

 We care
  We are brave
  We celebrate individuality
  We leave no one behind

## A Message from Mrs Kee

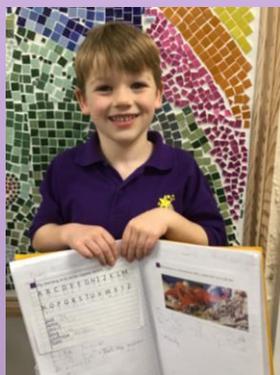
We began the week with an assembly delivered virtually by the NSPCC team, the focus of which was keeping children safe. The assembly (Speak out. Stay safe.) aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly way. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, letting a trusted adult know about any worries they have. This was aligned with the message we delivered during our anti-bullying week too.

In Forest Schools, there has been a focus over the last few weeks on sculpting using clay and found materials in the woodlands, such as twigs, leaves, berries and feathers, to create a reindeer clay figure. The models the children created were lovely and several children came to show me their clay reindeers and were able to describe what they had used and why.

The weeks are flying by and, as we move closer to Christmas, the children in EYFS and Year 1 have been rehearsing their Christmas performances. I have been lucky enough to have a sneaky peek and can tell you that you will be in for a treat when you come to watch!

Today we had our collaborative monitoring morning where the Trust Vice CEO and the Trust Lead Practitioner came to look at learning at Violet Way. We visited classrooms and observed the children in their reading groups and English lessons in Y1 and Y2 and, in EYFS, we observed the morning routines, phonics and maths. It is always a pleasure going into classes and it was wonderful to share this with Trust leaders. Together we identified many strengths and agreed on our next steps. Just like the children, the staff at Violet Way are always reaching for the stars and want to build on what is working on, continuing to develop further.

Wishing you a lovely weekend, *Mrs Kee*





## Attendance

Whole School (this week)	92.81%
Reception	89.93%
Year 1	91.89%
Year 2	96.42%



Congratulations to **Kestrels**

for being the class with the highest attendance this week yet again! **You are amazing Kestrels!** Well done on your fantastic attendance this week.

**Make sure your child attends school every day so that they get the most from their education.**



## Merit Awards

Congratulations to our Merit Award winners this week!





## Celebrating Home Achievements

It has been lovely to hear about children's achievements at home, including writing that has been added to our display in school and awards children have earned from their sporting clubs. We have a child in school who has been scouted by professional teams as well as children starting their sports journey and being recognised for their achievements. Thank you for sharing!



Our 'The Writing's on the Wall' display is starting to fill up. Thank you to all those children that have shared their writing from home with us. We have lists, letters and stories! Year 2 have now been set the challenge to bring in some writing from home to add to our display.

## Welcome

We would like to say a warm welcome to Mrs Tift. She is working with Badgers class during the first half of the week and will also be supporting children's speech and language development across the school at the end of the week.





## Attendance

If children are absent and we are not informed of the reason for absence, we will send you a letter. If you do not inform us of the reason for your child's absence, we have to record the absence as unauthorised (there is a time-limited period where it can be amended). If your child is absent from school, please let us know the reason by emailing [office@violetway.org](mailto:office@violetway.org) or calling the school office on 01823 248530. There is an option to leave a message if we are not able to take your call.

All parents will receive a letter at the end of the term with information about your child's attendance. We promote good attendance by awarding the class with the highest attendance each week our attendance bear 'Violet' who they get to look after for the week.

Kestrels class have been taking care of 'Violet' this week – well done!



## Toy donations

We have agreed to be a toy donation station for Dereks Tree. Dereks Tree is a fantastic charity and any toys (only new games and toys please) they receive will be distributed to families in need in the Staffordshire, Derbyshire and Leicestershire areas prior to Christmas.

The deadline to make any donations of new toys or games is **Thursday 9th December**. Please bring any donations of new toys or games to the office - we would love to be able to give the charity as many as we possibly can! Thank you for your support.

## Parking

We are all aware that the parking near the school can be difficult. We have introduced our 'parking buddies' and have requested that parents park considerately. Once you have dropped their child(ren) safely at school, please can we request that you drive away from the school as soon as possible to allow other parents to use the spaces to park and drop their children off safely. Many thanks for your continued support.





# Dates for your diary

## Staffordshire Term Dates 2021-22

### Autumn Term 2021

**Inset day:** Wednesday 1 September

**Term Starts:** Thursday 2 September

**Half Term:** Monday 25 October – Friday 29 October

**Term ends:** Friday 17 December

**Holiday:** Monday 20 December – Monday 3 January

### Spring Term 2022

**Inset day:** Tuesday 4 January

**Term Starts:** Wednesday 5 January

**Half Term:** Monday 21 February – Friday 25 February

**Term ends:** Thursday 7 April

**Inset day:** Friday 8 April

**Holiday:** Monday 11 April – Friday 22 April

**Easter Sunday:** Sunday 17 April

### Summer Term 2022

**Term starts:** Monday 25 April

**May Day:** Monday 2 May

**Half Term:** Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June

**Term ends:** Wednesday 20 July

**Holiday:** Thursday 21 July – Friday 2 September

## Violet Way Inset Days

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June (School closed for Queen's Jubilee)

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June

## What's Coming Up?

**Flu immunisations** – Wednesday 1st December

### **Reception Christmas performances**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December - Reception

9.15am – Foxes

10.15am – Badgers

2pm – Squirrels

### **Year 1 Christmas performances**

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Year 1

9.15am – Ladybirds

10.15am – Busy Bees

2pm - Dragonflies

### **Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner Day (plus a very special visitor!) - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>**

December– Wear your Christmas jumper (or a red, green, or sparkly jumper for example). Pay £1.00 to support Save the Children

**Christmas Carol Concert - at St Peter's Church –13<sup>th</sup> December**

**End of Term** – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December

**INSET** – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January

**Children return for Spring Term** - Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January

