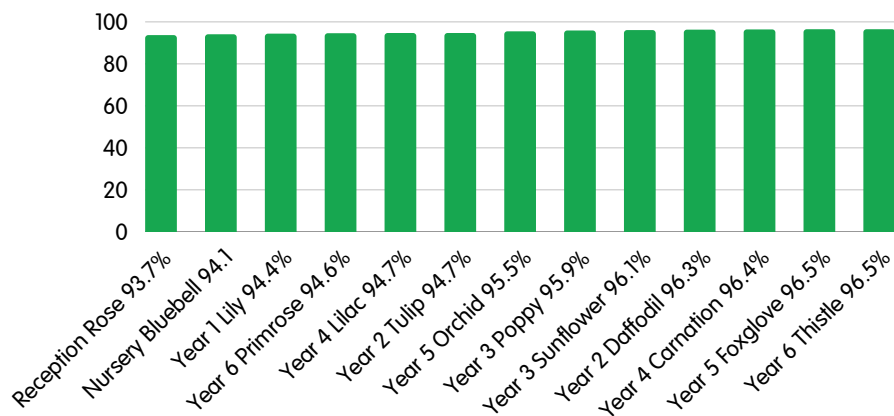
Attendance

The whole school attendance for the last week was 95.3%

Well done to Year 6 Thistle and Year 5 Foxglove Class, last week's winners with 96.5%

Attending school every day makes a real difference.

Please remember that WE DO NOT AUTHORISE HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME and unauthorised absences may result in a fixed penalty notice being issued.



Term End and Start

The second half of the spring term starts on Monday 23rd February at 8:55am.

Please scan the QR code to view our 2025 -2026 term dates.



School Uniform

Please scan the QR code to order school uniform.



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