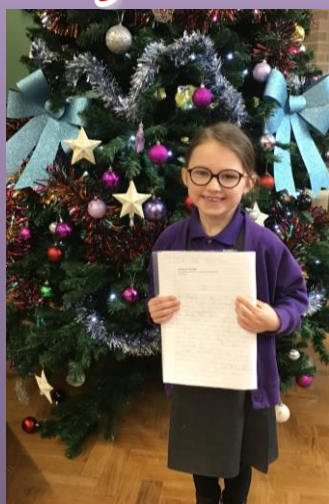


Merry Christmas



A Message from Mrs Kee

What an excellent start to the week we had on Monday afternoon at St. Peter's Church for our Year 2 Christmas Carol Concert. The children behaved impeccably and performed so beautifully. Thank you to the parents that were able to help with the walk to the church, your support is much appreciated. Well done Year 2.

Our Year 1 Christmas Sing-along performances were also well attended by parents and the children loved singing, saying their lines and dancing to Christmas songs. Thanks for parents for joining in to wish everyone a Merry Christmas!

This week myself and Mrs Williams have been so pleased to give out more reading rocket Marvellous Me badges and even some bookmarks (for three completed rockets). I have been pleased to hear from parents that their children have been asking to read at home and are keen to colour in their reading rockets. Our office was also invaded by lots of children excited to show us their castles home-learning creations!



Congratulations to Badgers, Dragonflies and Woodpeckers, who were the classes with the best attendance this term in their year groups and received their certificate in assembly today. Certificates were also presented to all the children achieving 96% attendance or above.

Despite the pantomime being cancelled, the staff ensured that the children had a fun afternoon. Mrs Dawson was belting out some great tunes in Woodpeckers, and eventually let the children have a go too! It has been a wonderful first term at Violet Way. I would like to thank parents and children for their warm wishes, cards and present this Christmas. It is important to remember that, whatever your beliefs, Christmas is a time to spend with your loved ones – cherish the time together. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Have a restful holiday, see you all in January, *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole school (this week)	92.19%
Reception	91.78%
Year 1	93.91%
Year 2	90.91%

Congratulations to
**YR – Badgers, Y1 – Dragonflies and
Y2 – Woodpeckers**

for being the classes with the highest
overall attendance in their year group this term.



Home Achievements



Amazing Attendance

In assembly today we celebrated those children who have achieved 96%+ attendance this term. Reception are on this page and Y1 and Y2 on the following pages

Squirrels



Badgers



Foxes





Amazing Attendance continued...

Dragonflies



Kestrels



Ladybirds



Owls



Busy Bees



Woodpeckers



Attendance reminders

All parents will have received a letter about their child's current attendance. We have only had one term, so if your child has had a bout of illness this term, that will impact on the overall percentage. As we go through the academic year, this percentage should rise if there are no more (or very few) absences. We understand that children do pick up childhood illnesses, however, where children have the sniffles or a bit of a cold, they can still come into school. In line with our Trust policy, all holidays are unauthorised and will be fined. Fines may also be administered for poor punctuality.





Letters to Santa

This week, our Reception classes visited the local Post Office to post their letters to Santa. The Post Office staff were friendly and even provided the children with a little treat! As a school, it is important for us to plan opportunities for the children at Violet Way to interact with their local community and so we really appreciated being welcomed at the Post Office.

Thank you to all the parent helpers who supported us for this trip – we couldn't do it without you and your support is very much appreciated.

A big thank you to the main man himself, Santa, for visiting school this week and providing every child with a little present to put under the tree. His little elves (AKA Violet Way PTA and Jo Smith, Toddler group leader) also deserve a huge thank you!





Thank you Santa!



Merry Christmas





Year 1 - Christmas Sing-along!

On Wednesday, our Year 1 pupils demonstrated our values through their Christmas performance:

We care: The children cared about learning their lines and the words of the songs so they could give a good performance.

We are brave: With enjoyment, they performed to a large audience of adults despite being a little nervous.

We celebrate individuality: They talked about their individual preferences and celebrated different family traditions.

We leave no one behind: They worked as a team and everyone had a part to play – they supported and encouraged each other.

Well done!





Year 1 - Christmas Sing-along!





Christmas is coming!



Across the school, children have been creating Christmas cards and calendars. In Year 1, the children used their knowledge of Castles to create fantastic castle calendars and in Year 2, the children used their Design and Technology skills to create moving picture Christmas cards.





Christmas is coming!



MERRY CHRISTMAS





We Care

Members of Mrs Williams' lunchtime singing club travelled to Riverside Care Home for the elderly this week to sing a selection of Christmas songs they have been learning. The children were welcomed, and a lovely time was had by all. This provided another opportunity for us to engage with our local community – thank you to Mr Bill and Mrs Williams for accompanying the children on the visit. Well done to the children involved, who brought a little bit of joy to the elderly people at the care home this Christmas.





UV Dodgeball!

In order to provide our pupils with a range of sporting experiences, our PE leader Miss Cullumbine, has been working with Progressive Sports to plan 'Enrichment days'. There will be one per term and this term we had UV Dodgeball! The children had a great time – lots of fun had by all, plus the opportunity to apply their throwing skills from PE lessons.





125 Thumbs up points!



Children across the school have worked really hard to earn Thumbs Up points on Marvellous Me this half term. They have received Marvellous Me badges, prizes from the class prize box and prizes from the Headteacher Prize box.

A few children reached the top target of 125 thumbs up points and earned a special treat – Hot chocolate and treats with the Headteacher. Well done! They gave some words of advice to everyone: “Work hard” “Try your best” and “Be a good learner”





Staying happy and safe over Christmas

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

Helplines for children and young people

Childline call 0800 1111

Shout crisis messenger text 85258

Young Minds 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.**





Forest School and Library Dates

Parent Library Mornings Spring Term

Year R Tuesday Sessions Spring Term:

Foxes	10/1	31/1	28/2	21/3
Squirrels	17/1	7/2	7/3	28/3
Badgers	24/1	14/2	14/3	-

Year 2 Wednesday Sessions Spring Term:

Kestrels	11/1	1/2	1/3	22/3
Owls	18/1	8/2	8/3	29/3
Woodpeckers	25/1	15/2	15/3	-

Year 1 Thursday Sessions Spring Term:

Dragonflies	12/1	2/2	2/3	23/3
Ladybirds	19/1	9/2	9/3	30/3
Busy Bees	26/1	16/2	16/3	-

Forest School Days Spring Term

Week 1

Monday – Badgers

Tuesday – Foxes

Thursday – Squirrels

Friday – Busy Bees

These classes will have Forest School
afternoons on the days above during
the following weeks: 9/1 23/1
6/2 27/2 13/3 27/3

Week 2

Monday – Dragonflies

Tuesday – Woodpeckers

Wednesday - Ladybirds

Thursday – Kestrels

Friday – Owls

These classes will have Forest School
afternoons on the days above during
the following weeks: 16/1 30/1
13/2 6/3 20/3





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

EXTRA BANK HOLIDAY: Monday 8th May
(King's Coronation)

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

Trust INSET day- Tuesday 3rd January

Back to school for Spring Term – Wednesday 4th January

Reception Chinese restaurant trip - 18th January / 20th January / 25th January

Children's Mental Health Week 6th – 12th February

Safer Internet Day: Tuesday 7th February 2023

Parents' Evenings – 27th and 28th February

World book day (wear pyjamas) - 2nd March

Reception - Animal Workshop - 8th March

Comic relief (wear red) 17th March

Mothers Day Play and Stay 20th March (YR 9am-10am
Y1 10am-11am Y2 11am-12pm)

World Down Syndrome day 21st March – wear odd socks (celebrate individuality)

PTA Easter Chocolate Bingo 23rd March

Autism Awareness week 27th March

Easter Egg hunt in the woodlands – 29th March

