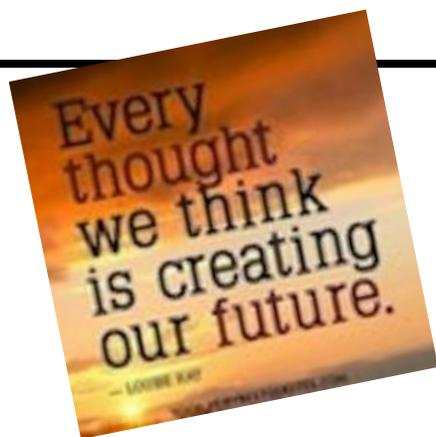


Headteacher's Reflection

As we are drawing to the end of the term, I would like us to focus on a very important area during the holidays when you are with your children. We live in a time when social media is prolific and people's online relationships are cultivated, at the detriment of the offline, face-to-face relationships. Children crave to have **meaningful and language-rich conversations with their adults**. At school we have been working on the following areas :-

- Ensuring children **speak in full sentences when responding** to a question.
- Correcting **incorrect sentence structures and grammar**
- To correct words that they like to use repeatedly or shorten. The current favourites are BASICALLY and COS (instead of because).

Please emphasise this at home as speaking clearly and correctly is a life skill they will need for clear communication in the future. This will ensure that our children become confident and eloquent speakers.



Date Valley School

Autumn term Newsletter



Dates for the Diary

Autumn Parent Workshops 2019	
Parliament Week	9 th - 13 th December
School Council Elections	11 th December
Quran reading parent workshop	12 th December
End of Term (Early Years and Primary)	18 th December
Primary Parent-Teacher meetings	19 th December

Contact Us

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Behaviour and Ethos

CHANGE COMES FROM WITHIN

Our Antibullying Week focus in November followed the key theme of 'Change comes from Within'. We explored how change has to start with the individual for it to have effect on the wider community. We discussed how great the impact would be if everyone decided to make a little change.

Children performed year-group-specific Acts of Kindness such as cards to teachers, gifts to parents and smiles to everyone they passed.

Children had a 'CHANGE' jar in their classroom and made a pledge to change one thing at school that they felt they could improve.

In assembly we explored the concept of making a difference and used the analogy of a pen. The children were shown a pen and asked to consider the most important part of the pen. The most common response was the ink due to its writing function. However, unbeknown to the children, a small yet crucial part of the pen was removed beforehand (the spring) and it was demonstrated that the pen did not work. The spring was revealed as the missed part. We discussed that, despite the belief that it was small and insignificant, its absence was the reason for the whole pen not working. Once the spring was reinstalled, the pen became fully functional once again.

To Allah (SWT), each helper is important, even if we are little. Every act of kindness, every blessing we share makes a difference.

Headteacher Focus

We are proud to announce we have a set of trained parent reading volunteers that are allocated to each class and will read with the children twice a week. Their focus is to ensure the children develop their skill of how to understand the text and answering questions around the text.

We are also encouraging children to think deeper, by not accepting the first answer the children give in response to a question. This is called surface thinking. We are responding with further questioning stems such as:-

- Why ?
- Tell me more...
- Can you add more detail to....

Try these sentence stems with a conversation that you can discuss. Have a go at this question -**What if you were allowed to stay up all night every night?**

News Flash !

We are delighted to announce the results of our School Council elections. The Y6 children applied for the position of Ameer and Ameerah and had to present a speech in front of the Year 3-6 children and teachers, who then voted for the candidate they believed would serve the Council in the best possible way.

Ameer: Mohammad Darragi

Ameera: Mariyam Usman

Deputy Ameer: Kaleem Basquine

Deputy Ameerah: Sumayyah Ali

We were very impressed with the high standard of the presentations of all the candidates. There were some excellent ideas presented which we hope we will be able to implement during the school years.

Pupil Voice

ECO WARRIORS IN YEAR 4

The focus this term:-

- Recycling bins for each class with a logo designed by Year 4

MAKE OUR PLANET A
CLEANER PLACE TO
LIVE
RECYCLE



- The Date Valley School community are also saving energy by switching off the lights and computer screens when not in use.

Curriculum Corner

Challenge TIME !

Learn our Eco-Code ! The Eco-warriors will be testing you !

Everyone please recycle, reduce and reuse

Conserve electricity by switching off the lights, computers, speakers and screens

Only use the amount of water you need

Cardboard and paper go in the recycling bin

Only throw away what you can't recycle

Don't drive, walk to school

Exercise and eat fruit and vegetables to stay healthy



Masha Allah for everyone's efforts for the JUST ONE TREE initiative.

We raised £133 as a school. We will keep you all posted with what happens next with the money!

PTFC News

Date Valley School PTFC presents

For Storytelling - contact Bushra 07915 609 747 for tickets!

Free Entry into Winter Fete!

Winter Fete

with Storytelling Evening

Remember to wrap up warm!!

Featuring Fantastic Stalls!

- Black Orchids - Winter Warm Collection
- Br Sufiyana's Fragrances
- Hikmah Beard Oil
- Sr Shaheena - Islamic Books for Children
- Kube Publishing
- Henna and Face Painting
- Arts & Crafts for Children and much more!

Delicious Food and Drink!

- Samosas, Pakoras
- Kebab Rolls, Hot Dogs,
- Pizza, Luxury Hot Chocolate,
- Desi Chai
- Gourmet Popcorn,
- Cakes & Bakes Galore
- and Sweets & Treats!

Saturday 14th December 2019 4.30-7.30pm
at Date Valley School, Cricket Green, Mitcham CR4 3LB

For stalls contact Raeesa 07530 726 622
PLEASE NOTE - Canons Leisure Center car park is locked at 7pm