

NEWSLETTER



DEAR PARENTS/CARERS/GUARDIANS

The first full week back has seen our lovely Reception children gradually begin their journey here and I have to say I am so impressed with how well they are settling in, making new friends and fully embracing full time school!

All classes have been busy developing their class charters which they will use, alongside our school values, to guide them in all decisions that they will make throughout the year to ensure they fully benefit from their right to education, to be safe, to play and rest and to develop their interests and talents.

Attendance has been fantastic this week; thank you for ensuring your children attend school every day and on time. Coming to school every day is a vital part of your child's education. Children learn new things every day and every minute counts. Please continue to help your child to be successful by developing the habit of regular attendance and punctuality. Help us reach our goal of 96% attendance this year. We can do it!

I hope you enjoyed meeting the class team and spending some time in the classrooms this week, (except year 1 who will have their meeting on Monday) should you have any further questions or comments do let the team know.

Finally, our breakfast club has been very busy this week, should you wish to send your child to breakfast club (every day from 7:55) do let the office know. We also offer after school care which you can use when you need to, Monday to Thursday 3:30 to 5:30 (there is a charge for our wararound care) just let the office know before 1pm on the day.

Have a wonderful weekend

Barbara

COMING UP!

MONDAY 16TH - YR 5 GOES TO SWANAGE

MONDAY 16TH - YR 1 PARENTS INFO SESSION

FRIDAY 27TH - YR 4 GREENWICH PARK

MONDAY 30TH - Y1 & Y2 NUMBOTS SESSION

Class Teams 2024/25

Year 6

CLASS TEACHER – Salma Haris

Supported by – Anneka Grant Martin & Rohema



Year 5

CLASS TEACHER – Tom Stutters

Supported by – Emily Casey Harris



Year 4

CLASS TEACHER – Sheila Parro Gonzalez

Supported by – Anneka Grant Martin & Rohema



Year 3

CLASS TEACHER – Theo Kokkinos

Supported by – Sabreen Ahmed



Year 2

CLASS TEACHER – Nusrat Shikder

Supported by – Hasina Khatun & Yumi Enokido Lineham



Year 1

CLASS TEACHER – Lydia Pendino

Supported by – Hannah Ahmed & Aysha Khadim



RECEPTION

CLASS TEACHER – Hadley French Gerrard

Supported by – Faheema Khatun



NURSERY

CLASS TEACHER – Rakhi Trivedi

Supported by – Clare Spittles



Virginia Primary School

Virginia Road

London

E2 7NQ

Head teacher: Barbara Lo Giudice

Tel: 020 7739 6195

Email: admin@virginia.towerhamlets.sch.uk



Homework Autumn 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

According to research completed by the Education Endowment Foundation, homework is most impactful when it is linked to learning in the classroom and focuses on a particular area, e.g. fluency. For this reason, at Virginia Primary, we focus on three key areas:

- increasing reading fluency,
- familiarisation with key spelling patterns to support writing fluency, and
- fluency in number facts and times tables.

As such we are trialling a new 'Back to Basics' approach to the way we set and support homework across the school this academic year.

Reading

Children who regularly read at home progress better across the whole curriculum. Therefore, we ask that you listen to your child read regularly at home. We ask that children read at least 3 times a week at home, and teachers will listen to children read regularly as part of their learning in school.

Spellings

Children will be sent home an appropriate number of differentiated spellings. Children are encouraged to practise their spellings. Parents will be consulted where children are consistently not learning their spellings. Children may receive words again in order to practise them further.

Maths




Throughout the school, the children work through a progressive system for learning the basic number skills and their times tables using our Big Maths CLIC programme.

Children have progressive 'Learn Its' number facts and the times table facts which should be practised with your child at home and then returned to school for teachers to evaluate before moving your child to the next stage of their learning.




Expectations across the School

EYFS and Key stage 1:

Group	Homework	What it looks like...
Nursery	Homework is not 'set' for Nursery children but we encourage sharing of books. Reading or storytelling from picture books to your child so they can get used to oral storytelling and print. Discussing the books is also important. Encourage your child to point to words or pictures as they are being read, together share ideas on what might happen or how the characters may be feeling. Your child will bring home a story book each week after the half term break.	
Reception	Reading with your child a minimum of three times a week also allowing your child to read to you. One book linked to their reading stage and one book free choice.	A Reading log for your child will be shared between home and school. 
Years 1 and 2	Reading with your child a minimum of three times a week also allowing your child to read to you. One book linked to their reading stage and one book free choice.	A Reading log for your child will be shared between home and school. 
	Maths 'Numbots' trial Starts 30th September  (Y1, Y2 parent meeting 30/9/24 at 3pm)	Children will bring home a log in for Numbots which enables children to learn key maths skills and their times tables through online support which can be tracked by their teacher.

Key stage 2:

Group	Homework	What it looks like...
Years 3, 4 and 5	Reading a book independently a minimum of three times a week.	Children will create a book review. Each review will earn them a certificate towards Barbara's '10 best books' reading challenge.
	Spellings	Weekly spellings test in class
	Learn It's/Time tables 	Weekly 'Beat that Maths' or times table challenge in class
Year 6	In addition to the above, Year 6 SATs preparation will take place from the Spring Term until the end of the SATs in May. Homework will include: practice papers, problem solving tasks and project work. These additional activities will also help children to prepare for the extra workload they will encounter in secondary school.	

Please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class team or myself if you have any queries. I will also seek your thoughts and reflections upon how to ensure homework is purposeful and enjoyable for children and families.

We would like to thank you for your continued support,



Amanda Carr, Deputy Headteacher





Learn Its: A GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Big Maths is a teaching programme used at Virginia Primary School to help children to become numerate. Problem solving and word problems cannot be solved until children can manipulate numbers and understand how the number system works. Big Maths lessons are fast-paced and fun. The children are introduced to child-friendly terms such as Switchers and Learn Its, to help them manipulate numbers and make them more confident and more successful. There is a strong emphasis on developing instant recall of number facts, including number bonds and times tables.

'Learn Its' are addition facts and times tables facts. There are 72 Learn Its in total; 36 addition Learn Its and 36

multiplication Learn Its. These are facts that children need to learn off by heart, so when they are asked What is $6+4$? they are able to give the answer as quickly as they would be able to tell you their name. As soon as they know $3 \times 5 = 15$ they also know $5 \times 3 = 15$ (This is known as a Switcher).

Addition Learn Its:

+	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	4							
3	5	6						
4	6	7	8					
5	7	8	9	10				
6	8	9	10	11	12			
7	9	10	11	12	13	14		
8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
9	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18

Multiplication Learn Its:

x	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	4							
3	6	9						
4	8	12	16					
5	10	15	20	25				
6	12	18	24	30	36			
7	14	21	28	35	42	49		
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	
9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81

Learn Its by Year Group

- Reception: Doubles of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, $2+1=3$, $2+3=5$ and multiples of 10 (counting)
- Year 1: Doubles of 6, 7, 8, 9, $2+8=10$, $3+7=10$, $4+6=10$, $4+2=6$, $5+2=7$, $6+2=8$, $7+2=9$, $9+2=11$, $4+3=7$, $5+3=8$, $6+3=9$ and multiples of 5 and 2 (counting)
- Year 2: $3+8$, $3+9$, $4+7$, $4+8$, $4+9$, $4+5$, $5+6$, $6+7$, $7+8$, $8+9$, $5+9$, $6+9$, $7+9$, $5+7$, $5+8$, $6+8$ and $\times 2$, $\times 5$, $\times 10$ tables
- Year 3: focus on $\times 3$ $\times 4$ $\times 8$ tables facts
- Year 4: all \times table facts especially $\times 12$ and $\times 11$
- Year 5 and 6: all 72 Learn Its.

Please work at home to make sure they really do know their Learn Its and their Switchers
with INSTANT RECALL (no fingers!)



How can you help?

Big Maths is a very useful tool to help children become numerate but we still need your support at home. Help your child practise their Learn Its at home a few minutes a day is all you need. Insist that numbers are written the correct way round. Congratulate your child and make maths a positive experience (Don't tell your child you were no good at maths when you were at school they will think they should be the same!)

If you have any questions or concerns please see your child's class teacher in the first instance, or speak to Theo or Rakhi, the Maths teaching and learning team at Virginia Primary.

attendance

Monday 9th - Friday 13th September

YR	attendance	lates	award
REC	100%	0	
1	95%	1	
2	99%	0	
3	95%	2	
4	98%	1	
5	96%	1	
6	97%	2	

DATES
for your diary

YR 5 SWANAGE - 16TH - 20TH SEPTEMBER

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME - 4TH OCTOBER 09:00AM



Sabira would like to special mention An Quin for always participating and being funny

Amana would like to special mention Ayana, Keyaan, and Aiyla for playing with her

Amannah would like to special mention Reina for being her BFF even if they have had hard times in the past

Noah would like to special mention Kaysan and Maryam for working with him when their partner is not there

Henry would like to special mention the whole school because everyone has a heart of gold.

EJ would like to special mention Hamood for always being right beside him and being a super loyal, and positive friend.

Special mention to Nayaal for being kind

Tailei would like to special mention Zaheer for being a good friend and always making her laugh

Georgia would like to special mention Noelle for trying her best in Maths

OUR LEARNING THIS WEEK

YEAR 2

... have been learning about the lifecycle of a human. It starts from a baby until you die

YEAR 4

... have been learning about longitude and latitude. They shared facts about these invisible lines that go across the globe

YEAR 6

... are learning about how to keep safe online. They made e-safety posters to raise awareness about keeping safe,

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Did you know the government gives additional funding to schools for those children entitled to free school meals (pupil premium)?

Schools use this money to obtain additional staff and resources that help improve the quality of education.

To find out whether your child qualifies for pupil premium, and hence whether their school would receive additional funding, please click the link below and complete the form.

In addition, the following pupils will be protected against losing their free school meals (pupil premium) as follows:

- Pupils who were eligible on 1 April 2018, or who became eligible since then, continue to receive free meals, even if their household is no longer eligible under the benefits/low-earnings criteria, up until March 2025 and then until the end of their phase of education
- New applicants for free school meals on or after 1 April 2018, who are in receipt of Universal Credit and have earnings above the earned income threshold, will not be eligible for free school meals

The Universal Credit rollout is currently expected to complete in March 2025

- A parent of a child attending any LGfL school can now use the link below to check their eligibility.
- If you qualify, please inform the school

[CLICK HERE TO CHECK](#)

ALL CHILDREN RECEIVE FREE MEALS AT SCHOOL BUT NOT ALL CHILDREN ARE PUPIL PREMIUM. IT IS IMPORTANT TO CHECK YOUR ELIGIBILITY TO ENSURE THE SCHOOL DOESN'T MISS OUT ON FUNDING

take note

We are a cashless school, all payments must be made by bank transfer to;

LBTH Virginia Primary School

SORT CODE: 60-03-19

ACCOUNT: 19701829

PAYMENT REFERENCE: YOUR CHILD'S NAME

(followed by what you're paying for, e.g.

ASC-After School Club (wrap around care) £10

BC - Breakfast Club £ 1.50 per day

BB - Book Bag £ 4.50

WB - Water Bottle £ 1.50

SD - School Dinner £ 2.90

Please note, full time nursery children are NOT entitled to free school meals and must therefore pay for school dinner

WE ARE A NUT-FREE SCHOOL!!!

We are a nut-free , healthy school and do not encourage parents to bring in sweets, however we will allow Cadbury's Heroes for sharing at home time on special occasions like birthdays. We have concluded that Heroes is a safe choice for the children.

If you would like to bring a box or 2 of Heroes to celebrate your child's birthday, please do so via the office.



Flu immunisation for pupils in school years Reception - Year 11



DEAR PARENT/CARER,

The flu vaccine is being offered at your child's school again this autumn/winter.

TOWER HAMLETS

Immunisation Team
Contact Details


towerhamlets@v-uk.co.uk



0207 613 9044

WORKING ON BEHALF OF



To give consent for your child to have the flu vaccine, please click here:

<https://london.schoolvaccination.uk/flflu/20243/towerhamlets> Even if you do not wish for your child to have the vaccine, please complete the online form so that we can record your wishes.

THE NASAL FLU VACCINE

- ✓ Protects your child from the flu Protects your family and friends
- ✓ from the flu (especially those who are elderly, young babies, or those who have serious health conditions) Is painless, quick and effective Is free
- ✓ The nasal flu vaccine is very effective at reducing the spread of flu



THE IM FLU VACCINE

We also offer the flu vaccine as an injection, which is **gelatine-free**. Please go to our website where you can find out more about the manufacturing of the flu injection, and then decide if the injection is more suited to your child.



You only need to complete one consent form for each child. If you later change your mind, please call your local team. If your child has this immunisation elsewhere after you have submitted the consent form, you **MUST** inform Vaccination UK rather than the school.

We understand that you may have questions about the vaccine. For more information, please go to our website, where you can find a list of FAQ's, as well as details of our community catch up clinics. We also have some FAQ's enclosed below.

You can also find informational videos on our YouTube channel, including subtitled versions for other languages.

Yours Faithfully,

Your Local Immunisation Team
Vaccination UK

USEFUL INFO



We ternyd teoa cvoomure t too c yoomuer to your cchiild'ss scchooooll ttwiccee. Iiff ttheyy aarree aabsseentt oorr unaablllee ttoo beee vvaacccciinaatteeed aatt scchooooll, yyouo wiilllll neeed ttoo aatttteend oonee ooff oorrr ccoomuniitty ccliinicss ffoorr tthee vvaacccciinee. Deettaaiillss ooff ttheesee ccaan beee ffoound oon oorrr weebssiittee oorr yyouo ccaan ccoonttaacct tthee tteeam aaboovvee..



PLLEEASEE NOTEE tthee flflu vvaacccciinee wiillll NOT beee aavvaaiillaablllee ttoo oottheerrwissee heeaallthyy cchiilldrreen aafftteerr Deecceembeerr 135th aatt aallll, aand ssoo wee urrgee yyouo ttoo rreeturrn tthee ccoonsseentt ffoorm aass ssooon aass poosssiiblee iin ccaassee wee aarree noott aablllee ttoo vviisiitt yyouorr cchiilld'ss scchoooollss



ffoorr aa sseeccoond vviisiitt ttheiss yyeearr.. YYouorr ccoonsseentt wiilllll rreemaain iin pllaaccee ffoorr tthee eenttirree flflu sseeaasoon. Iiff yyouorr cchiilld miissseess aa fiffrrsstt vviisiitt, yyouo doo noott neeed ttoo ccoompleettee aa sseeccoond ffoorm..

USEFUL LINKS

www.schoollvaccination.uk/naassall--fflu
www.youtube.com/vvaacccciinaatiionuk



PRIVACY POLICY

Ourr 20243//254 pollicy ccaan beee vviieeed heerree:
www.schoollvaccination.uk/privaacy--pollicy
FForr daattaa protteecttion queerriees, pleeeassee cconttaacct:
dpo@vaccinationuk.co.uk



School Uniform

I would like to remind all parents and carers to ensure that children come in wearing the correct school uniform. In particular I have noticed trainers of lots of different colours being worn. Trainers should be black.



Jewellery should not be worn for safety reasons; the only earrings acceptable are very small hoops or studs.



Headscarves, if worn, should be plain white, black or green and not cover the shoulders. They should be the slip-on ones and not be held together by pins. We have noticed longer headscarves being worn and they can present a danger when children are running or doing physical activity. Thank you for your support.

Barbara Lo Giudice
head teacher





ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

*The consent form needs to be signed by a person with parental responsibility which includes:

- Mother: automatic
- Father: if married to the mother either when baby is born or marries subsequently
- Unmarried father: if name appears on birth certificate (since 1/12/03) or legally acquired
- Others: if parental responsibility is legally acquired
- Parental Responsibility Agreement: signed, properly witnessed and sent for registration to Principle Registry or the Family Division (High Court)
- Residence Order: granted by the Court

Please note that young people under the age of 16 can give or refuse consent if considered competent to do so by nursing staff.

FREQUENTLY ASKED



QUESTIONS

Are there any side effects of the vaccine?

Possible side effects are: decreased appetite, headache, a runny or blocked nose, and sometimes a raised temperature. These are common, but they pass quickly and can be treated with paracetamol or ibuprofen if you feel your child needs it.

Are there any children who shouldn't have the nasal vaccine?

You should let us know if your child has any of the following:

- A very severe allergy to eggs, egg proteins, gentamicin or gelatine – it is important for us to know if your child has been admitted to hospital with a condition called anaphylaxis, triggered by these things. Are currently wheezy or have been wheezy in the past 72 hours with asthma. There is an alternative flu vaccine that we can talk to you about to ensure that your child is protected as soon as possible. Have a condition that severely weakens their immune system.
-

Also, children who have been vaccinated should avoid close contact with people with *very severely* weakened immune systems for around two weeks following vaccination (By severely weakened, we generally mean people who are isolating, such as those who have received some types of chemotherapy or people who have had a bone marrow transplant, for example). This is because there's an extremely remote chance that the vaccine virus may be passed to them.

Contact with other healthy children or adults does not need to be limited after having the vaccine.

We do not eat pork products.

Can my child have a different flu vaccine?

Yes. There is a flu vaccine available, in the form of an injection.

The nasal flu vaccine is the best vaccine for children and young people under 18 years of age as it is more effective at stopping the spread of flu and it is painless, but it does have a highly processed form of gelatine (porcine gelatine), which is used in a range of many essential medicines. The gelatine helps to keep the vaccine viruses stable so that the vaccine provides the best protection against flu.

If your faith or beliefs mean you would prefer a vaccine that has no pork (porcine gelatine) in it, please complete the consent for the flu injection only. You do not need to complete a form for both.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for parent/carer volunteers!
If you are able to commit to 1 day a week volunteering and/or to help us on our trips, We would love to hear from. Pop into the office to register your interest and for further information. *(DEADLINE TO REGISTER: 23 SEPTEMBER)*



Reception - Year 6 OCT HALF TERM

holiday childcare

Oct 28 - Nov 1
Hermitage
Primary E1W

Bright Horizons,
Childcare
Vouchers
& TFC accepted



For more information:

0773 704 2024 | www.campcanary.co.uk



TERM DATES 2024/25

AUTUMN 2024

AUTUMN TERM 1	WEDNESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER
HALF TERM	28TH OCT - 1ST NOV
AUTUMN TERM 2	4TH NOVEMBER
CHRISTMAS BREAK	23RD DEC - 3RD JANUARY

TERM ENDS FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER @1:30

SPRING 2025

SPRING TERM 1	6TH JANUARY 17TH -
HALF TERM	21ST FEBRUARY
SPRING TERM 2	24TH FEBRUARY
SPRING BREAK	7TH APRIL- 21ST APRIL

TERM ENDS FRIDAY 4TH APRIL @1:30

SUMMER 2025

SUMMER TERM 1	22ND APRIL
HALF TERM	26TH - 30TH MAY
SUMMER TERM 2	2ND JUNE 2023

TERM ENDS FRIDAY 18TH JULY @1:30

OTHER DATES & HOLIDAYS

Monday 2nd September
Tuesday 3rd September
Monday 31st March
Monday 21st July
Tuesday 22nd July
Wednesday 23rd July

Inset day - school closed
Inset day - school closed
Occasional Day - School Closed
Inset Day - School Closed
Inset day - school Closed
Inset Day