

Varna Community Primary School

UKS2 Autumn Newsletter



Dear parents and carers,

It is a pleasure to extend a warm welcome back to school to everyone ready for lots of learning this year! I hope you had a lovely and restful summer and are looking forward to the year ahead. We are committed to providing the best education for your children and we know that by home and school working together as a team, this helps to ensure our pupils achieve the best they can.

In this newsletter you will find key information about the autumn term which will end in December. This includes learning content for years 5 and 6 as well as important dates to be aware of.

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask your child's teacher, or send a message to **admin@varna.manchester.sch.uk**.

I hope you find this newsletter useful. Please also check the school website for updates as well as School Spider.

Kind regards,

Miss Bickerton

UKS2 Phase Leader



Meet the team



Mr Matthews
Year 5 teacher



Miss Quach
Year 5 teacher



Miss Sanders
LSA



Miss Comerford
LSA



Miss Hossack
Year 6 teacher



Miss Bickerton
Year 6 teacher/Phase Lead



Mr Hayward
Year 6 teacher



Mrs Wilburn
LSA



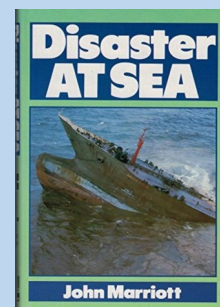
Mr Legge
LSA

What we are learning this term...

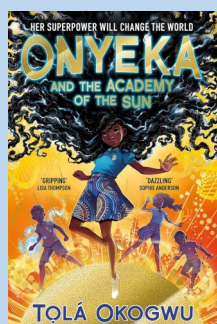
Year 5

Autumn 1

In English, we will explore some poetry and narrative writing. Our class book is *Disaster at Sea* by John Marriott. In maths, we will extend our place value knowledge up to 1,000,000 and revisit our knowledge of formal written methods for addition and subtraction as well as strengthening our fluency skills. Our science topic, we will be building on learning from year 3 by developing an understanding of how forces including gravitational attraction and drag forces—such as friction, air/water resistance and upthrust can affect movement. In our religion lessons, we will be exploring Sikhism thinking about how far a Sikh would go for their religion. We will be focusing on our geographical knowledge of the UK and creating some artwork inspired by Vikings. Our focus in music will be rock anthems and in Spanish we will be exploring pets. Our PSHE learning will focus on mental and emotional health.



Autumn 2



In English, we will continue to build on and develop our writing skills over a range of genres. Our class book will be *Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun*. In maths, our learning will focus on graphs and tables, multiplication and division to use this knowledge to calculate area and perimeter. For our Spanish learning this half term, we will turn our focus to the months of the year and saying when our birthdays are. In DT, we will analyse different bridge structures to help us design, make and evaluate our own designs. For History this half term, we will explore the Vikings and the Anglo-Saxons in Britain. Our religion focus for this half term will be Christianity, thinking about the story of Christmas. In science, we will extend our understanding of everyday materials, examining different properties and why this makes them suitable for different uses. Our PSHE

Year 6

Autumn 1

In English, we will explore some poetry and narrative writing. Our class book is *Keeper* by Alan Gibbons. In maths, we will extend our place value knowledge up to 10,000,000 and revisit our knowledge of formal written methods for addition and subtraction as well as strengthening our fluency skills. Our science topic is classification of living things, we will be thinking about similarities and differences between various characteristics of living things. In our religion lessons, we will be exploring Islam thinking about what are the best ways for Muslims to show their commitment to their faith. We will be focusing on our geographical knowledge of extreme weather phenomena and finding out about what happens when a volcano erupts as well as developing our mark-making skills to create portraits inspired by Mike Barrett. Our focus in music will be pop/neo-soul and being happy and in Spanish we will be focusing on developing our knowledge of verb stems and regular verbs. Our PSHE learning will focus on mental and emotional health.



Autumn 2



In English, we will continue to build on and develop our writing skills over a range of genres. Our class book will be *Windrush child* by Benjamin Zephaniah. In maths, we will strengthen our understanding of fractions and explore position and direction in geometry. For our Spanish learning this half term, we will turn our focus to school subjects and saying what we study. In DT, we will investigate and analyse items made using textiles and different ways of joining and decorating materials before making our own item. For History this half term, we will explore the history of World War 1. Our religion focus for this half term will be Christianity, thinking about whether Christmas celebrations and traditions help Christians to understand who Jesus was and why he was born. In science, we will be looking at identifying parts of the human circulatory system and describe what the functions of the heart are.

Our PSHE focus for this half term will be living in the wider world.

Dates for your diary...

Sunday 14th September 2025	Deadline for flu vaccinations
Thursday 25th September 2025	Flu Vaccinations
Friday 26th September 2025	Parent workshop (year 5) How to help your child learn at home. 2pm-3pm
Friday 3rd October 2025	Year 6—What to expect and how to support your child (SATs focused) parent workshop 2pm-3pm
Monday 20th October 2025 & Wednesday 22nd October 2025	Parent—Teacher Consultation Evenings
Friday 24th October 2025	School closes for pupils
Friday 31st October 2025	Closing date for secondary school applications (year 6)
Monday 3rd November 2025	School opens for pupils
Wednesday 5th November 2025	Individual and Sibling school photographs
Monday 10th November 2025 Friday 14th November 2025	Anti-Bullying Week (Odd Socks Day—11th November)
Friday 21st November 2025	Children in Need
Monday 8th December 2025	Santa stomp
Wednesday 10th December 2025	Y3-6 Christmas lunch and parties
Thursday 11th December 2025	Christmas pantomime
Thursday 18th December 2025	UKS2 Christmas sing-a-long
Friday 19th December 2025	School closes for pupils
Tuesday 6th January 2025	School opens for pupils

A message from the Head teacher...

I would like to extend a warm welcome back to you and your family. We are looking forward to having another successful term here at Varna and we have so many exciting things to look forward to. Here at Varna we do all we can to nurture the growth of the whole child, academically, socially, emotionally, morally and physically and we celebrate all their achievements as much as we can. We try to extend learning beyond the classroom and this coming term we have many educational visits and extra curricular learning opportunities planned.

We have a very dedicated and hardworking team in LKS2 who give all they can for the children in their care. Working alongside parents is the way to success for all our children and we encourage you speak to your child's teacher if you have any concerns or things you would like us to celebrate with you.

Very best wishes and thank you for your continued support,

Miss. K. Livesey

Headteacher

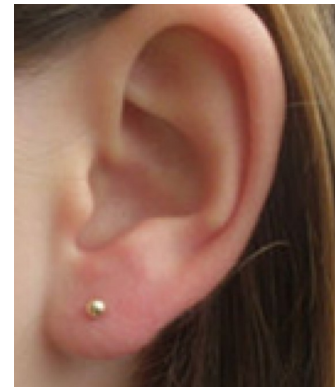


A message from the attendance team:

At Varna we have excellent attendance and are above the national primary average! Thank you for your commitment to your child's attendance and supporting school with ensuring that they get the most from their primary education. Please remember that the school day starts at 8:50am and children must arrive at school before then or they will be marked as late. The school day finishes at 3:20pm, please ensure you collect your child on time. Thank you for your ongoing support with attendance and punctuality and please speak to Mrs Cheetham or Mrs Whitehurst if you have any questions about this.



Key Information:



Homework

Homework will be sent out on **Thursday** and expected to be handed in the following **Tuesday**.

The children will have a book to read and parents will need to sign the reading journal, a optional topic homework page to be done in the purple books, a spelling homework and a maths homework.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

PE Kit—Consists of a white t-shirt, black shorts or leggings or black jogging bottoms (outdoor PE only)

PE days:

5Q — Thursday (indoor) & Monday (outdoor)

5M — Thursday (indoor) & Monday (outdoor)

6H — Monday (indoor) & Friday (outdoor)

6B — Monday (indoor) & Friday (outdoor)