

## A Message from Mrs Kee

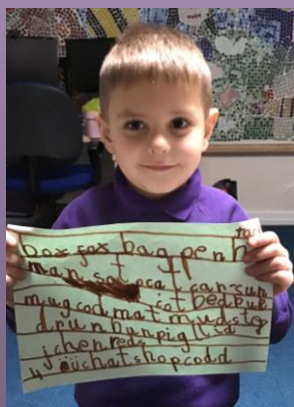
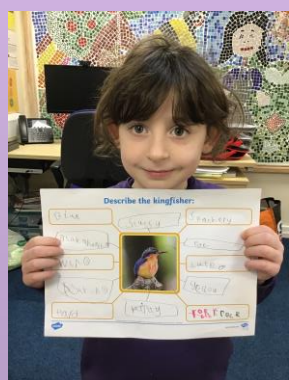
This week, I have had the great pleasure of visiting PE lessons in YR, Y1 and Y2. In Reception, the children impressed me with their improving technique when jumping, hopping and running as they pretended to be different vehicles travelling around the room. In Y1, I observed children participating in Health Related Exercise, learning about different exercises to develop their strength, accuracy and speed. In Y2, the children have been learning dance moves, inspired by a range of stimuli. It has been lovely to see the children so happy and active in their PE lessons this week.

I also enjoyed watching some wellbeing-focused activities in Reception. The children were learning to persevere even when things are difficult and supporting each other positively – such an important skill to learn.

Year 2 children have been inspired by the story Handa's Surprise and have written their own creative versions of the story. I was pleased to see that they have also been checking and editing their work, making necessary changes in order to improve their final piece of writing. Here is a link to the Cbeebies Bedtime story Handa's Surprise: [Adjoa Andoh - Handa's Surprise - Cbeebies - BBC](#)

On Monday in our whole school assembly, we watched a video of two children completing the 'Marshmallow Test' where a marshmallow is placed in front of them and they are told that if they don't eat it before the person comes back, they will get two! The children thought about the different choices the children made. We related this to making good choices and decisions in our own lives, as well as reading about the story of the Wise Man and the Foolish Man. In class assembly this week, the children considered different scenarios and ways of solving problems, thinking about the consequences.

I hope you have a good weekend. See you next week, *Mrs Kee*





## Attendance

Whole school (this week)	94.04%
Reception	94.38%
Year 1	94.14%
Year 2	93.60%



Congratulations to

**Badgers**

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



Thank you for sharing your achievements in swimming, dancing, gymnastics and drama. Well done!

## Merit Awards



**Badgers from last week**

**Reception**



**Year 1**



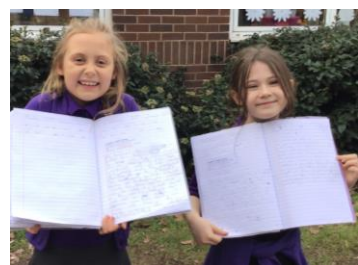
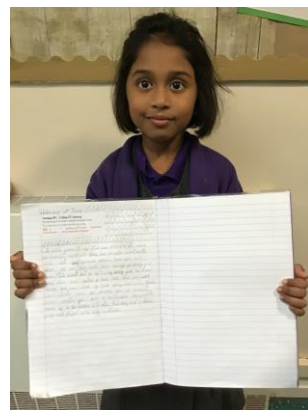
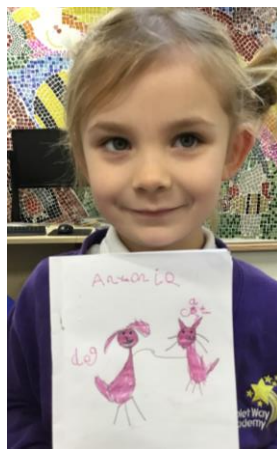
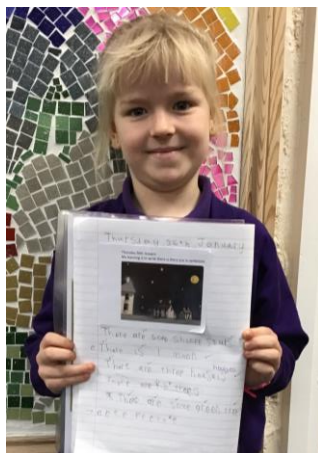
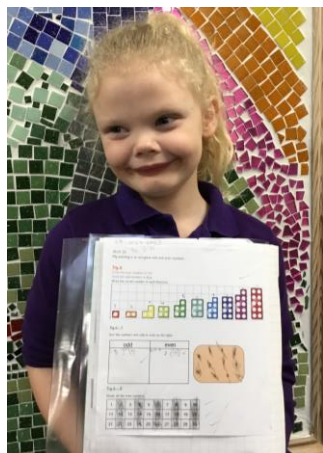
**Year 2**







## Lovely Learning



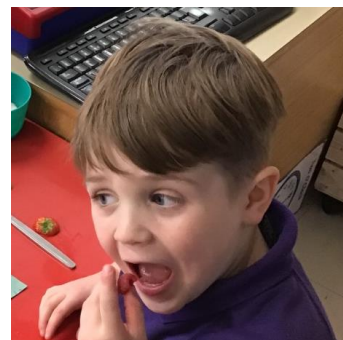
**We are brave – we  
persevere even when  
we find something  
challenging.**







## Perfect Pavlovas!



1. Place a meringue nest on a plate.
2. Whisk some cream and add onto the meringue nest
3. Chop strawberries or raspberries
4. Sprinkle the chopped fruit on top
5. Enjoy immediately





## Strike Action Update

All parents and carers should have received the following letter about teacher strike action (please see below). **On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February, Violet Way Academy will be open to all pupils as usual.**

As you are aware, the NEU union has balloted teachers regarding industrial action and days have been agreed for strikes to take place in England and Wales. The proposed dates are as follows:

1 February: All schools in England and Wales

1 March: East Midlands, West Midlands, and the NEU's eastern region

15 and 16 March: Two-day strike of all schools in England and Wales

The Trust leaders met this week and it is clear that there cannot be a blanket approach from all Trust school because there will be variances in the availability of staff.

At Violet Way Academy, on the first strike action day (Wednesday 1st February), school will be open to all children as usual. We will need to review the situation before the next proposed date and will inform parents of the outcome.

### Statement from the Fierté Trust Board

The Fierté Trust Board have supported and approved all measures planned by school leaders in relation to the four days of strike action scheduled over the coming weeks.

Wherever feasible, a consistent approach to managing the day-to-day running of the school has been applied so that where possible, schools remain open. This alongside the understanding that every school will apply its own additional requirements in terms of expected staffing numbers, organisational arrangements and enabling the most vulnerable children to attend as a priority.

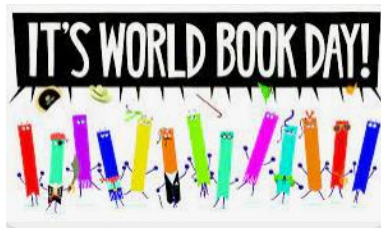
Risk assessments have been produced in order to determine whether schools will be fully or partially closed and accordingly each strike day will be reviewed separately depending on non-striking staff availability.

At the heart of the decision making, leaders have worked hard to minimise the disruption to the children and their families, balanced with maintaining individual staff members right to strike. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.





## World Book Day Celebrations



To celebrate World Book day, we are planning a whole school book week linked to Fairy Tales the first week back after half term - 27th February 2023. Children will be reading a range of Fairy tales throughout the week and will turn themselves into their very own Fairy tale character which they will complete writing about to be displayed in school.

**World Book Day 2<sup>nd</sup> March** - Children and staff can come to school dressed in pyjamas we will start the day with toast, milk and story time.

The book fair will be in the hall and open from the end of school on **Monday 27th February throughout parents evening till 6.30pm**. It will also be open on **Wednesday 2nd March and Thursday 3rd March from 8.40am until the start of school and Wednesday from 3pm till 3.30pm**

We hope many of you will come and visit!

### Fun Competition!

There will be a selection of Fairy Tale book characters for children to choose from in each class and the child who has chosen the winning book character will win a book prize! Parents can pay £1.00 via Parent Pay to enter their child into the competition. We hope lots of children will be able to take part – please remember to pay £1.00 for your child on Parent Pay. This will take place in Library sessions over the next three weeks of this half term with winners from each class being announce in World Book Week.

Guess the book character!

£1 entry



FIERTÉ





## After school clubs – Spring Term 2

Burton Albion club registers will stay the same after half term, however all our other clubs will be refreshed. 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 7th February at 4pm.**

Street Dance – Thursdays after school until 4:15pm. For Spring 2, this club will be offered to Y2 children first. The Microsoft Form to sign up will be released on **Wednesday 8th February at 4pm.**



Gymnastics Club – Tuesdays after school until 4pm. For Spring 2, this club will be offered to Y1 children first. The Microsoft Form to sign up will be released on **Thursday 9th February at 4pm.**

## PTA Plans

Thank you to our PTA members for providing a school uniform pop up shop and giving away free uniform. We do hope that parents found this useful.

Our wonderful PTA have been busy making plans for the next PTA events this academic year. The following plans have been penciled in the diary for this academic year:

- Following on from our successful Y1 disco, there will be a Reception disco on Thursday 9th March 5-6pm and then there will be a Y2 disco in the summer term.
- Chocolate Bingo (for Easter) – 23rd March 4:30 start 5pm bingo starts
- Summer fayre Thursday 29th June 3:30pm

Thank you to Mrs Williams and Miss Evans for supporting the PTA with the logistics of planning in dates, times and general organisation.





## February ideas!

Please see below the link to the Winter edition of Raring2Go magazine! The magazine includes lots of ideas to help you plan activities for the winter. You can also find information about safe motoring, games to play at home and tips to keep your energy bills down. [Raring2go! Burton & Ashby](#)



**Staffordshire  
County Council**

**GOING WILD!**

**For Random Acts of Kindness Week**

**Free 1 week course starting Saturday 11th February 2023! For families in Staffordshire, with children of all ages.**

**Be kind to yourself, others and the planet!**

**The course is made up of two parts:**

**1.) Going Wild Event at Birches Valley, Cannock Chase - Saturday 11th February 1pm - 4pm - Fun, hands-on nature themed activities to celebrate RAOKW! Make bird feeders, medals or try woodland yoga. Pick up your pack for Going Wild for RAOKW to then complete at home. If you can't make the event, but would still like to take part, we're happy to send over an email pack instead!**

**2.) It's Over to You - There will be one simple activity to complete each day.** There will be online resources to help you and inspire further acts of kindness! Your family will receive a certificate of achievement at the end of the course!

**For more information and to reserve your place contact Rebecca on 07525 120117 or [communityforestservices@gmail.com](mailto:communityforestservices@gmail.com)**

Here is some information from Staffordshire County Council regarding their Random Acts of Kindness Week, which is a free, one week course for families throughout Staffordshire to explore ways of being kind to ourselves, others and the planet.

It begins with a fun-filled workshop on Saturday 11th February and a week full of activities after that.

If you can't make the workshop, you can request a pack with activity ideas to complete at home!

We care

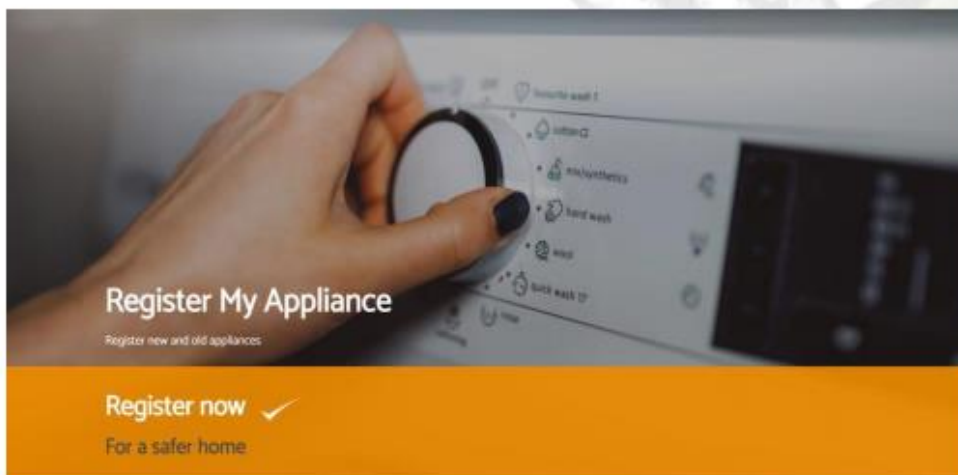






**OFFICIAL**

**Community Safety Flash**



**Buying any new electrical products in the sales?**

**Don't forget to register them**

**Never miss out on appliance recalls**

- Be the first to know of any safety repairs or recalls
- Improve your after sales service
- Keep in touch with upgrade news

**Simply register new & older models here...**

If you've just purchased visit | [Registration - Register My Appliance](#)

Check the details of your older appliances. Most brands will let you register these too [Registration - Register My Appliance](#)



[www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk](http://www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk)



**Staffordshire**  
Fire and Rescue Service  
preventing • protecting • responding



FIERTÉ

MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

**INSPIRING ALL TO EXCELLENCE**



# Forest School and Library Dates

## Parent Library Mornings Spring Term

### Year R Tuesday Sessions Spring Term:

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

### Year 2 Wednesday Sessions Spring Term:

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

### Year 1 Thursday Sessions Spring Term:

<b>Dragonflies</b>	12/1	2/2	2/3	23/3
<b>Ladybirds</b>	19/1	9/2	9/3	30/3
<b>Busy Bees</b>	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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> September

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June

## What's Coming Up?

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

**Children's Mental Health Week** 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> February

**Safer Internet Day:** Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**Cake shop** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February

**Book Fair in school** w/c 27<sup>th</sup> February

**Parents' Evenings** – 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February

**World book day (wear pyjamas)** - Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

**Reception - Animal Workshop** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March

**YR PTA school disco 5pm-6pm** Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March

**Y1 Animal Workshop** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March

**Comic relief (wear red)** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March

**Cake shop** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March

**Mothers Day Play and Stay** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March (YR 9am-10am Y1 10am-11am Y2 11am-12pm)

**World Down Syndrome day** 21<sup>st</sup> March – wear odd socks (celebrate individuality)

**PTA Chocolate Easter Bingo** Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

**Autism Awareness week** 27<sup>th</sup> March

**Tempest Class photos** Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March

**Easter Egg hunt in the woodlands** Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

**Cake shop** Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

