

A Message from Mrs Kee

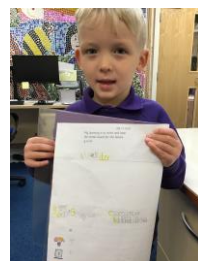
This week, our assembly focused on thanks, linked to harvest the previous week. The children talked about ways of showing thanks and all the different people they are thankful for. We also talked about 'Thank your cleaner' day. And saying 'thank you' to people that help us.

As part of their design and technology lessons, the children in Year 1 have tasted a range of salads and used this to design their own. They then made their delicious salads using a range of healthy, colourful ingredients, such as peppers, carrots, sweetcorn and cucumber from their design. I think they mostly enjoyed eating them! Perhaps they can make a salad for you over the half term.

I have continued to be impressed with the wonderful work the children are producing across the curriculum. This week I have seen salads in DT, wonderful writing, great maths learning, children persevering in PE and heard some super reading!

Thank you to our children and families supporting our reading promises. The children have been so excited to fill in and complete their rockets - well done!

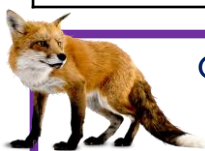
This week's newsletter includes the results of our walk to school month survey and our school council voting. Happy holiday, *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole school (this week)	91.79%
Reception	92.42%
Year 1	92.96%
Year 2	89.93%



Congratulations to

Foxes

for being the class
with the highest attendance this week!

Well done!

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

Half term attendance overview

Whole school 05.9.22 - 20.10.22	94.49%
Reception	93.91%
Year 1	94.19%
Year 2	94.73%

Our attendance for most of the half term has been really good but it has slipped over the last couple of week. We have just missed our target of **95%** attendance for this half term – it was very close though. Let's all work together to improve this next half term!

Merit Award Winners

Congratulations to this week's Merit Award winners! As we had our School Council Assembly today, this week's Merit Award winners received their award in class. Please note that as Miss Smith was absent yesterday, we were unable to give Merit awards to Ladybirds this week.





School Council

Come and meet our school council!

Thank you to all of the children who put their names forward – we are very proud of you. Each class voted on Wednesday, and here are our new school council! Even though some children might have felt a little disappointed that they were not chosen everyone clapped and gave thumbs up to the children when the names were called out in assembly. Look out for further updates in the newsletter about what the school council will be getting up to.



Reception

Badgers

Squirrels

Foxes



Year 1

Dragonflies

Ladybirds

Busy Bees



Year 2

Kestrels

Owls

Woodpeckers





Marvellous me Thumbs Up

Children earn Marvellous Me 'thumbs up' points for behaviours in line with our school rules and values. There are prizes for different milestones Parents do not receive notifications for 'thumbs up' but can view their child's 'thumbs up' counter on the app. At 100 'thumbs up' children get a prize from the headteacher prize box and at 125 'thumbs up' they have a special afternoon with the headteacher. This time the children played first and then had a hot chocolate and biscuit. Well done!



We are continuing to reward children for reading their school reading book at home. Remember to only colour in one box for each read. We suggest children read their school reading book at least three times per week (this would mean filling in at least three boxes on their rocket). We hope you have time to enjoy reading books at home, visiting the library and reading or listening to stories online during the holiday – happy reading!





We books

Thank you to everyone who attended the Book Fair this week. It has been very popular again and will have raised money for new books for our library. Every child who bought a book had their name put on a raffle ticket. Five raffle tickets were pulled out of the box on Thursday morning and here are our very happy winners who got to choose a book as a prize.



We are continuing to reward children for reading their school reading book at home. Remember to only colour in one box for each read. We suggest children read their school reading book at least three times per week (this would mean filling in at least three boxes on their rocket). We hope you have time to enjoy reading books at home, visiting the library and reading or listening to stories online during the holiday – happy reading!

NHS Virtual Drop in Clinics



Families' Health and Wellbeing

School Nurse
virtual drop in clinic

NHS
Midlands Partnership
with Foundation Trust
A Local University Teaching Trust

Every
Thursday
from
3.30 - 4.30pm

The School Nurse is here to help your child feel healthy, happy and safe during their school years and to get the best from their education. If you have any concerns about their health and wellbeing please drop in to chat.

Join the link and talk to a School Nurse.
We provide a confidential and friendly service

mpft.live/schoolnurse



NHS School nurse virtual drop in clinics are available for both young people and parents/carers. They are on every Thursday between 3.30-4.30pm and you can join via the QR code or by this link <https://mpft.live/schoolnurse>. You will go into a virtual waiting room, no-one else in the waiting room will be able to see your information. A school nurse will then see you in turn.

Anyone can also contact us via the hub
Or parents can text on 07520 615 722
Young people can text on 07520 615 721





Thank you!

Last week, we showed that we **'We care'** about our community by donating food to the YMCA food bank. The donations were desperately needed and we have received an email and a letter from them this week expressing their gratitude (see below).

Dear Mrs Kee and all at Violet Way Academy

Please find attached a letter of thanks from the YMCA. We really appreciate your support.

Kind regards

Julia

YMCA BURTON



Julia Davies-Ratcliffe

Foodbank co-ordinator



Private & Confidential

19th October 2022

To the children, parents and staff of Violet Way Academy

Dear All

Re: Foodbank donations

On behalf of our Trustees, Staff, Volunteers and residents at Burton upon Trent & District YMCA, I would like to say a huge thank you for your generous donations to help support our foodbank.

Your donations come at a time when many people in our local community are experiencing financial hardship. The demand for our foodbank service is the highest it has ever been in the 22-year history of providing this service. We are seeing many new people accessing this for the first time and it is a lifeline for everyone in need. Up to the end of July we issued 1820 emergency food parcels. Each parcel contains 28 items, which equates to 50,960 items of food. It has been very challenging to meet this demand and your donations are extremely valuable to us.

Thank you once again for your kindness and generosity and for helping your community, particularly at such a difficult time for many.

Yours sincerely

Julia Davies-Ratcliffe

Food Bank Coordinator
Julia.Davies-Ratcliffe@burtonymca.org
Tel 01283 547211



FIERTÉ

MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

INSPIRING ALL TO EXCELLENCE



Walk to School Month

This month has been Walk to School Month. Each week in October the children have been hearing about the benefits of walking to school (including cycling and scooting) and we are keeping a note of the number of children walking to school all week, some of the week and not at all.

We have checked the records and can confirm that the class that has shown the most improvement in walking to school and have topped the score board is **OWLS!**



Congratulations! Each child in Owls class has received a certificate, badge and sticker. All children have received a Marvellous Me badge for their efforts and contribution to Walk to School Month.

When we return to school after the half term holiday, try to keep it up and walk to school as often as possible. Remember walking (or cycling or scooting) to school all, or some of the week, will help children to keep fit and active, reduce congestion around the school and help our environment.

‘Here to Help’

Across Staffordshire many people are feeling the pressure from increasing cost of living. If you’re struggling financially or concerned about the future, getting help early can make a big difference. Lots of support is available from many different organisations, and it is often closer than people think. On Staffordshire Council’s new [‘Here to Help’](#) pages you’ll find information, advice, and support to help you with

- ✓ Money and debt
- ✓ Benefit checker
- ✓ Energy bills
- ✓ Food and essentials
- ✓ Childcare costs
- ✓ Staying warm
- ✓ Staying well
- ✓ Helping others





PTA members – we're still looking!

We are still looking for parent volunteers to be members of our lovely PTA - we have had a meeting with our new members but we need more helpers so that we can continue to run events and fundraise for school throughout the year! If you are interested and think you could help, please contact Miss Evans over half term by emailing office@violetway.org.

If anyone can help with some Christmas wrapping (even if you don't want to join the PTA) for children's end of year gifts, we would appreciate your help! The date in mind is **Monday 7th November** from **1:30pm** at school. Please let the office know in advance!

Paulet's Christmas Fayre – Saturday 12th November



Paulet are hosting their Christmas Fayre on Saturday 12th November! If you are interesting in running a stall, please get in touch with their school office to see if they still have any vacancies.

We would love it if lots of our parents could show their support! There will be lots of yummy treats to buy, games to play & prizes to be won!





Staying happy and safe

We appreciate that sometimes, the holidays can be challenging but there is always help available.

Helplines for children and young people

Childline call 0800 1111

Young Minds text 85258

Shout crisis messenger text 85258

[Is this OK?](#) online chatbot and 1-2-1 chat

Helplines for adults

Samaritans call 116 123

Domestic Abuse helpline call 0808 2000 247

For confidential advice and support with behaviour, parenting, child development, emotional health and well-being text Chat Health 07520 615722.

Safeguarding

As a parent, carer, relative, neighbour or member of the public you may be concerned about the welfare and safety of your own child or a child you know. If you are worried about an adult or a child, it is important that you report it immediately. For emergencies and immediate danger call 999 for police assistance.

For concerns about a child in Staffordshire call 0300 111 8007. Emergency out of hours: 0345 604 2886.

Fireworks and Bonfires

Despite annual safety warnings, firework celebrations still end in painful injuries for too many people, including very young children. Yet fireworks can be great fun for families, not just around November 5 (Bonfire Night/Guy Fawkes Night), but also Diwali, New Year's Eve and Chinese New Year. Injury figures support the advice that the safest place to enjoy fireworks is at a large public display - far fewer people are injured here than at smaller family or private parties. But if you'll be having a firework party at home, you can make the occasion fun and safe for everyone by following the Firework Code, as well as some sparkler and bonfire safety tips. Read about the Firework Code here: [Firework safety – RoSPA](#) Further information and advice can be accessed here: [Bonfire Safety – UK Fire Service Resources](#) Have fun but stay safe!





PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING THE OCTOBER HALF TERM 2022

COURTESY OF MONEY SAVING CENTRAL



ASDA CAFE

Kids eat for £1 all day, every day with no adult spend until the end of 2022

TOBY CARVERY

The Kids Eat For £1 offer will be available from October 24th to 28th with the App

FRANKIE & BENNY'S

Adults Eat Free with every under 11 child throughout all the UK Half terms

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

FUTURE INNS

Under 12's eat for free with any adult meal. During the school holidays

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

THE REAL GREEK

Kids eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

TESCO CAFES

Kids Eat Free with any purchase of fresh fruit by an adult throughout all the UK Half Terms

MORRISONS

Spend £4.99 after 3pm daily & get one free kids meal (usually all day during half term)

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat breakfast free with every adult breakfast, daily from 9am - 12pm.

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto during Half Terms

FARMHOUSE INNS

Kids eat for £1 when you sign up to their email list before October 26th 2022

YO! SUSHI

Kid's eat free all day, Monday to Thursday until 29th October 2022

SA BRAINS PUBS

Children can eat for £1 with any adult main. Only valid Wednesdays but on all day

IKEA

From October 11th kids get a meal for 95p or £1.50 from 11am - All day, every day.

ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

One free children's meal per paid adult meal 12-5pm daily throughout the holidays

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Monday to Thursday



Domestic Abuse

Domestic violence or abuse can happen to anyone. Domestic abuse, includes physical, emotional and sexual abuse in couple relationships or between family members. It can happen against anyone, and anybody can be an abuser. Domestic abuse also includes honour-based abuse and forced marriage. Just one incident counts as abuse. Domestic abuse can affect anyone regardless of ethnicity, age, gender, sexuality or social background. If you are suffering from physical, sexual, psychological or financial abuse, or are being threatened, intimidated or stalked by a current or previous partner or close family member, it's likely you're a victim of domestic abuse. **You're not to blame for what's happening. You're not alone.**



Support and helplines

New Era Domestic Abuse - Local helpline: 0300 303 3778 or, if you'd like to chat online with New Era, you can do this now by [live chat](#).

National Domestic Abuse Helpline - The [National Domestic Abuse](#) website provides guidance and support for potential victims, as well as those who are worried about friends and loved ones. It also has a form through which you can book a safe time for a call from the team. Call: 0808 2000 247

Women's Aid - [Women's Aid](#) has a range of direct services for survivors, including a live chat service and an online Survivors' Forum. They have developed additional advice specifically designed for the current coronavirus outbreak.

Men's Advice Line - The [Men's Advice Line](#) is a confidential helpline for male victims of domestic abuse and those supporting them. Call: 0808 801 0327

Services for perpetrators

Anyone that's displaying unhealthy or abusive behaviour within their relationship and wants to change this can access help from New Era. New Era Perpetrator services can also help children under 16 years of age who need help with relationship based behaviour or are in need of one to one guidance around healthy relationships. Phone: [01785 601690](tel:01785601690)
Email: new-era@rrpgov.uk





Reminder - Flu Immunisations

On **Tuesday 1st November**, the MPFT NHS Team will be in school to administer flu immunisations. Flu is a virus which can make you feel very unwell and can cause serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family members and friends by preventing the spread of flu.

This vaccination is free. It is a quick and simple spray up the nose. Even if your child had it last year, they should have the flu vaccine again this year.

For further information see: www.mpft.nhs.uk/services/school-age-immunisation
www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/ [Protecting your Child against Flu Leaflet](#)

If you would like your child to receive the vaccine, you **MUST** complete the online consent form, you can do this by clicking the link below:

<https://forms.mpft.nhs.uk/>

Choose the following from the dropdown list:

The Violet Way Academy – 01 NOV 2022 - Flu

Your school code is: SS136762-22

Consents Forms need to be completed by 25th October 2022



If your child has ASTHMA and there are any changes to their health 14 days before the vaccination date YOU **MUST** contact the immunisation service on 0300 124 0366 as your child may not be well enough to receive the vaccination.

These include, if your child:

- Becomes wheezy
- Has required oral steroids
- Has increased their asthma medication

Five reasons to have the flu vaccine

1. Protect your child

The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia.

2. Protect you, your family and friends

Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family.

3. No injection needed

The nasal spray is painless and easy to have.

4. It's better than having flu

The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record.

5. Avoid costs

If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare.





Application for a Reception place

Reception application process

The application process for a reception place for September 2023 will open on 01 November 2022. The easiest way for parents to apply is online. Parents can apply for a Reception place on the Staffordshire Admissions website:

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions

The closing date is 15 January 2023.

You can find out more about Reception Admissions for September 2023 by visiting our website [Reception Admissions 2023](#) and if you want more information about the EYFS and our Reception provision please click [here](#).

Tours of the school for new applicants are being held on the following dates by calling the office or emailing office@violetway.org

Thursday 20th October 4pm

Tuesday 8th November 4:30pm

Application for Junior School

Parents of children in Year 2 need to apply for a Junior School place.

The application process for a junior/middle school place for September 2023 will open on 01 November 2022.

The easiest way for parents to apply is online. Further information can be found on the Staffordshire [website](#).

The closing date is 15 January 2023.

Children in Year 2 have received a letter this week about the application process.

Parents are able to access the 'Information to Parents' booklet on the Staffordshire [website](#).





Forest School and Library Dates

Forest School Days Autumn Term

Week 1:

Monday – Badgers

Tuesday – Foxes

Thursday – Squirrels

Friday – Busy Bees

These class will have Forest School Afternoons on the days above during the following weeks: 12/9 26/9 10/10 31/10 14/11 28/11

Week 2:

Monday – Dragonflies

Tuesday – Woodpeckers

Wednesday - Ladybirds

Thursday – Kestrels

Friday – Owls

These class will have Forest School Afternoons on the days above during the following weeks: 19/9 3/10 17/10 7/1 21/11 5/12

Parent Library Mornings Autumn Term

Reception - Tuesday Mornings

Foxes: 1/11 22/11

Squirrels: 8/11 29/11

Badgers: 15/11 6/12

Year 2 - Wednesday Mornings:

Kestrels: 14/9 5/10 2/11 23/11

Owls: 21/9 12/10 9/11 30/11

Woodpeckers: 28/9 19/10 16/11 7/12

Year 1 - Thursday Mornings:

Dragonflies: 15/9 6/10 3/11 24/11

Ladybirds: 22/9 13/10 10/11 1/12

Busy Bees: 29/9 20/10 17/11 8/12





Dates for your diary

Staffordshire Term Dates 2022-23

Autumn Term 2022

Inset day: Monday 5 September

Term Starts: Tuesday 6 September

Half Term: Monday 24 October – Friday 28 October

Term ends: Friday 16 December

Holiday: Monday 19 December – Monday 2 January

Spring Term 2023

Inset day: Tuesday 3 January

Term Starts: Wednesday 4 January

Half Term: Monday 20 February – Friday 24 February

Term ends: Friday 31 March

Holiday: Monday 3 April – Friday 14 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 9 April

Summer Term 2023

Inset day: Monday 17 April

Term starts: Tuesday 18 April

May Day: Monday 1 May

Half Term: Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June

Term ends: Tuesday 25 July

Holiday: Wednesday 26 July – Friday 1 September

Violet Way Inset Days

Monday 5th September

Friday 21st October

Tuesday 3rd January

Monday 17th April

Monday 19th June



What's Coming Up?

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

Return to school for Autumn2 on Monday 31st October 2022

Flu immunisations – Tuesday 1st November

Bonfire Menu – Friday 4th November

YR Robot workshop – Friday 4th November

Y2 Planetarium visit – Thursday 10th November

Y1 Trip to Tamworth Castle – Friday 11th November

Anti-Bullying Week Theme: Reach Out – week commencing Monday 14th November

Odd Socks day – Monday 14th November – Children wear odd socks to school to celebrate individuality and uniqueness. Let's be kind to each other and respect each other's individuality

Children in Need non-uniform day – wear spots or yellow! – Friday 18th November

Cake Shop – Friday 25th November 2:30pm

YR – Christmas Nativity – Wednesday 7th December

- Badgers 9:15am
- Squirrels 10:15am
- Foxes 1:45pm

Christmas Jumper day & Christmas dinner day – Thursday 8th December

Y1 – Christmas Songs – Wednesday 14th December

Y2 Christmas Carol Concert – Monday 12th December at St Peter's Church 1:45pm

