

TVA NEWS

PRIMARY TRANSITION EDITION - December 2013

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Open Evening 2013



Top Valley Academy opened its doors to over 350 guests at its annual Open Evening in September.

The event began in the Dance Theatre from 6pm where many Year 6 pupils who had been invited to take part in interactive workshops at Curriculum Discovery Day, were given the chance to step on stage to showcase what they had learnt during the day to their parents.

Once the children had finished performing, the school was transformed into an interactive walkway, with each room in the Maths corridor filled with displays and activities from the subjects offered at the Academy.

There were also opportunities for the children to try out a sample of each course including biscuit and cake decorating in the Food room and erupting volcanoes in Science.

All the staff, including Top Valley Academy principal, Peter Brown, were on hand to meet and greet parents and answer any further questions they may have had.

A few words from our current Year 7 pupils...

"At Top Valley Academy you can talk to people if you are unhappy about something"

"Students are listened to, we have a lot of opportunities to do lots of fun things and we get rewarded for being good."

"The teachers are kind, I'm really happy here."

Christmas Crackers

TVA has been getting festive with Year 4 pupils from our local primary schools at this year's Christmas Cracker event.



On the 10th December, the Academy invited 180 pupils to make their own glittery Christmas decoration to take home.



Year 4 pupils also made their own special Christmas decoration for the TVA Christmas tree in the courtyard.

Year 3 Indoor Athletics



Pupils from Rise Park, Henry Whipple, Westglade and Robin Hood took part in track and field events at TVA's indoor athletics event in October. The events included obstacle relay races, as well as long and triple jumps, javelin and other fun athletics activities.

Taryn, from Rise Park, said her favourite part of the day was getting the chance to take part in the sprinting race: *"I like sprinting, it's my favourite. I liked doing the racing because I got to sprint a lot."*

Westglade Primary were ecstatic when they picked up the top spot, and were followed by Rise Park and Robin Hood in joint second place.

You can see more pictures in the Gallery on the TVA Website!

Curriculum Discovery Day



180 Year 6 pupils from local primary schools were given a glimpse into life at Top Valley Academy when they were invited to take part in Curriculum Discovery Day 2013.

Each pupil took part in one of the 12 workshops available including Musical Theatre, Spanish and Motor Vehicle.

Whether it was through taking part in rainforest animal handling, historic role plays or dance performances we hope all who attended got to see a glimpse into the exciting lessons we teach in the Academy.



Coming soon.....

THURSDAY 16th, 30th JAN & 13th FEBRUARY -
THURSDAY 3rd APRIL -
MONDAY 9th JUNE -

Y5 Caribbean Culture Day
Performing Arts Showcase
Primary World Cup

Peer Mentor Scheme



After the success of last year's peer mentor scheme, pupils from TVA were chosen to help support Year 4 and 5 pupils from Robin Hood Primary again this year.

The scheme, organised by Mrs Matthews, began last year when Top Valley Academy's pupils visited Robin Hood and helped the younger children with several sports activities.

In October, Robin Hood visited the Academy and were reunited with their mentors at another fun-filled morning of team building activities.

The session, ran by Mr Mohammed, saw all pupils taking part in a series of challenges which tested their speed, reactions, teamwork and listening skills.

TVA's chosen mentors were on-hand to support, guide and encourage the younger children.

Lilly-Mae, 8, said her favourite part of the day was seeing her mentor again: *"I loved everything but I loved seeing Georgia the most, she's my best friend."*

Forensic Science Days

Year 5 police officers, scientists and detectives were invited to help solve a cold-blooded murder at Top Valley Academy.

The Academy was transformed into an evidence-filled crime scene in which each Year 5 helped to gather evidence and present it to the court room at the end of the morning.

The pupils were split into three groups on arrival, given exciting costumes and taken to analyse evidence based upon the poem *"The Ballad of Charlotte Dymond"* by Charles Causley. Their aim was to each discover vital clues which could prove or disprove the suspect 'Matthew Weeks' as guilty of murder.

The police officers, led by Chief Inspector Steel, used co-ordinates to track the placing of the suspect and solved sums to work out key facts from the night of the murder. In the science lab with Dr Bate, the Year 5 scientists analysed soil samples and dye from the handkerchief found on the victim. In English with Miss Iles, pupils created dramatic role-play interviews.

Rise Park pupil, Cameron, 10, said he really enjoyed himself: *"I want to be a scientist when I'm older and we got to see what it would be like!"*

For those who enjoyed the Science element, here at TVA we also run an **afterschool Science Club** every other Wednesday where pupils are given the chance to get involved with lots of weird and wonderful experiments.



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