



## A Message from Mrs Kee

What a lovely spring term it has been – I can't believe how quickly the time has flown by! It was lovely to end the term with a range of Easter-themed activities. The Easter Bunny visited Violet Way and hid chocolate eggs for the children to find. As I walked around school, children were making Easter cards, singing songs and engaging in Easter-themed fun activities!

On Monday and Tuesday this week, we had the Trust Strategic Peer Review at Violet Way. Tony Hand (Vice CEO), Mrs Powell (Headteacher at Glascote Academy) and Mr Hancox (Assistant Headteacher at Wilnecote Junior Academy) came to monitor our curriculum and teaching and learning across the school, particularly in relation to Reading, Writing, PE and questioning strategies. They may have spoken to some of you too during their visit. The review was a collaborative process, celebrating key strengths and identifying where we can continue to improve further. I have included some of the findings in this week's newsletter.

Today I had afternoon cake and squash with the children who have achieved 125 Marvellous Me Thumbs Up points. They soon polished off the spirinkle cake and chocolate fudge cake – nothing left for me! Congratulations to these children for reaching for the stars! Our May day celebration is on 29th April so get making your May poles during the holiday (all year groups) – we can't wait to see them! Hope you have an egg-stra special holiday! See you soon, *Mrs Kee*





## Attendance

Whole school (this week)	<b>94.62%</b>
Reception	<b>97.22%</b>
Year 1	<b>95.93%</b>
Year 2	<b>90.78%</b>



Congratulations to

**Foxes**

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. Well done!



## Home Achievements





## Celebrating Good Attendance

Children were presented with their certificates today for good attendance. We handed out certificates for 96%+ attendance for the Spring term and 96%+ attendance since the start of the academic year. Well done!





## Strategic Peer review – a few highlights

Reading Leaders were very clear on the progression through the phonics scheme and successful passage to Rigby Stars in Year 2. There was a close match between what the Reading Leaders shared and what was observed over the two days of the Strategic Peer Review.

Pupil Council members from YR upwards see themselves as role models, they excitedly reported on the challenge of finding out from their classmates the books they would like for their class reading boxes.

Reading Rockets incentivise pupils and children talk positively about class story time. They see this as a positive occasion where they relax whilst listening to their teacher read. Similarly, they talked positively about their recent experience of engaging with a real author, Rachel Morrisroe.

The (writing) curriculum is carefully planned and sequenced; content is chunked appropriately during lessons enabling children to progressively acquire new knowledge.

Within the continuous provision in Reception, there were a range of opportunities for children to write including children writing their own books and, outside, writing on a chalkboard having found and read a sentence hidden beneath sand.

Repeated oral rehearsal of sentences in Year 1 ensured children accurately used capital letters, full stops, and finger spaces.

In Year 2, children were enthused by diary writing and the quality of their work was good. Their plans enabled them to follow a structure but also to innovate their own ideas.

Because of competitions, enrichment days, the celebration of achievements and a carefully constructed display that reflects the progress of skills, PE has a high profile within the school.

Parents were overwhelmingly positive regarding their experience of the academy; they described the school as caring, inclusive, and safe. Furthermore, they asserted a family ethos prevails transmitted by all staff including support members.





## Please park responsibly

We know that the majority of parents understand that congestion on the roads near schools can cause air pollution and hazards for children and parents walking to school. As a school we try to promote walking, cycling and scooting to school as much as possible. Our PTA have been campaigning for a scooter and bike park on the school site to encourage this even more. We also ask parents and pupils to 'park and stride' if they need to drive some of the way. However, if parents do need to park near school, we request that you do so responsibly. Please be aware of road rules and be mindful of local residents, ensuring that they can gain access on and off driveways. When we had the school disco and bingo, there were some reported issues around parking and disruption for local residents. We hope that parents will be supportive and park responsibly where it is necessary to drive to school.

## PTA Easter Bingo – funds raised!

Thank you so much to everyone who came along to our Easter Bingo event last week, it was a real hit and we had so many families come along! Thanks to you, we managed to raise £650 at this event alone! We can't thank you enough. Your support means that we can put this money towards new things for our children and school.



## Lucy is Leaving!

Unfortunately for us, Miss Evans (who many of you know as Miss Lucy), will be leaving Violet Way soon. Her last day at school will be Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April. Although we will miss her, we are delighted to report that she has decided to go travelling around Australia for at least a year – what an exciting opportunity! Miss Evans has been an asset to the school and staff, and I know parents and pupils will miss her too. We wish her well on her new adventures and have made her promise to share lots of photographs with us! Best wishes from all at Violet Way!





## May Day Plan – Parents Invited

**Date:** Thursday 27th April 2023

Please read the information below carefully as each year group has a different plan and times. There are ideas for making May Poles at the bottom of the page. If you are stuck for ideas – please just ask your child's class teacher or the PTA, who have experienced May Pole Makers! Thank you.

### Reception:

**What?** Children can come to school dressed in May Day clothes and bring a May Pole. May day parade around the forest, creating a sensory May tree. Children will also sing a May Day /Springtime song to parents.

**When?** 9:00am-9:30am - Parents come into school at the start of the day

### Year 1:

**What?** Children can come to school dressed in May Day clothes and to bring a May Pole. They will perform a May Day song and dance to parents.

**When?**

**Dragonflies** - 9.40am

**Busy Bees** - 10.05am

**Ladybirds** - 10.30am

### Year 2:

**What?** Children can come to school dressed in May Day clothes and bring a May Pole. They will be performing May Day songs and a dance at Holly Green.

**When?** We will be walking down to Holly Green with parents and parading May poles at Holly Green. Parents to meet outside the green gates at 1.40pm.

**Remember to make a May Pole at home and bring it to school on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April!**





## 125 Thumbs Up point winners!

Congratulations to the children that have earned 125 thumbs up points this half term.



The counter will be reset half term – let's see who will be next!



## Recruitment – Office Manager

We know it is going to be hard to replace Miss Evans in her role of Office Manager, however, we are sure that the right person for the post is out there!

We are recruiting for someone to join our team at Violet Way as Office Manager, as Miss Evans is leaving us soon. Please find further details about the role here - [Office Manager vacancy](#).

Important details of the job include:

The role of Office Manager is full time, 37 hours per week  
Plus an additional 15 days in the holidays

You must fill out an application form to apply, please email [office@violetway.org](mailto:office@violetway.org) to request one to be sent to you.

The deadline to apply is **Monday 17th April**, with interviews taking place on **Tuesday 18th April**.

If you have any questions, please email the office!





## Staying happy and safe

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

### 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

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.**

## Happy Easter

If you are celebrating Easter, we hope you have a wonderful time.

Thank you to our lovely PTA for ensuring that the Easter Bunny arrived just on time for egg hunts in school today!

Have a good rest with family and friends  
Happy Easter from everyone at Violet Way Academy!





# Forest School and Library Dates

## Parent Library Mornings Summer Term

### Year R Tuesday Sessions Summer Term:

<b>Foxes</b>	-	25/4	16/5	13/6
<b>Squirrels</b>	-	2/5	23/5	20/6
<b>Badgers</b>	18/4	9/5	6/6	27/6

### Year 2 Wednesday Sessions Summer Term:

<b>Kestrels</b>	-	26/4	17/5	14/6
<b>Owls</b>	-	3/5	24/5	21/6
<b>Woodpeckers</b>	19/4	10/5	7/6	28/6

### Year 1 Thursday Sessions Summer Term:

<b>Dragonflies</b>	-	27/4	18/5	15/6
<b>Ladybirds</b>	-	4/5	25/5	22/6
<b>Busy Bees</b>	20/4	11/5	8/6	29/6

## Forest School Days Summer 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: 24/4 8/5 22/5 12/6 26/6

### 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: 17/4 1/5 15/5 5/6 19/6 3/7





# 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

**INSET DAY** – school closed to all pupils Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April

**Healthy Choice Workshops** – w/c 17<sup>th</sup> April – every class will receive a healthy choice workshop delivered by a visitor to school

**Y2 Trip to Twycross Zoo** – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April

**YR Trip to Conkers** Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May

**May Bank Holiday** – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May - School closed

**King's Coronation Celebration Day** – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May

**EXTRA BANK HOLIDAY:** Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May (King's Coronation)

**Y1 Victorian Day** – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May

**PE Enrichment Day** – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May

**End of half term** – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May

**Summer Term 2 starts** – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June

**Father's Day Play and Stay** – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June

- YR – 9:00am-10:00am
- Y1 10:00am – 11:00am
- Y2 11:00am-12:00pm

**INSET day** – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June

**Edge Hill Parent Open Morning for Y2** – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

**PTA Summer Fair** – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June

**Fierte Festival Sports Week** – w/c Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June

**Reports to Parents** – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June

**Last Day of Term** – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July

