

A Message from Mrs Kee

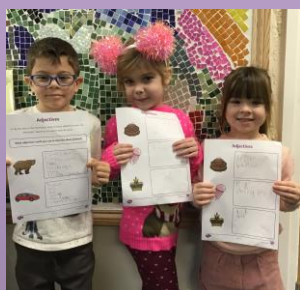
Following an operation, I had to take some time to recover and couldn't be in school last week (and have felt a little delicate this week!) I would like to thank Mrs Williams for deputising in my absence, ensuring that everything continued to run smoothly, and to the whole staff team for working together and adapting to change. Thank you for your support. It has been lovely to be back in school this week, especially now that Christmas is full swing!

This week, our Year 2 children had the opportunity to perform their Christmas Concert to the Year 1 pupils in our Monday assembly, in preparation for their performance at the church on Monday afternoon. They sang beautifully and, I can tell you now parents, you are in for a real treat next week! The Year 1 pupils loved the performance and even started singing along with them! We are looking forward to the Y2's performance at the church on Monday and the Y1's Christmas sing-a-long on Wednesday – we hope to see you there.

The Reception pupils performed their Christmas nativity to parents this week and truly demonstrated our value 'We are brave'. Each class told the story of the Christmas Nativity through the eyes of a 'Wonky Donkey'. They sang songs, danced, acted and worked together to put on a wonderful performance in front of family members. We are very proud of all the pupils in Reception – well done!

Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day was a great success! The tables were decorated, Christmas music was playing, the children wore little elf hats and thoroughly enjoyed their Christmas dinners. One girl told me, "This dinner is the best ever!" and another child said, "Who decorated the room? It looks amazing!" I think it is safe to say that a wonderful time was had by all. Thank you to our fantastic kitchen team, lunchtime staff and all the staff that helped to set up and make sure the children had a fun and festive Christmas dinner.

I can't believe it is the last day of term next Friday, but I am looking forward to a festive-filled final week. Enjoy the weekend, *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole school (this week)	90.57%
Reception	90.78%
Year 1	91.38%
Year 2	89.55%



Congratulations to
Dragonflies

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

This week we had some swimming
badges, dance awards and football
medals.. including a man of the match!
Well done everyone.



Merit Award Winners

Congratulations to all our wonderful merit award
winners this week!

Reception



Year 1



Year 2





Christmas Wreaths

Thank you to parents for providing us with lots of foliage for the making of Christmas wreaths. Thank you to Mrs Dawson for organising this activity, which was thoroughly enjoyed by children across the school. Christmas wreaths have numerous meanings, both to Christians and non-Christians alike. The circle represents the eternal presence and unending love of God and the cycle of the seasons. The colour green represents life and growth. We hope you like your Christmas wreath and hang it with pride. The metal ring of the wreath can be kept and decorated again next year!



Thank you to the staff at Dunelm in Burton for donating ribbon for the children to use to decorate and hang their Christmas wreaths.





Reception Nativity



Merry Christmas!

We were delighted that so many parents and other family members were able to attend our Reception Nativity performances. We hope you enjoyed the show!

The children have been learning about the Christmas story in their RE lessons and their understanding has been enhanced by the opportunity to retell the story through their play and sing songs about the different elements of the story. Thank you to all the parents who provided costumes for their children and to the staff for helping the children to put on such a great show!





Christmas Dinner Day



Reception and Year 1 pupils loved their 'Christmas Dinner day' experience – Just look at all those happy faces!

They enjoyed listening to Christmas tunes playing in the background.





Christmas Dinner Day



Look at those smiles! Our little Year 2 elves had a great time.

"I just like smiling. Smiling is my favourite!" Buddy the Elf





Parent Reading Sessions - Survey results

The parent reading sessions gave me an insight into how phonics and reading is taught at Violet Way

Strongly Agree	24
Agree	6
Disagree	0
Strongly disagree	0
Don't know	0



My child enjoys phonics and reading at school

Strongly Agree	21
Agree	9
Disagree	0
Strongly disagree	0
Don't know	0



I learnt something that I am able to apply when supporting my child reading at home

Strongly Agree	14
Agree	15
Disagree	0
Strongly disagree	0
Don't know	1





Parent Reading Sessions - Survey results

My child enjoys reading at home

Strongly agree	19
Agree	10
Disagree	1
Strongly Disagree	0
Don't know	0



What do you feel you gained from attending the parents reading session (anonymised)

- *I know how to explain the letters (funny rhyme)*
- *How you represent the letters was very enjoyable for the kids I will definitely try it*
- *It's the first time I've been in an active teaching class, and I loved seeing them all learning. It was also great to see the reading teacher breaks things down for the children.*
- *It was really wonderful to see the children and watch how the teacher was working on their sounds with them.*
- *Nice to see how they are taught phonics to offer support when reading at home.*
- *Learnt my child had moved to another reading group and was able to tell him how proud we were. As he had forgotten to tell us!*
- *It's always lovely to see the children in their environment. It was nice it fell on a day I could attend.*
- *A insight how things run and how they teach our children.*
- *How each sound is broken down for them to be able to understand more. It was very fun for the children to learn.*
- *I gained a few tips and I am now doing this at home with my child.*
- *Due to the restrictions over the past few years following COVID, as a parent I've never been able to attend any of these sessions. It gave me a real insight into how the children learn, and also helps me at home when working with my child on his reading and phonics! Thanks again!*
- *Seeing how things are done at school.*
- *More detail about the day that is known the easier it is to ask the "right" questions to talk about the school day afterwards.*
- *How to teach my child at home the same way as in school*
- *Was lovely to see my child working with other kids to read. She is not a huge fan of reading at home but seemed to enjoy it more in class*
- *I thought it was excellent. My child frequently doesn't take part in performance type things so this gave me the opportunity to see her contributing to the lesson. I have used the method shown when reading with her at home. Thank you*
- *It showed me how to practice phonics and reading at home.*





Parent Reading Sessions - Survey results

Continued.....What do you feel you gained from attending the parents reading session (anonymised)

- *Understanding in structure and learning of reading and phonics sessions*
- *A lovely shared experience that promoted discussion at home which provided opportunity to praise good sitting, listening, engagement and reading.*
- *Loved being able to see the children learning in their class. And also more of an insight into what they do.*
- *Insight into how phonics are taught*
- *How to phonetically sound out 3 letter sounds correctly*
- *Ooh, there are lots of valuable tips on helping support my child's reading. Taking in turns to read together.*
- *A bit of one on one time with my child reading and how his class works*
- *It was lovely to see the children in the classroom environment.*
- *Home learning is always very different and children respond differently to parents/teachers so, it was nice to see them in school.*
- *I thoroughly enjoyed seeing my child in the school learning environment. It was great to see how she responded to the teacher and it was nice to see how the teachers are through lessons. I think doing the parent reading sessions, reassured me a lot.*
- *It was great to see the reading group participation. Seeing the session helped me understand how to help my child with his reading at home.*
- *It's good to know how they teach reading at school so we can support as much as we can at home*

I would like further information to support my child's reading at home



Yes

17



No

13



I would recommend attending a parent reading session to another parent



Yes

30



No

0





Christmas Singalong – Year 1

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.

Year 2 Carol Concert at the Church

On **Monday 12th December** the Year 2 children will perform in a Carol Concert at St Peter's Church at **1.45pm**. We will leave school to walk down to the church at **1pm** on this day and would appreciate as many parents as possible to support us by walking down with their child. If you are able to do this, please meet us outside the main green gates.

The Carol Concert will last no longer than 45 minutes and we will then walk the children back up to school for the end of the school day. Many parents have responded to the MS Forms that was shared by Mrs Williams to say that they will take their child straight from the church following the performance. Children will only be allowed to leave with their parent, once their teacher has checked their name off our list. We will walk the remaining children back to school to be collected from school.



Christmas Pantomime

On the final day of school next week, we have booked a children's theatre production company to come to school to perform a Christmas pantomime for the whole school.

They will be performing their version of Robin Hood.

We can't wait for the roars of 'Oh no he didn't!'

'Oh yes he did!'





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.

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!](#)

Reading at VWA

There continues to be a buzz of excitement around reading at home and completing reading rockets. Children should be reading their reading book at home at least three times per week. They do not need to read the whole book each time, they might just like to read a couple of pages. We have had some children collecting book marks for the completion of three reading rockets well done!

We recently asked parents that attended the Parent Reading sessions this term to complete a survey. We have had thirty responses and have collated the results in the newsletter this week.





HOPE Virtual Parent Support

Separation and Co-Parenting



Tues 13th Dec 7pm & Thurs 15th Dec 10am

Supporting children through separation and understanding their emotions.

Navigating the challenges of co-parenting and the impact on the family.

Understanding PR and school policies

Reassuring
Insightful
Caring

Hopeful
Encouraging
Validating

Time for chat and questions

*Feel free to listen off camera and mic
or use the chat facility to participate*

HOPE Parent Support Sessions;

**a safe place to find information, chat and learn from
each other through shared experience.**

To find out more contact your HOPE
mentor in school or Keddie on
07508 176043

keddieHOPE2021@outlook.com

Register HERE

[Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)



SCAN ME





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.





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

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

