

VILLA REAL SUMMER NEWSLETTER - 2025

CE1

CE1 pupils all enjoyed a fantastic trip to Witton Castle, we had a lovely walk around the grounds, exploring the castle walls, turrets and looking inside the castle windows. We all enjoyed having our lunch outside and spending time in the play park.



CE2

We have enjoyed visits from Bruno the therapy dog and his owner Annie. Canoeing Fun! Our canoeing trip was full of laughter, teamwork, and a few splashes along the way. Everyone (almost) showed great courage and had a brilliant time on the water. Our visit to Kirkley Hall was a wonderful opportunity to connect with nature. We learned all about different types of trees and the wildlife that calls them home. The children were curious and respectful. The CE Fun Day was a blast, packed with laughter and smiles all around. Our trip to Gibside was a real treat. We explored the beautiful park and enjoyed the fresh air. It was a perfect day to relax and appreciate the outdoors with our friends. Farewell & Welcome: This term, we said goodbye to our lovely friend Harper, who has moved away. We will miss her. A big welcome Ali into our class. He's already made a great start and we're so happy to have him with us! Thank you to all the staff, parents, and carers for your continued support. We're looking forward to more exciting learning and adventures in September! Have a wonderful summer break!



HEADTEACHER COMMENTS

It has been a fantastic year for Villa Real School as OFSTED recognised how special a place Villa Real is and how fabulous our pupils. We are having a change of governors; Suzanne Bailey, Chair of Governors, is retiring with Lindsey Robinson becoming Chair and Pam Monaghan Vice Chair.

Have a lovely summer and take care.

GOVERNING BODY NEWS

What a wonderful end to the year, some very special memories of our wonderful pupils, and the staff that dedicate each day to helping them achieve. We are thrilled to have our positive ethos, commitment, progress and attainment acknowledged by Ofsted. Well done to everyone. I do have specific thanks to give to Gemma Scott, Mum to Cole who left last year. Gemma has been a governor here for many years, and she now moved on herself. Thank you, Gemma, for the time you have given to help take Villa Real upward and onward. It is also time for me to step down as a governor. Over 20 years I have experienced much joy, and pride in the pupils, and many changes, but what has never changed is the commitment of the staff to your young people, the governing board and its commitment to help lead the school forward, and the leadership team for continually striving to make Villa Real the best that it can be. It has been a complete privilege. I wish everyone all the very best for the future. Suzanne Bailey
Chair of Governors

CE3

CE3 had a lovely visit to Usher college this term to attend the "Big Sing". We had a fantastic day of singing, dancing and signing. We were very lucky with the weather and were able to have a picnic outside followed by a lovely walk around the beautiful grounds.



S3A

S3A have well and truly taken advantage of the sun. A big shout-out to Stella and Chris Sewell for donating the amazing bike. Students not only in S3A but across Villa Real have enjoyed sessions in the sun using this bike (as you can see by the smile on students' faces). S3A have tried to be outside as much as possible this term.

S3A participated in CE fun day where we explored the crazy creatures, played on the bouncy castle with our friends, enjoyed the bubbles, and had our faces painted.

What an amazing year you have all had. S3A staff wish you the best for the summer holidays. Be safe, happy, and create lots of memories. We can't wait to hear all about your summer when you're back in September. For those who are leaving us, we wish you the best transition into the adult world. You'll be such a miss from Villa Real School. Thank you for the stories and memories to last staff a lifetime. Happy summer everyone.



EYFSA

EYFS has been super busy this term. We have been listening and exploring our sensory story "The Sandcastle That Lola Built". We have been exploring how when working together, we achieve better and bigger things, helping our friends. We LOVED to explore the different prompts, even when the sea splashed us and also destroyed the sandcastle, so we had to work together to build it again. For Science we have been listening to the story "Sock On The Loose". We had a sock hunt to try to find all our socks, exploring the textures, the fabrics and their properties. We learnt how blue sock escaped as he wanted to try new things while he was finding himself, discovering the big world. We celebrated Make Music Day and we learnt about the different music and musical instruments in Spain. We even tried to recreate the castellet!! We took part on the 'Big Sing and Sign' at Ushaw College and it was fantastic. Now, we are ready for the summer holidays!

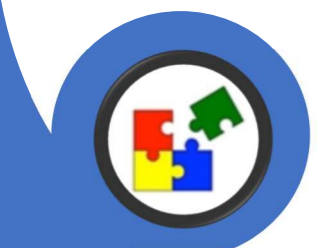


SCHOOL & OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to Daniel, Calum, Asia, Kaymin and Brooke from Senior 3 for successfully completing a two-day expedition on May 1st as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. The students planned their route and walked in the Stanhope area, where they cooked meals on a stove and set up a tent. Some of the students even camped overnight in the tent, marking a significant achievement for them. Well done to everyone involved, including the staff who provided support!



NHS Return to Practice programme - request for support
Thinking of returning to your role as a healthcare professional? We can help you! This message goes out to all parents, carers and members of the local community who may once have been a healthcare professional such as a nurse or midwife and now considering a return. Returning healthcare professionals have a key role to play in ensuring patients and service users have access to experienced and well-trained care staff equipped with the right skills. NHS England provides funding to support the pathways to return and are keen to support or answer any questions you may have if you are considering returning to perhaps nursing, midwifery or if you trained as an allied health professional (AHP) or a healthcare scientist (HCS) but have since left the profession. Please do contact us for more information on: 0191 275 4796 or email: england.returntopractice.north@nhs.net



P1A

P1A had a fantastic visit to Chapmans Well and South Moor Memorial Park in Stanley. We started out by following a forest trail which took us through the woods of Chapmans Well down into South Moor Memorial Park. Pupils enjoyed exploring the different greenery around them and looking at the maps of the local area. We discovered a board with information about the old pit site which used to be there. Once in the Memorial Park, pupils went on the hunt for fairy doors which were painted on trees throughout the park. Can you see some on them on a couple of our photos? We tried knocking on the doors but the fairies must have been asleep or out for the day! Maybe next time! We finished with some time playing on the play equipment in the park and completing the obstacle course. Some of our pupils even decided to do a bit of extra cardio work on the bike and cross step machines before heading for some well-earned lunch.

What an amazing place to visit - and right on our own doorstep!



P2

This term we've been busier than ever. Our schedule has been jam packed; our summer fair, sports day, trips and the imminent record of achievement... Pupils have worked their socks off and been AMAZING; we are so proud of them.

One of our highlights of this term was our trip to Bowlees farm where we got to live like farmers for a day. Pupils petted and fed different animals; goats, calves, donkeys, pigs, sheep and a horse. Pupils even got to see the inner workings of a farm by getting involved with shearing sheep.

As we come to the end of summer term, we would like to say farewell and good luck to pupils who will be moving into different classes, and a big welcome to those who will join us for our adventures next year! We've truly had a fantastic year, and wish you all a restful and fun-filled summer holiday!

P2 class team.



P3

P3 have worked hard over this summer term. Some students have enjoyed taking part in lots of outdoor activities including climbing, kayaking and canoeing. Other students have enjoyed some curriculum visits to look at different sculptures as part of Art and Design.



In school we have worked diligently across all subjects. The students particularly enjoyed our class text 'The Colour Monster' which talked about our emotions. We then worked hard on when and why we may feel certain emotions. We were all able to identify at least 2 emotions.



P3 staff would all like to wish everyone a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing everyone safe and well in September. We would also like to wish Reggie good luck in his new school.

P2A

We have had lots of fun in P2A this term. In English we have been looking at the stories 'A Squash and a Squeeze' by the author Julia Donaldson and 'Farmer Clegg's Big Night Out' by Peter Bentley. The pupils have enjoyed using the sensory props.

For Outdoor Education we have visited Hexham park and really enjoyed using all the equipment, while in Maths we have been looking at shapes and money.

In Art we have been exploring printing and patterns; all pupils really enjoyed completing their own picture.

This term we have also been to the Big Sing and have had sports day.



P3A

🌻 P3A – Summer Term Highlights! As summer blossoms all around us, P3A has been busy making the most of every learning opportunity—with joy, creativity, and lots of smiles!

🏔️ Blackhill Park Adventures - We laced up our walking shoes for an exciting trip to Blackhill Park, where we explored the importance of road safety and how to stay safe when we're out and about. From stopping, looking, and listening, to role-playing safe crossing scenarios, our learners showed brilliant awareness and responsibility — proud moments all around!

🌻 Summer Fayre Fun - Our class got their green thumbs out and created gorgeous sunflowers and flower pots for the Summer Fayre. The teamwork and creativity on show were truly blooming marvellous! A big thank you to everyone who supported us — our display was full of colour, care, and pride.

👤 Superb Communication & Play Skills - Whether it's imaginative role-play, sensory exploration, or taking turns during small group time, our communication and play skills have taken huge leaps. The friendships blossoming in class are a true joy to see. Kindness, sharing, and giggles have filled every corner of our learning day.

💖 First Aid & Friendship - In PSHCE we've been learning about basic first aid and caring for others. From bandaging teddy bears to helping a friend in role-play, P3A has shown how compassionate and thoughtful they can be. These caring values have extended into every part of our curriculum, showing just how wonderful and supportive our learners are. We're incredibly proud of the friendship and empathy that define this group.

Wishing everyone a joyful end to the term and a sunny season ahead 🌻

With warmest thanks for your continued support,

The P3A Team



S2A

This term S2A have been developing their knowledge of the wider world by celebrating 'Fete de la musique' - Make Music Day.

Pupils looked at what symbolizes Mexico and how this impacts the way of life. They watched PowerPoints and videos and took part in dancing, music, food and connected some of the traditions to the Disney film 'Coco'. Staff reinforced the celebration of Day of The Dead, symbolizing the celebration of the person's life and why music is a great representation of this.

We danced and played the maracas and 'guitarron' (Mexican guitar) to 'Un Poco Loco' and 'La Bamba', clapping out the rhythms on their hands and playing along to the music.

All students tried new things enjoying making tortilla chips, from wraps in the air fryer and tried smelling or tasting them, some pupils even tried salsa, guacamole and cheese with them. They brought all of their learning together on a fantastic poster.

Well, done to all of S2A for a fantastic year!!



S3

Our class thrives on adventure and learning. We embrace outdoor education, exploring nature and building resilience. A highlight was kayaking on the River Wear — an unforgettable experience that fostered teamwork and confidence. These hands-on activities enrich our curriculum, making learning dynamic, meaningful, and full of discovery.



S4

This term in S4 we have took part in learning to use cameras as part of our Photography project. We've had lots of fun photographing our friends and people in the community.

