



A Message from Mrs. Harris

Welcome back!

We hope you had a lovely half term. It's that time of year again – coughs and colds are going around! If you're unsure whether to send your child in, please do (unless they've been sick or are clearly unwell). We'll always call you if they need to come home.

Christmas Events – Save the Dates!

More information on the dates page, but here's a quick look at what's coming up:

- **Reception** – Christmas Play
- **Year 1** – Christmas Singalong
- **Year 2** – Christmas at the Church

Children in Need – Friday 14th November

Come dressed in something **spotty** to help us support this fantastic cause!

A Fond Farewell

After many years of dedicated service, **Mrs. Ward from OPOJ Nursery is retiring at Christmas.** I'm sure you'll join me in thanking her for her commitment and care for your children. We wish her a very well-deserved and happy retirement!

Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who joined us and the Family Hub for this morning's coffee session – it was lovely to see so many of you there.

Reception Library Mornings

We've started our Reception Library Mornings, and it's been wonderful to welcome parents in to share stories with the children.

Next week we are starting a new initiative at Violet Way led by Miss Wagg, Guardian groups- on a Friday morning the children will go into mixed age group Guardian groups with a member of staff and discuss PSE topics, vote, learn about the world and create a feeling of belonging. They will stay with this group and be encouraged to look out and help each other over the years. We are excited for this new **initiative.**





Attendance

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Whole school (this week) | 97.53% |
| Reception | 97.42% |
| Year 1 | 98.79% |
| Year 2 | 96.34% |



Congratulations to **Ladybirds (99.61%)**

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



Well done to our Lunchtime Award children who all showed good manners to the staff in the dining hall.

Well done to the children who brought in their awards from outside of school. These included football, swimming and tennis awards!





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 for the last fortnight!

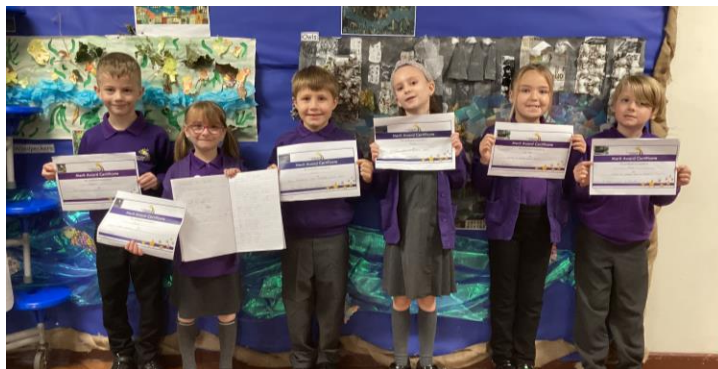
Reception



Year 1



Year 2





Dogs Reminder

Please remember that dogs are not permitted onto school premises. We would like to also inform you that we have recently become aware of a few children who are scared of dogs. With this in mind, please be considerate when walking to school if you have to bring your dog with you, particularly waiting on narrow paths to school. Thank you for your understanding with this.

Parent Open Sessions

We are really looking forward to welcoming you in school over the next few weeks so you can watch our phonics lessons! These will take place in your child's classrooms:

Thursday 13th November:

Year 1 - 9am

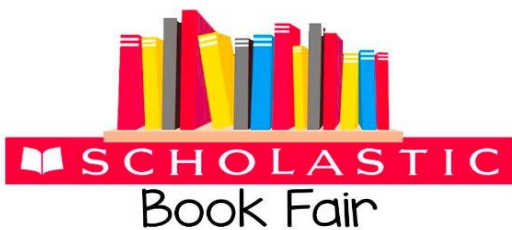
Year 2 - 9.30am

Thursday 20th November:

Reception – 9.05am

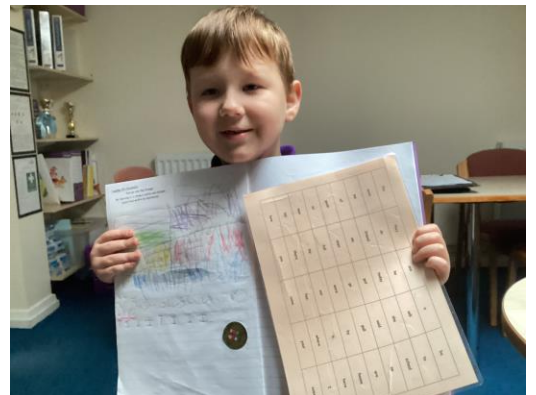
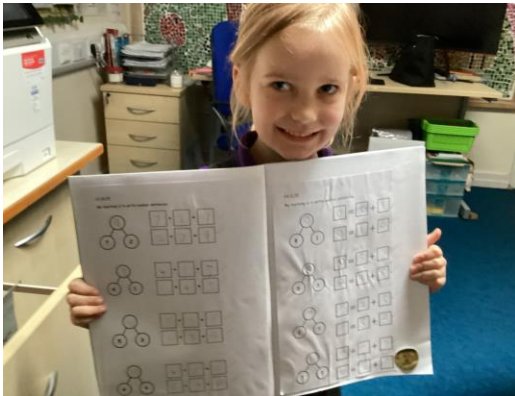
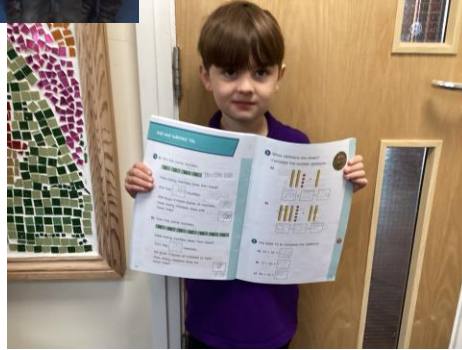
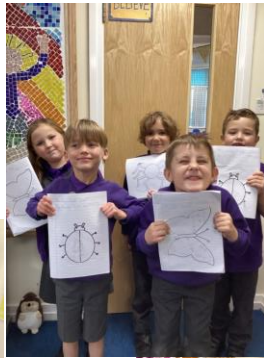
Please wait outside the main school gates once you have dropped your child off at school because we will need to register them first. The sessions will last for approximately 30 minutes.

If possible, please can only one adult attend the session due to limited space in the classrooms. We hope that you find the sessions useful in supporting your child's reading at home.



We recently purchased some new books for each year group to add to the read aloud books which are read for story time each day. We bought these using the money earned from the book fair, so thank you once again!











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.

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Reception Tuesday Sessions

| | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|-------|-------|
| Foxes | - | - | 4/11 | 25/11 |
| Squirrels | - | - | 11/11 | 2/12 |
| Badgers | - | - | 18/11 | 9/12 |

Year 2 Wednesday Sessions

| | | | | |
|--------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Kestrels | 24/9 | 15/10 | 12/11 | 3/12 |
| Owls | 1/10 | 22/10 | 19/11 | 10/12 |
| Woodpeckers | 8/10 | 5/11 | 26/11 | 17/12 |

Year 1 Thursday Sessions

| | | | | |
|--------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Dragonflies | 25/9 | 16/10 | 13/11 | 4/12 |
| Ladybirds | 2/10 | 23/10 | 20/11 | 11/12 |
| Busy Bees | 9/10 | 6/11 | 27/11 | 18/12 |

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

Forest School Timetable

| Owls | Kestrels | Woodpeckers | Dragonflies | Busy Bees | Ladybirds | Foxes | Squirrels | Badgers |
|-------|----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------|-----------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| w/b | w/b | w/b | w/b | w/b | w/b | w/b | w/b | w/b |
| 8/9 | 15/9 | 22/9 | 29/9 | 6/10 | 13/10 | 20/10 | 3/11 | 10/11 |
| 17/11 | 24/11 | 24/11 | 1/12 | 8/12 | 5/1 | 12/1 | 19/1 | 26/1 |
| 2/2 | 9/2 | 23/2 | 2/3 | 9/3 | 16/3 | 23/3 | 13/4 | 20/4 |
| 27/4 | 4/5 | 11/5 | 18/5 | 1/6 | 8/6 | 15/6 | 22/6 | 29/6 |





Uniform Reminder

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we continue to focus on creating a strong sense of belonging and pride in our school community, I'd like to remind everyone about our school uniform policy.

We understand that there may be occasional times when children need to wear trainers or alternative items while waiting for replacements—this is absolutely fine as a one-off. However, we do expect all children to wear the correct school uniform, including **black school shoes**, unless you have spoken to a member of staff.

To support families, our wonderful PTA has provided **uniform buckets in the school office**, filled with good-quality, pre-loved uniform items for all ages and for both boys and girls. Please feel free to help yourself, and if you have any outgrown items to donate, we'd be very grateful.

A few additional reminders:

Earrings should be small studs only—**no hoops or large earrings**, please, for health and safety reasons.

Please avoid **large or over decorative headbands**, as they can be distracting in class (unless it's a theme or dress-up day).

Thank you for your continued support in helping our children feel part of our school community and ready to learn.

Warm regards,

Mrs. Harris

Headteacher



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Dates for Your Diary

Staffordshire Term Dates 2025-2026

Autumn Term 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

Term starts: Tuesday 6th January 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

Term & Academic Year Ends: Friday 17th July 2026

Violet Way INSET Days

1st September 2025

5th January 2026

13th February 2026

19th June 2026

20th July 2026

What's Coming Up?

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

Monday 10th November – Odd Socks Day - Children wear odd socks to school to celebrate individuality and uniqueness. Let's be kind to each other and respect each other's individuality.

Friday 14th November- Children in Need- wear something spotty

Monday 17th November- Wreath making PTA event. 5.30-7.30pm

Thursday 13th November - KS1 phonics open sessions

Thursday 20th November - Reception phonics open sessions

Thursday 18th December- Year 1 Singalong- 9.15am - Ladybirds

10.15am - Dragonflies

11.15am - Busy Bees

Thursday 18th December – 1.45pm - Year 2 Carol Concert at St. Peter's Church

11th December – Reception Christmas Play 9.15am - Foxes

10.15am -Badgers and 1.45pm -Squirrels

Christmas Fair- 11th December 3.30-5pm

Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner Day - 17th December





Please may I gently remind parents that, as a school, we are committed to ensuring children are in school and learning every day. We understand that family time and holidays are important, but we are required to follow national attendance guidelines, including issuing fines where necessary. These decisions are not made by the school directly, and any money collected from fines goes back to the County, not to us.

We know this can be frustrating at times, and we truly appreciate your understanding and support as we work together to give every child the best possible start in life.

ATTENDANCE WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1 I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

£160



2 FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160
4 children & 1 parent = £640
Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

10 IN 10

5

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.


1 Day = **2** Sessions

3 FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160
4 children & 2 parents = **£1280**
Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

4 If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>2ND TIME</p> <p>2 parents and 1 child = £320 2 children = 640 3 children = 960 4 children = 1280</p> <p>No discount for early payment</p> |  | <p>3RD TIME</p> <p>A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child 1 parent & 4 children = £10,000 2 parents & 4 children = £20,000</p> |
|---|---|---|

