

VICTORIA JUNIOR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Friday, 28th February 2025

Welcome back!

We hope you had a relaxing Half Term break. The children have returned well-rested and started the second part of Spring Term with a positive attitude and mindset.

Just before Half Term, we had a Mufti Day to raise money for Amy and Friends- a charity that supports children with complex medical difficulties and their families.

We raised £273.17!

Thank you to all the families of VJS who donated money to support this incredible charity.

School Dinners - A reminder that school dinners are FREE to all children. You can order these via ParentPay.

Dates for your Diaries:

Book Fair in our school library
3rd-7th March 2025

PGL Trip 5th-7th March 2025

World Book day -Thursday,
13th March 2025

Reminders:

*Bread stall:

Opening now at 3.10 pm for parents to visit first.
Children will still be dismissed at 3.15 pm

*A message from Breakfast Club - We are still in need of any board games you may have that you no longer use. Please bring in any board games that are suitable for our pupils to play with during breakfast club. You can hand them into the office or your children can give them to their class teacher. Many thanks!



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Year 4 Synagogue Trip



Before Half Term, Year 4 embarked on an exciting trip to Richmond Synagogue, and we had quite the adventure! We started our journey by walking to Feltham Station, where we hopped on a train to Richmond. Once we arrived, we took a short stroll to the synagogue, brimming with anticipation.

Upon entering the synagogue, we were warmly greeted by members of the Jewish community who shared fascinating stories about their customs and traditions. Did you know it's the Rabbi that leads the worship? It was a fantastic opportunity for us to ask questions, and we learned so much about the various celebrations that form an essential part of Jewish life.

One of the highlights was seeing the Torah scrolls. Did you know that every synagogue must have a minimum of two Torah scrolls? We were thrilled to see one up close; it was truly precious yet featured very fine writing. We discovered that the Torah is written on animal skin parchment, a method that has been used for centuries! It's fascinating to think that paper is a relatively new invention. The strength of the parchment is what has kept this beautiful text intact throughout so many years. The leaders also shared the Ten Commandments with us, a significant element of the Jewish faith. Have you heard of the Ten Commandments before? We even got to hear a sentence from the Torah that sounded like it was being sung!



Did you know that if you dropped a Torah scroll, you would have to fast for the whole day? Quite the responsibility! We discovered that the sections of the Torah are stitched together with thread made from animal gut – fascinating, isn't it? We also learned about Shabbat, the Jewish rest day, which starts with a synagogue service. Families contribute money to charity from their family money box, and candles are lit on Fridays. Do you use candles at home? What do you use them for? On a Friday, many families come together for a special meal, making it a lovely occasion. We found about the Challah bread that is eaten as well.

It was an unforgettable experience, and we returned to school with a newfound appreciation and respect for Jewish culture.

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Book Fair

Monday 3rd March - Friday 7th March 2025

Where: Victoria Junior School Library
When: Every day after school from 3rd-7th March



How much? The cost of the books vary in price. There is an option to buy book vouchers online, by clicking the link below, or the children can pay for the books using cash. Both methods of payment will be accepted.

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/travelling-books/gift-vouchers>



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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A message from the Gaelic Football Club in Sunbury



The Gaelic Football seasons starts this Friday, 28th February from 7pm-8:30pm. We would love to grow our wonderful club and get more boys and girls down to the club, enjoying Gaelic Football. We are based in Sunbury-on-Thames at Hazelwood, the home of London Irish!



If you have any children aged 5-17 years old that would like to try Gaelic Football, please come see us or get in touch! Email Pete at membership@gaellondain.com or visit Mr Tavey in Year 5.

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We have signed up as a school to the the Young Artists' Summer Show Competition. It is a free, open submission exhibition for students aged 4–18 studying in the UK. Artworks are judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals, with selected artworks displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts.

The deadline to submit artwork is 5 March 2025 at 5pm. You can edit submissions until this deadline

You can submit one artwork per student

For each submission you'll need one image of the artwork plus details including a title, medium and a short description.

You can submit your own submission (by following the link below), or equally bring in to school and Miss Trew can submit it for you.

<https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/>



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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For parents who have children
in an after school club:

26th February 2025

Dear Parent,

Re: After School Football, Multi Skills & Art Clubs End Time

We hope you had a pleasant half-term.

This is a gentle reminder that the Football, Multi Skills and the Art Clubs concludes at 4:00 pm.

We kindly ask that you ensure your child is collected promptly at this time, as there is no facility available to supervise them after hours.

As the Coach has other commitments after the sessions, if there are delays in the Coach leaving due to late pickups, the school will incur late fee charges, which will subsequently have to be passed onto the parents. We would like to avoid this situation.

Furthermore, consistent late pickups may result in your child's removal from the club for the remainder of the term.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in this matter and look forward to a fun and engaging term ahead.

Kind regards,

Mrs D. Hutchinson
Business Manager

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday, 28th February 2025

Hounslow School Nursing Service



National Self-Injury Awareness Day (SIAD)

Saturday 1 March 2025

National self-injury awareness day is a globally recognised international event.

Self-injury is a physical form of harm to yourself and is a coping mechanism to deal with emotional pain and distress. Self-injury can affect anyone at any point of their lives.

It is incredibly important to raise awareness around self-injury, to educate people who do not self-injure and to reach out to people who do. The awareness of this leads to:

- Understanding and empathy
- Banishing judgement and fear
- Reducing the number of people who feel alone and suffer in silence.

<https://www.lifesigns.org.uk> User-led small charity creating understanding about self-injury.

www.papyrus-uk.org/self-harm-and-self-injury-awareness-day/ UK charity dedicated to the prevention of suicide and promotes positive mental health in young people.

www.selfinjurysupport.org.uk Support for women and girls with experience of self-harm

www.youngminds.org.uk Help and advice for teenagers to manage their mental well-being. Young minds also offer a parent's helpline.

www.selfharm.co.uk Free online Self-Harm support for 10–17-year-olds.

www.hycscounselling.co.uk Free counselling for young people living in Hounslow.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/your-feelings/self-harm/self-harm/?qclsrc=aw.ds> Information, advice and support on Self-Harm.

<https://www.familylives.org.uk/advice/teenagers/health-wellbeing/self-harm> Advice and support on Teen Self-Harm for family.

Support is Available

Parents and carers if you would like further help or support for your child or teenager, Send a message to:

07312 263 080

Receive an answer within one working day from a qualified school nurse. Monday to Friday, 9am-4.30pm.



Young people in Hounslow can text a school nurse for confidential advice and support:

07507 333176

Learn more at: bit.ly/ChatHealthPrivacy

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Recognitions

For the past few weeks, pupils have been focusing on "Being Ready". Please celebrate the fantastic effort your children have been putting into their targets and see below those children who received certificates over the past week.

Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6	
Ash	Tanmayi	Ebony	Fatyma	Magnolia	Kiruthiga	Cherry	Sana
Oak	Maxwell	Beech		Willow	Eshaal	Laurel	Deetya
Elm	Aarush	Rowan	Amaya	Holly	Gurkhab	Chestnut	Mateen



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Spring Term 2025

Monday 6th January – First day Spring Term

Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February – Half Term Holiday

Monday 24th February – INSET DAY (school closed to pupils)

Tuesday 25th February – First day Spring Term 2

Friday 4th April – Last day Spring Term (school closes at 2pm)

Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April – Easter Holiday

Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22nd April – First day Summer Term

Monday 5th May – May Day Holiday (school closed)

Friday 23rd May - INSET Day (school closed to pupils)

Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May – Half Term Holiday

Monday 2nd June – First day Summer Term 2

Tuesday 22nd July – Last day Summer Term (school closes at 2pm)