

A Message from Mrs Kee

We have seen some lovely bursts of sunshine this week and the children have enjoyed dancing in the sunlight to music at lunchtime - A great way to stay active and have fun!

Our assembly on Monday, was all about love, linked to Valentine's day. Children were encouraged to think about all the different ways friends and family show love towards each other. We talked about hugs, caring for someone who is poorly, tucking up at bedtime, reading a story together, holding hands and eating a meal together. They listened to the story 'Guess how much I love you?' and enjoyed talking to their partner about people in their lives who they love and respect.

There's lots to look forward to after the half term break. Our World Book Week is the first week back. The children will be reading a range of Fairy tales throughout the week and will turn themselves into their very own Fairy tale character! There will be Bedtime Stories read by school staff posted on our website. The Book Fair will also be visiting Violet Way – details in the newsletter. On 2nd March, children and staff will be wearing pyjamas to school! On this day there will be a teacher-swap with teachers reading stories to different classes. We also have the PTA's famous Chocolate Bingo and our Mother's Day Play and Stay sessions to look forward to!

I hope you enjoy a lovely half term holiday. See you on Monday 27th February. Take care, *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole school (this week)	94.00%
Reception	91.18%
Year 1	96.08%
Year 2	94.83%

Congratulations to

Squirrels

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.**

Merit Awards

Here are our Merit Award winners for this week. They have demonstrated our school values, followed our school rules or shown star learner qualities – well done!

Reception



Year 1



Year 2



Home Achievements

Thank you for sharing your achievements. Great job!





Year 2 RE Learning

After half term Year 2 will be learning about the Easter story during RE. Christians all over the world will celebrate one of their most important festivals - Easter - which marks events at the end of Jesus' life on earth. The children will learn that Christians believe Jesus died on the cross and then rose to be with God in heaven. Part of the learning provides children to talk about, if they wish to, a time when they have lost someone, for example a pet, what they believe and how they felt. At school, children often share with the adults when they have experienced loss of a pet or family member and being able to talk about their feelings is important. We understand that the topic of loss may be difficult for some children if they have experienced loss more recently or if there are any particularly sensitive issues we need to be aware of, we would encourage you to email or speak to your child's class teachers to let us know.



Strike Update from Mrs Kee

As parents are probably aware there are three more Teacher Strike dates planned in March on 1st, 15th and 16th March. Although teachers are not required to inform me of whether they plan to strike or not, our teachers have been very understanding in terms of helping me to plan for any closure of classes. Based on the information I have currently, I do not expect to have to close any classes on the proposed dates. *Mrs Kee*

Car Parking

We have recently sent messages to parents about the staff car parks. Thank you to parents for understanding and not parking in the staff car parks.

The car parks on site at Violet Way are for staff only. No parents should be parking in the staff car parks at any time. The staff car parks are next to forest school and the staff car park outside the dining hall where the minibus is parked. These car parks are staff car parks only for Violet Way Staff only. The car parks are not drop off/pick up areas and should not be used during the day by parents or after school (after school clubs or Care Club).



**Staff
parking
only**





Maths at Violet Way

This week Mr Malcom (our Maths Leader) has carried out some pupil conversations and book looks in KS1. The focus was on checking the implementation of 'Flashback 4' our Maths retrieval exercises, children's understanding of the learning in Maths and feedback to learning in books. The key strengths are identified below:

- ✓ Children spoken to were able to talk about Maths with confidence and positivity – talking about previous learning in detail as well as the methods they were applying in the particular lesson.
- ✓ Children across KS1 referenced teacher modelling (on the board or sometimes with manipulatives) to support their understanding *'Teachers do examples on the board.'*
- ✓ Children referred to use of concrete manipulatives in learning Maths: number lines, hundred squares, coins, counters, part wholes, coins, tens frames, Numicon
- ✓ Varied representations used in books – progression through Try, Apply, Reason
- ✓ Evidence of children marking own Flashback 4 and correcting *'To make sure it's correct and if it's not – edit it.'*
- ✓ Some good opportunities for children to respond to purple pen and children aware what purple pen asks of them *'If you've done something wrong, you try it again.'*

Supporting your child with Maths at home

On our school website, in addition to our curriculum pages, we also have a [Supporting Your Child at home](#) page with lots of specific information for parents about their child's wellbeing, home learning and things you can do at home to support your child's development in the different curriculum subjects.

We have recently added some video links to our Maths section of the [Supporting Your Child at home](#) and these are also available on the curriculum page for [Maths](#).

The videos were created by teachers across Fierté Trust to demonstrate how different maths calculations are taught in our academies. Our very own Mr Malcom (Y2 teacher and Maths leader) recorded the Place Value videos. For ease, we have also included the links here: [Place Value - Trust Mathematics Videos - YouTube](#)

[Addition - Trust Mathematics Videos - YouTube](#)

[Subtraction - Trust Mathematics Videos - YouTube](#)

[Multiplication - Trust Mathematics Videos - YouTube](#)

[Division - Trust Mathematics Videos - YouTube](#)

[Bar Models - Trust Mathematics Videos - YouTube](#)





World Book Day menu – Thursday 2nd March!

Fairytale Menu

Thursday 2nd March 2023



Gruffalo's Battered Chicken Chunks (G)

Served with ketchup

Or

Grumpy's Homemade Sad Face Pizza (SS)(G)

All served with gold nuggets, and snow white's salad

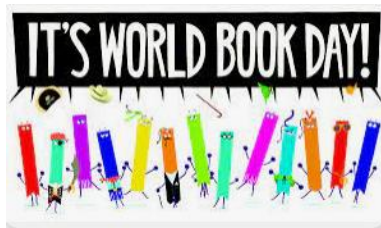
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Aladdin's Flying Carpet (G)(D)(E) served with
strawberries and maple syrup





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 2nd 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!

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Guess the book character competition.

Winners will be announced for each class during World Book Week. Each winner will receive a book.

Guess the book character!
£1 entry





Scholastic Book Fair

We are very excited to be having the Book Fair back in school again the first week after half term. It was very popular in the Autumn term with parents and helps us to raise money for new books for school. This will be a great opportunity for us to purchase more new library books to add to our collection!

The book fair will be in the hall and open :

From 3pm on Monday 27th February throughout parents evening until 6.30pm.

Wednesday 2nd March and Thursday 3rd March from 8.40am until the start of school

Wednesday 2nd March from 3pm till 3.30pm

We hope many of you will be able to come and visit!

For every child who buys a book from the Book Fair, their name will be put on a raffle ticket and this will be entered into a grand draw. On Thursday 3rd March five raffle tickets will be picked out of the box and these five children will win a book from the fair worth up to £5!

Please be aware that the book fair will be **cashless** but parents will be able to pay for any books bought by card online at

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay> or by scanning the QR code opposite on their phone on the day. Both this address and a QR will be available on the day at the fair.



Scan the QR code to pay for your books online
or visit bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay

On the next pages are some examples of the types of books that you can buy for different age ranges at the book fair.





SCHOLASTIC

COME TO THE BOOK FAIR

FILL YOUR SCHOOL WITH FREE BOOKS WHEN YOU BUY FROM THE BOOK FAIR*

FIND HUNDREDS OF THE BEST NEW BOOKS FROM JUST £2.99!

LAST YEAR, YOUR SUPPORT HELPED TO DONATE OVER £2.2M BOOKS TO SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE

Book Title	Author	Original Price	Book Fair Price
SPACEBOY	David Walliams	£14.99	£8.99
The Baddies	Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler	£12.99	£7.99
MATILDA	Roald Dahl	£6.99	£3.99
RANDOM ACTS OF FUN	Tom Gates	£7.99	£3.99
BLUEY	Goodnight Fruit Bat	£6.99	£6.99
A SUPERPOWER Like Mine	Dr Ranj	£6.99	£6.99
THE ELEMENTAL DETECTIVES	Patrice Lawrence	£7.99	£7.99

OVER 200 BOOKS TO CHOOSE FROM!





AGES 2+

NEW

SUPERTATO

Best Buy Only £3.99

£3.99

NEW

Super Peppa!

With FREE Headband

£6.99 £4.99

NEW

THE PUMPKIN WHO WAS AFRAID OF THE DARK

£6.99

NEW

Unicorns

£6.99

NEW

12 books for only £8.99

£8.99

NEW

There's a Bear in your Soup

£6.99

NEW

UNICORNS DON'T LOVE RAINBOWS

Best Buy Only £2.99

£6.99 £2.99

NEW

A Flying Visit

Paperback edition exclusive to Scholastic

£6.99

AGES 6+

NEW

Michael Morpurgo The Butterfly Lion

Best Buy Only £3.99

£3.99

NEW

Frankie Best Hates Queens

Best Buy Only £4.99

£7.99 £4.99

NEW

Future Hero

£6.99

NEW

The Chocolate Dog

£5.99

NEW

NINJAGO GOLDEN NINJA

£7.99

NEW

4 books for only £9.99

£29.96 £9.99

NEW

SLIME

£7.99

NEW

DOG MAN Motoring Heights

£8.99

EVERY BOOK YOU BUY EARNS FREE BOOKS FOR OUR SCHOOL

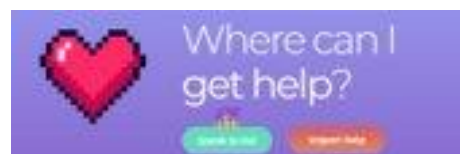
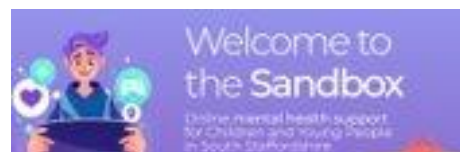




Children's Wellbeing and Mental Health

There is an online resource available for children and young people living in Staffordshire called **The Sandbox**. The Sandbox is a website to support children and young people in South Staffordshire to thrive. It provides information about why children might sometimes feel bad and how to feel better. The Sandbox provides and signposts children and young people in South Staffordshire self-help mental health resources. Also providing quick access to

mental health support including mental health assessment, internet-delivered Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (iCBT) and 1-2-1 therapy. It is a free resource provided by the NHS. Everyone is different. Some people need more help, and need to talk to someone who understands their problems. Other people like to find ways to do things themselves. The Sandbox helps with both of these options. The site is designed for children and young people of school age. You don't have to register to access the information on the website, but you will have to register if you want to get more involved. The website accepts registrations for ages 4-18 years.



There are also some great websites offering parenting advice. Please click on the following links to access the articles and online parenting courses. **[Place2Be: Parenting Smart: Articles](#)** **[Place2Be's Parenting Smart - Online Course](#)**

Help is out there

We appreciate that sometimes the holidays can be challenging but you can get help.

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

Safeguarding

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.





THE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM IN SCHOOLS IS OVER HALF TERM!

OPEN

If your child is experiencing low level mental health difficulties, we may be able to help. Call us on *:



East Staffs-01283 504487

**Cannock and Stafford-
01283 352113**

Tamworth-01785 301027

9am - 5pm (Monday to Friday)

17th Feb-24th Feb

Leave your name and number and one of our practitioners will give you a call back to see what support we can offer.



We can help with:
-Low mood
-Anxiety
-Sleep issues
-Worry
-Panic

NHS



@SouthStaffsMHST



mpft.nhs.uk

*Please note that this contact number is not to be used in an emergency.



FIERTÉ

MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

INSPIRING ALL TO EXCELLENCE



Half term ideas

As the cost of living crisis continues across the UK many parents will be on the look out for more affordable alternatives to keep their children entertained for less this February half term. There is a link to information about free things to do across Staffordshire which parents can view: [Free things to do in Staffordshire - Plutonium Sox](#)

In addition, please see this [link](#) the poster opposite from Money Saving Central about places where kids can eat free during half term.



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING FEBRUARY HALF TERM 2023

COURTESY OF MONEY SAVING CENTRAL



<p>ASDA CAFE Kids eat for £1 all day, every day with no adult spend until the end of March 2023</p> <p>HUNGRY HORSE Kids eat for £1 on Mondays. Then Tuesday to Friday between 3 – 5pm selected Kids' meals are £1 & larger meals are £1.50.</p> <p>PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm</p> <p>WHITBREAD INNS Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased</p> <p>ANGUS STEAKHOUSE One free children's meal per paid adult meal 12-5pm daily throughout the holidays</p> <p>TABLE TABLE Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!</p> <p>THE REAL GREEK Kids eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult</p> <p>SIZZLING PUBS Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.</p> <p>BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!</p>	<p>MORRISONS Spend £4.99 & get one free kids meal all day, every day.</p> <p>PRETO Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto during Half Terms</p> <p>BELLA ITALIA Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.</p> <p>YO! SUSHI From February half term, kids eat free all day at YO! Sushi with any adult £10 spend</p> <p>SA BRAINS PUBS Children can eat for £1 with any adult main. Valid All Day Wednesdays</p> <p>FUTURE INNS Under 12's eat for free with any adult meal. During the school holidays</p> <p>IKEA Kids get a meal for 95p or £1.50 from 11am - All day, every day.</p> <p>FARMHOUSE INNS Kids eat for £1 is currently on until Jan 31st but expected to be extended</p> <p>TESCO CAFES Likely but not yet announced</p>
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A Message from Fierte CEO

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are looking forward to the half term break. I just wanted to share a few updates with you in relation to our Trust.

We now have nine schools within the Trust. The latest school to join is Manor Primary in Tamworth, which is located in Drayton Bassett, Tamworth. Our Trust is one with primary expertise and includes schools which are village, junior and infant schools. We also have a brand-new Free School Presumption primary school in Tamworth (the first in 40 years) awarded by the DfE and Local Authority, which opened in 2021.

Trust Parent Forum

The first Trust Parent Forum met last week. Whilst there were representatives from some Trust schools, there are still some vacancies. Please contact me if you would like to know more about being part of this team: ceo@fierte.org

The next meeting is scheduled for 27th March 2023 from 5.45pm-7.30pm at Anker Valley Primary our brand-new build school.

The Trust Parent Forum requested that parents are updated each half term in relation to Trust events, news or initiatives. A record of each meeting will be uploaded to the Trust website following approval by attendees.

Fierté Festival

PE Leaders from across all our schools have met to organise our annual Fierté Festival. This year the theme will link to sport. Inter-school and cross-Trust tournaments are being planned for the Festival week in July. PE leaders will focus on cricket, football and netball as well as dance and other popular types of sport our children will enjoy. Each school will participate in an opening and closing ceremony. PE leaders are looking to invite well-known local sporting champions to inspire our children. In addition, tournaments and teams of schools will compete against each other at local sporting venues e.g., Tamworth Cricket Ground and hopefully, Burton Albion. Leaders will also be speaking to children about their wishes and interests for the Festival. We will continue to keep you informed.

Fierté Twitter and Facebook

The Trust Parent Forum felt that parents may not be aware that the Trust shares a fortnightly Twitter and Facebook Communication.

Links are: <https://www.facebook.com/FierteTrust> and <https://twitter.com/fiertetrust?lang=en-GB>

Kindest regards and enjoy your break.

Maria Hamblin (CEO)





Date for the diary! PTA Easter Bingo – 23rd March

Our PTA will be hosting their annual Easter Bingo event on **Thursday 23rd March** this year! Entry will be from **4:30pm** with eyes down at **5pm** and there will be 6 games of Bingo to play!.

This event is ticketed and there are a limited number of tickets available. Tickets will be available to buy via ParentPay on **Monday 27th February at 4pm**. An adult ticket will cost **£2** and a child ticket will cost **£1** - we are limiting tickets at 2 adults and 4 children per family.

There will be refreshments, a raffle, face painting and a few other stalls running at the event too so make sure you arrive with enough time to have a look around & bring some cash with you! 50p coins and £1 coins would be great!

We will also be having a **non-uniform day** to support this event on **Thursday 23rd March**, in exchange for chocolate donations for the Bingo please!



Date for the diary - YR PTA Disco

Last term, we hosted a disco for our Y1 children and it was a real hit!

This Spring term, we are going to be hosting a disco on **Thursday 9th March** from 5pm-6pm for our **Reception children!**

It will cost **£2.50** for entry and this is now payable on ParentPay. All proceeds of this disco will go to our fantastic PTA. Parents do not need to stay for this event, please drop off at 5pm and collect children again at 6pm. All we ask is when you drop off, you take their coat with you and bring it back when you come to collect. Ticket price includes a drink and a small packet of sweets. We hope to see lots of Reception children there!





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

Book Fair in school w/c 27th February

Parents' Evenings – 27th and 28th February

World book day (wear pyjamas) - Thursday 2nd March

Reception - Animal Workshop Wednesday 8th March

YR PTA school disco 5pm-6pm Thursday 9th March

Y1 - Animal Workshop Monday 13th March

Comic relief (wear red) Friday 17th March

Cake shop Friday 17th March

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

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

Non-uniform day in exchange for a chocolate donation for Bingo! Thursday 23rd March

PTA Chocolate Easter Bingo Thursday 23rd March

Autism Awareness week 27th March

Tempest Class photos Wednesday 29th March

Easter Egg hunt in the woodlands Friday 31st March

Cake shop Friday 31st March

