



Shining bright against national

At West Vale Academy, we are extremely aware that school life is about a huge plethora of things – from academic growth to character development, personal achievements to teamwork skills. At times, all schools are ‘judged’ on their milestone data, be it through league tables or wider scrutiny.

Therefore, we are thrilled to share with you all this data this year, with nation-wide comparisons where they have been released. As you will see, we are achieving extremely well and we are very proud to share this with you. Our results have been a huge improvement on last year in all results and with a huge increase of up to 25% achieving expected standard in writing and maths in KS2 this year. As you will see, the below results are fantastic and although we realise that they do not show how much progress individual children have made from their starting points this has equally been excellent.

Our curriculum developments, wonderful staff and enthusiastic children have all contributed to these fantastic achievements. Well done, West Vale!

% children KS2 results

	Reading	Writing	Mathematics	SPAG	RWM combined
West Vale Academy	74%	74%	77%	71%	58%
National averages	73%	71%	73%	72%	59%

% children KS1 results

	Reading	Writing	Mathematics	SPAG	RWM combined
West Vale Academy	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
National averages	68%	60%	70%	N/A	56%

% children passing their year 1 Phonics screening check

	Score
West Vale Academy	92%
National averages	79%

% children meeting a good level of development (GLD) in Reception

	Score
West Vale Academy	64%
National averages	67%



Sporting and debating superstars



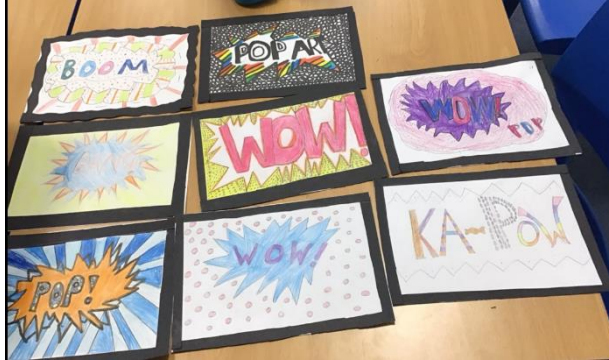
As expected, Sports Day was a real highlight of the year. All our children participated extraordinarily well and everyone won points for their house. The children finished their sports day with a final race, which was extremely tense. A race we won't forget was one between Mrs Midgley and Mrs Akroyd and it was a very close call. Of course Mrs Akroyd couldn't miss an opportunity to showcase her amazing running skills, as she is a marathon runner after all! The competition was so close but I can announce that blue team were the winners with 986 points. We extend our thanks to Heath Rugby Club, who hosted our event.



This half term, four of our year 6 children took part in the first ever debate competition within the Elland cluster of schools. The children faced tough competition from other schools and very challenging questions. The children took part in debates involving climate change and equal pay within sports. Our children represented our school with pride and we couldn't be prouder. They displayed conviction, teamwork and fantastic public speaking skills. We are pleased to announce that we were announced as the winners!! We can't wait for next year!



Art spectacular



During the summer half term we have had our whole school 'Art Day'. The children explored various artists including Andy Goldsworthy, Kandinsky, George Seurat, Peter Thorpe, Georgia O'Keeffe and Andy Warhol. What amazing artists we have at West Vale! The children of Attenborough class learnt about the abstract artist Wassily Kandinsky. The children recreated his piece, Squares with Concentric Circles. Donaldson class explored the work of Andy Goldsworthy and even went to explore in the woods to collect natural resources for their art pieces! Seacole created work in the style of George Seurat and explored the pointillism technique on their paintings. Ennis- Hill wowed with their space inspired pieces based on the artwork of Peter Thorpe. Luther- King delved into the world of 'pop art' by focusing on the artist Andy Warhol whilst Hawking created pieces inspired by the work of Georgia O'Keefe. We were wowed by the end results and we are planning to showcase these in September to parents!

Parental involvement



Wow, what a busy half term it has been with parent events! Families had so much fun at our family art and craft sessions. It was wonderful to see so many parents in school, enjoying these activities with their children. One parent said "That was brilliant, what a great activity, I've had so much fun" and another parent said "That was great and so different, I hope school does that again".

Well with feedback like that, we better start planning for future family art and craft events!

Father's Day breakfast was also a busy event with lots of family members joining for a morning breakfast treat. The children enjoyed playing board games with their family members before school started and it was great to see so many smiles, from both children and parents. One parent commented "I think the breakfast was very worthwhile. Life is busy and I don't often get time to have breakfast with my children during the week only on weekends so it's nice to spend 1 to 1 time." What a fantastic success it was! This will be one of many traditions to come.



Welcoming new staff

We are very lucky to have a strong and stable team of staff that our children and West Vale families will be familiar with for next year. Mrs Smart will be joining our fantastic West Vale team and I am sure that she will be welcomed with open arms. Mrs Smart brings lots of teaching and leadership experience to our teaching team, along with a keen interest for art. We also welcome our new sports coach, Mr Sargeson, who will be based at West Vale and Bowling Green two days a week. Mr Sargeson will be supporting the teaching of PE through school, as well as, leading sports after school clubs and organizing our inter-sports competitions next year. We say goodbye to Miss Taylor, who is moving on to pastures new and Miss Binns who will be moving to another school in the Great Heights Trust. We thank both members of staff for their hard work over their time at West Vale and we wish them all the best!



Important dates

Tuesday 5th September

- All children return to school, 8:50am – 3:20pm

Thursday 26th October

- End of the first half term

Tuesday 7th November

- Start of the second half term

Thursday 21st December

- Close for Christmas holidays

Have a look on our school website for all the term dates for academic year 2023- 2024

<https://www.westvaleacademy.org.uk/diary-news/>

West Vale *Academy News*



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