

We care



We are brave



We celebrate individuality



We leave no one behind

Message from Mrs Harris

Thank you for all those that put the extra effort into walking to school, we have been put forward for our bronze award, which is very exciting.

The children continue to amaze us, continuing with super learning and Sports day practices in the mix. Next Friday (13th) we have our Summer Fayre- please let your children come as they please and bring a bottle this will go towards the stall at the Fayre.

In assembly this week we have been looking at changes as we get older and the need for us to be both resilient and have perseverance when trying new things or to get better.

We had a Fire alarm practice today and the children certainly made us proud; they were calm and respectful throughout. We have exciting plans for our lunchtimes to come, Mrs. Jinks is working hard on developing zones and getting new equipment, we will keep you posted about this but hopefully you will hear it from the children,

Have a great weekend,





Attendance

Whole school (this week)	93.86%
Reception	94.38%
Year 1	92.09%
Year 2	95%

Congratulations to **Woodpeckers 98.28%** for being the class with the highest attendance this week! Well done for your *fantastic attendance* this week. **Make sure your child attends school every day so that they get the most from their education.**

Lunchtime awards



Home Achievements





Merit Award Winners

Merit certificates are awarded to children who exemplify our school values, follow our school rules and demonstrate our star learner qualities. Check out our award winners this week!

Reception



Year 1



Year 2



**FREE
ENTRY**

VIOLET WAY

Summer FAIRE

**1530
-1700**

**FRIDAY 13TH
JUNE**

**TEDDY TOMBOLA
LUCKY DIP
CAKE & SNACK STALLS
HOOK A BOTTLE
MUSIC
CRAFT & BOOK STALLS
ENTERTAINMENT
FIRE ENGINE
AND MORE!**



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT



Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SCARY ELEMENTS

While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

GRIEFING

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 6 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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FIERTÉ

MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

INSPIRING ALL TO EXCELLENCE



Year 2 Transition to Edge Hill

For children attending Edge Hill in September the following date are important:

- Thursday 12th June year 3 teachers visiting classes
- Tuesday 17th June – Year 2 children to visit Edge Hill for the afternoon (picked up from Violet Way)
- Thursday 26th June – Year 2 children to visit Edge Hill and to stay for lunch (Dropped off and pick up at Violet Way)

Some children may also attend additional transition sessions, and this will be discussed with individual parents as required.

NB: There are a few children that are not attending Edge Hill in Year 3. For these children, parents are welcome to contact their child's new school to arrange a visit. Otherwise, they should come to school as normal.

For Parents:

- After school Meeting – 10th June 530pm
- Open Morning – 19th June 9.10am

Staffing update 2025

Miss Mayer has been Ladybirds teacher this year, she is excitedly setting up her own cake business (and will have a stall and cards at our Summer Fayre so please go and visit her). As a result, we have interviewed and appointed- will have a new teacher joining us in September 2025.

While we will be sorry to see Miss Mayer go, we are very excited about her future.



Reception and Year 1 Children will be meeting their new teachers Wednesday 18th June – in the afternoon and Thursday 26th June Morning formally, but they will also be popping in to help in between. We still have a few weeks left in our current classes so lets enjoy it.





'A Hint of Snow White'



- **Dear Year 2 Parents and Carers,**

We are delighted to share that our Year 2 performance will be held at **Edge Hill**, a venue that not only supports the cost of staging the event but also offers a wonderful opportunity to support the children's transition as they prepare for the next stage of their learning journey.

Performance Dates and Times:

- **Tuesday 8th July** – 2:00pm to 3:30pm (Pick-up from Edge Hill)
- **Wednesday 9th July** – 2:00pm to 3:30pm (Pick-up from Edge Hill)
- **Wednesday 9th July** – 5:00pm to 6:30pm (Drop-off at Edge Hill at 4:30pm)
- In addition, we will be holding a **special dress rehearsal for grandparents** on the morning of **Tuesday 8th July at 9:30am**. This will be a free event- certainly a practice, and certainly not a 'polished' version- further details will be shared closer to the date.

Ticketing Information:

Tickets will go live on Arbor under 'school shop' on **Monday 9th June 6pm**. Due to venue capacity and health and safety regulations, we kindly ask for your understanding and cooperation:

- **Each family will be able to book up to 2 tickets per session.**
- While we aim to accommodate everyone, **not all families will be able to attend all three sessions**, so we ask for kindness and patience as we manage this fairly.
- There will be a **small charge per ticket** to help us cover the costs of resourcing and staging the performance.

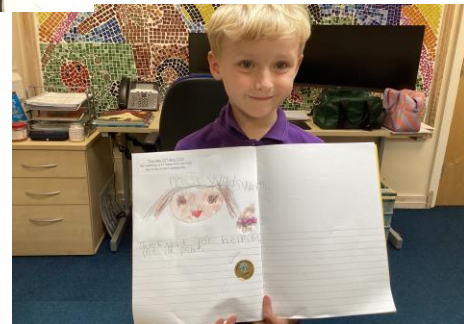
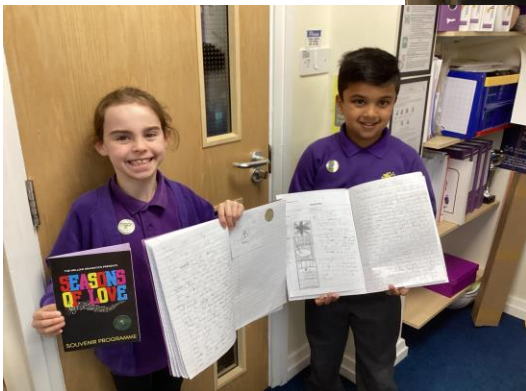
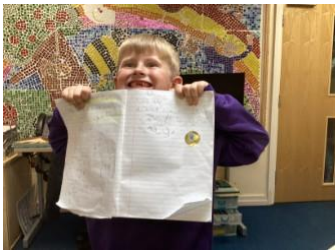
Following feedback from families last year, we have decided not to record this year's Year 2 performance. However, we understand how special these moments are, so parents and carers are very welcome to film the performance themselves for personal use. We kindly ask that any recordings are not shared on social media, in order to respect the privacy of all children and families involved.

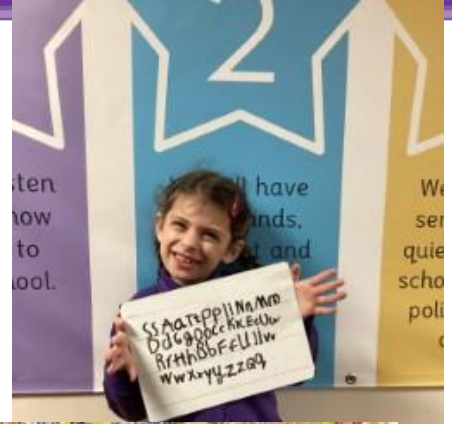
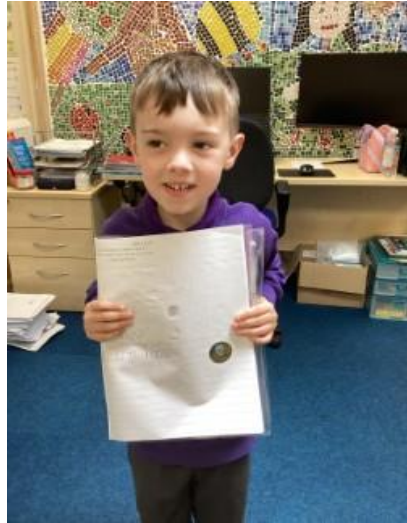
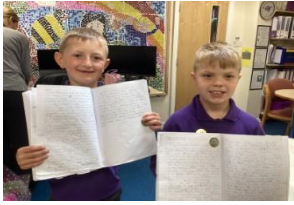
The children are working incredibly hard, and we are so proud of their efforts. We can't wait to share their performance with you—it promises to be a memorable and joyful celebration of their learning.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

The year 2 team and Mrs Harris









Parent lunch in Badgers...





Dear Parents,

I'm really excited to be offering a free *Sleep Support Masterclass* exclusively for Violet Way families!

After reading through your questionnaire responses, it was clear that the biggest challenge many of you are facing is **bedtime battles**—the struggle to get your child to settle calmly at the end of the day. So, this masterclass will focus on just that: helping children wind down and go to bed with less stress (for them *and* for you!).

This session is aimed at parents of children aged **2-5**, but if you have a child in **Year 2**, I would still really encourage you to come along. There'll be tips and strategies you can adapt to suit slightly older children too.

As a qualified sleep consultant—and a mum who's been through it myself—I completely understand how exhausting and overwhelming bedtime struggles can be. Please don't think that just because I'm a teacher, I haven't been there. I absolutely have! I've felt the frustration, the tears (mine and theirs), and the deep exhaustion. That's exactly why I now help other families find calm and confidence around sleep.

The masterclass will take place on **June 26th at 4:00pm**, and I'm so grateful to **Mrs Harris**, who has kindly offered to look after the children in a classroom while the session runs. This means you can come along, relax, and focus—without having to entertain a little one at the same time.

I really hope to see you there. Let's get your evenings back and help your little ones feel more rested and ready for their days.

Warm wishes,

Mrs Ayling

www.lullabybyes.co.uk

Instagram: @lullabybyes_sleepconsultant

• **LIVE ON ARBOR!!!!!!!!**





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Meet
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Looking to give back to your community?

With over 30 organisations seeking volunteers, this is your chance to find a role that fits your passion and schedule!

Explore a variety of opportunities, connect with local charities and groups. Gain valuable experience while making an impact.

Thursday 26th June 2025
12:30pm – 2:30pm

The Mulberry Bistro,
Burton and South Derbyshire College,
Lichfield Street, Burton upon Trent,
DE14 3RL

Contact: 07751 729152

Email: Rosanna.skelham@supportstaffordshire.org.uk

JOIN US AND DISCOVER HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!





Library and Forest School Dates

Parent Library Mornings – Autumn Term

Parents are invited to join their child, every three weeks for a parent library session. Gates will open 5 minutes earlier for the class whose library session it is. Reception sessions are on Tuesdays. Year 2 sessions are on Wednesdays and Year 1 sessions are on Thursdays. Parent library morning sessions start the week after next. Please see dates below for your child's parent library session.

SUMMER TERM 2025

Reception Tuesday Sessions

Foxes	29/4	20/5	17/6
Squirrels	6/5	3/6	24/6
Badgers	13/5	10/6	1/7

Year 2 Wednesday Sessions

Kestrels	30/4	21/5	18/6
Owls	7/5	4/6	25/6
Woodpeckers	14/5	11/6	2/7

Year 1 Thursday Sessions

Dragonflies	1/5	22/5	19/6
Ladybirds	8/5	5/6	26/6
Busy Bees	15/5	12/6	3/7

Forest School Sessions – Will be fun for a FULL week (bar Wednesdays)

Owls	Kestrels	Woodpeckers	Dragonflies	Busy Bees	Ladybirds	Foxes	Squirrels	Badgers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9/9	16/9	23/9	30/9	7/10	14/10	21/10	4/11	11/11
18/11	25/11	2/12	9/12	6/1	13/1	20/1	27/1	3/2
10/2	24/2	3/3	10/3	17/3	24/3	31/3	7/4	28/4
5/5	12/5	19/5	2/6	9/6	16/6	23/6	30/6	7/7





Dates For Your Diary

Staffordshire Term Dates 2024-25

Inset day: Monday 2 September

Term Starts: Tuesday 3 September

Holiday: Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

Term Ends: Friday 20 December

Holiday: Monday 23 December – Friday 3 January

Spring Term 2024

Term Starts: Monday 6 January

Holiday: Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February

Term Ends: Friday 11 April

Holiday: Monday 14 April – Friday 25 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 20 April

Summer Term 2025

Term Starts: Monday 28 April

May Day: Monday 5 May

Holiday: Monday 26 May – Friday 30 May

Term Ends: Monday 21 July

Holiday: Tuesday 22 July – Friday 29 August

Please also make a note of our planned INSET days for next academic year at Violet Way:

Violet Way Inset Days

20th June 2025

21st July 2025

What's Coming Up?

Toddler Morning – Every Tuesday morning
9:00am-10:30am, £2 per family

Parent Coffee Morning –First Friday of every month-
4/7

Reception parent lunch: 1 place per child
18th June Squirrels

25th June Foxes

Parent Stay Forest School-1.45-2.45pm

Busy Bees-13th June

Ladybirds-19th June (20th June Inset day)

Foxes-27th June

Squirrels-4th July

Badgers-11th July

Sports' Day- approx. 1 hour at Edge Hill.

10th June- Reception- Leave VW at 9.15 am to walk to Edge Hill.

11th June - Y1- Leave VW at 9.15am to walk to Edge Hill

11th June- Y2- Leave VW at 10.40 am to walk to Edge Hill

Bring a bottle and wear what you want day- 13th June

Year 2 Performances – tickets live on Arbor 6pm on 9th June

8th July- 2pm

9th July-2pm and 5pm

Year 2 Leavers' Disco – Wednesday 2nd July

Fierte Arts Festival- week comm 7th July- wear blue on 7th July and donate £1 via Arbor

Year 2 Laches Wood Trip – Thursday 17th July

Year 2 Graduation- Friday 18th July

9.15am - Kestrels

10am - Owls

10.45am - Woodpeckers





For those that want to book ahead here are next years dates: Please note 2025-2026 academic year

- **Autumn Term 2025**
- **INSET Day (1):** Monday 1st September 2025
- **Term starts:** Tuesday 2nd September 2025
- **Holiday:** Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October 2025
- **Term Ends:** Friday 19th December 2025
- **Holiday:** Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January 2025
- **Spring Term 2026**
- **INSET Day (2):** Monday 5th January 2026
- **Term starts:** Tuesday 6th January 2026
- **INSET Day (3):** Friday 13th February 2026
- **Holiday:** Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February 2026
- **Term Ends:** Friday 27th March 2026
- **Holiday:** Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April 2026
- **Summer Term 2026**
- **Term starts:** Monday 13th April 2026
- **May Day:** Monday 4th May 2026
- **Holiday:** Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May 2026
- **INSET Day (4):** Friday 19th June 2026
- **Term Ends:** Friday 17th July 2026
- **INSET Day (5):** Monday 20th July 2026
- **Holiday:** Tuesday 21st July 2026 onwards

