



A Message from Mrs Kee

The 'Speak Our Stay Safe' message was delivered this week through an NSPCC assembly, the focus of which was keeping children safe. Children are taught how to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly way and to 'speak out' to a trusted adult. This clearly built on our message of 'Reach out' from anti-bullying week.

In their Forest Schools lesson this week, some children had created little clay elves and they couldn't wait to show me! They had thought carefully about how they would create little hats and jackets to fit and could describe how they had achieved this.

The sounds of children practicing Christmas songs have been drifting down the corridors to remind us that December and Christmas are just around the corner! Once December hits, our Christmas tree will be erected in the hall and decorated by Mr Bill - it is so tall, he has to use a ladder! I am sure parents are all getting excited about the Christmas performances across the school too!

We had lots of parents in school this week for our parent reading sessions. We hope that parents found these to be a useful insight into how we teach phonics and reading in school. Please complete this short [feedback FORMS](#) if you attended.

We were visited on Thursday by the Trust Vice CEO and Simon Robson, Headteacher at Manor Primary, as part of our Collaborative Monitoring. The focus was on PE, History, Science and Forest Schools. We spoke to subject leaders, pupils and staff and looked at books (where appropriate). 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 well, continuing to develop further. Many of our subject leaders are booked on training this year. I am looking forward to attending a Design and Technology conference on Monday, aimed at reviewing our DT curriculum offer and embedding progressive Design & Technology skills and practice across the school. Have a lovely weekend. I will see you all on Tuesday, *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole school (this week)	88.98%
Reception	91.22%
Year 1	86.21%
Year 2	89.43%

Reception classes are on a roll! The classes with the highest attendance have all been Reception classes for the past three weeks!



Congratulations to

Woodpeckers

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.

Home Achievements



Merit Award Winners

Congratulations to all our wonderful merit award winners this week!

Reception



Year 1



Year 2





NHS Superheroes!

Children in Reception have been learning about real life Superheroes like fire fighters, policemen and women and doctors and nurses. They had a special visit from some nurses this week who modelled and demonstrated some of the tasks they undertake as part of their role.





Wraparound Care - Care Club

A message from Our Pride Our Joy Care Club:

Exciting News !!! We are pleased to inform you that we are in a position to reopen our Wraparound Care for Edge Hill children from the 4th of January 2023. If you are interested in registering your interest for a place at either our breakfast club provision or after school, please contact at your earliest convenience, Mrs Rebecca Dunn RDunn@opoj.fierte.org Places will be limited so will be allocated on a first come first served basis.



We can also accept any interested families who may want to attend the Violet Way Club as a small number of places are available from January.

Speak out Stay safe and 'Pants'!

Mrs Williams led our 'Speak out Stay Safe' assembly this week and the children listened carefully and were able to talk about what they would do if they were worried about something or upset. In their PSHE Jigsaw lessons this week, the children followed on from this, discussing who they would talk to in school if they has a problem.

If you haven't yet had an opportunity to look at the resources for parents, please click on this link: [Advice for parents and carers: PANTS \(the underwear rule\)](#)

All children have the right to:

- ✓ speak out and be heard
- ✓ be safe
- ✓ get help when they need it.



You can also play the 'Pantosaurus' song and game at home with your child. 'Pantosaurus' is an NSPCC character who helps children learn the principles of the NSPCC 'PANTS' (the underwear rule). [Talk PANTS & Join Pantosaurus - The Underwear Rule | NSPCC](#)

[Playtime with Pantosaurus | NSPCC](#)





Parent Reading Sessions

We had ----- parents attending our Parent Reading Sessions. We recognise that some parents are unable to attend during the school day and you are most welcome to contact your child's class teacher if you would like to discuss phonics or reading.

Parents were invited into school on different days to observe how their child learns phonics and reading through our Read Write Inc (RWI) scheme. As the learning in each lesson builds on the previous lessons, parents will have seen different elements of learning over the week, including:

- revisiting previously taught sounds
- learning a new sound
- reading previously taught 'green' (phonetically decodable) words (including 'alien words' – non words that can be decoded)
- reading previously taught 'red' words (words with 'tricky' parts that cannot be decoded)
- reading 'green' and 'red' words from the story book
- partner ('Fish and Chip') work and partner reading

Thank you to those parents that have already provided us with some feedback. We hope that all parents that attended, will be able to complete this short [feedback MS FORMS](#) to help us identify what went well and any further developments. The survey will close at 4:50pm on Thursday 1st December. Thank you!

Inclusion Parent Coffee afternoon

Friday 2nd December 2- 3pm

Following our first successful parent inclusion coffee morning we will be hosting a second event on **Friday 2nd December at a later time of 2- 3pm**. We will have members of the Autism Outreach team joining us again and the focus will be supporting children with behaviour strategies.



This will be an informal chance to meet other parents and share ideas, ask questions or get support. For further information please speak to Mrs Dawson or Mrs Magill.

Please let us know if you intend to visit, so we can arrange refreshments. Just speak to a member of staff or email the school office: office@violetway.org.





Poppy Appeal – WOW!

Thank you so much to everyone who donated money towards the Poppy Appeal a few weeks ago. I am so pleased to share that we raised a whopping **£470.00**! Thank you so much for your generosity.

Can you help, please?

Year 1 and Year 2 are making Christmas wreaths! We are in need of lots of evergreen bush cuttings, **Holly and Conifer** in particular, any donations would be greatly appreciated. Without this we are going to struggle to do this activity for 180 children! Any large ribbon would also be amazing please! Just pop any donations to the front office. Thank you in advance, Mrs Dawson, Forest School lead.

Sleep helpline



the national
sleep
helpline

Does your child suffer with sleep issues?

Do you struggle with your child's bedtime?
Will your child not sleep in their own bed?

WE CAN HELP

03303 530 541

Sunday - Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Wednesday 9am - 11am

Here is some information about a wonderful free resource that can help parents and children to learn more about their sleep and develop better bedtime routines. Sleep is essential to brain function, by helping children to sleep better, we can help them to succeed in school. A good sleep routine for children also helps their parents to sleep better too!

The helpline is open 5 times a week:

- Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday evenings 7-9pm
- Wednesday mornings 9-11am.

Their number is 03303 530 541.

You can read more here: [The National Sleep Helpline](#)





Clubs Forms for Spring Term!

All our afterschool activity club registers will be refreshed after Christmas, so Miss Evans will be sending out Microsoft Forms links soon for you to be able to sign your child up, places are given on a first come first served basis. See more details below:

Drama Club – Mondays after school until 4:30pm. The Microsoft Form to sign up will be released on **Tuesday 6th December at 4pm.**

Street Dance – Thursdays after school until 4:15pm. The Microsoft Form to sign up will be released on **Wednesday 7th December at 4pm.**

Burton Albion Football Club – Fridays after school until 4:15pm. The Microsoft Form to sign up will be released on **Thursday 8th December at 4pm.**

Lifestyle Forms

Please can parents click on the link to complete our Active Lifestyles questionnaire to give us an idea of the active lifestyles of the children at VWA. Thank you to those parents that have already complete it. We will be sharing the results soon. If you haven't yet completed it, please do so by **Friday 2nd December.** Many thanks in advance! [Active Lifestyles FORMS](#)



PTA Christmas Raffle

Tickets are now available to buy for our PTA Christmas Raffle fundraiser, click on the link below to get yours and to see what you could win!

We are still accepting donations for prizes too, if you can bring them in to the office asap it would be much appreciated!

The raffle draw date is **Monday 12th December.**



[Click here to join in with our PTA online Raffle!](#)





Letters from Santa

Please remember to complete the link below for a Santa letter. A contribution of £2 is payable on ParentPay. The deadline to fill out the online Form and make payment is **Monday 28th November!** Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/ZwZDDNBpvA>

Christmas – Santa's Bike Toy Run!

We have been asked to be a 'donation station' for the Santa Bike Toy Run, supporting Derek's Trees charity.

Derek's Tree support families living with hardship and may be facing extra struggles this Christmas. No child should wake up on Christmas morning and find that Santa couldn't make it to their house this year.

If you are able to donate a new toy to help us support this year's Santa Bike, we would really appreciate it.

Please bring any donations to the office by **2nd December**.



Christmas Performances - FYI

Reception Nativity performance - Wednesday 7th December (Badgers 9:15am, Squirrels 10:15am, Foxes 1:45pm). The performances will be held in our school hall. Maximum of four attendees per child.

Y1 – Christmas Singalong – Wednesday 14th December (Busy Bees 9:15am, Ladybirds 10:15am, Dragonflies 2:15pm) The performances will be held in our school hall. Maximum of four attendees per child.

Y2 Christmas Carol Concert – Monday 12th December at St Peter's Church 1:45pm. We will be asking for parents to accompany us during the walk to and from the church if you can. Further details will be provided closer to the time.





Free Event – for anyone homeless or lonely

'Tilly's Voice Mental Health and Wellness' welcomes you to spend Christmas day with them at Queen Street Community Centre, Queen Street, Burton on Trent, DE14 3LW.

This is a free event for anyone homeless or lonely. You will need to book your place to register. Please message by 20th December with your name, address, date of birth, contact number and if you require a meat or vegetarian option. Children will need to be accompanied by an adult. Support workers can also contact us with bookings.

To book your place, please email Support@tillysvoice.co.uk or call 01283 890 256. Please pass this information on to anyone you know that would benefit.





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

Inclusion Coffee Morning – Friday 2nd December 2pm

YR – Christmas Nativity – Wednesday 7th December
Badgers 9:15am, Squirrels 10:15am, Foxes 1:45pm

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

Special Visitor in school – 13th December

Y1 – Christmas Songs – Wednesday 14th December
Busy Bees 9:15am, Ladybirds 10:15am, Dragonflies 2:15pm

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

GLOW UV CHRISTMAS DODGEBALL Sports Enrichment day – for all pupils on Thursday 15th December

PANTOMIME TIME! We have booked Robin Hood – the production is for all pupils and will happen during the school day on Friday 16th December

End of term – 16th December 3:15pm

Trust INSET day – Tuesday 3rd January

Back to school for Spring Term – Wednesday 4th January

