

We care



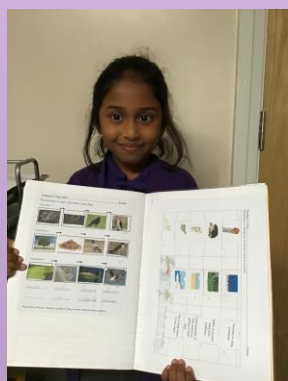
We are brave



We celebrate individuality



We leave no one behind



## A Message from Mrs Kee

As part of their curriculum, the children in Year 1 are learning about the Victorians during this half term. This week they have explored some Victorian artefacts and their purposes. They have read about the life of a Victorian child and made comparisons to their own lives. During their Victorian experience day today, the children (and teachers) dressed up in Victorian attire. The classrooms were altered to look like a Victorian classroom and the children played with Victorian toys at breaktime. It was a great opportunity to enable pupils to develop their understanding of the similarities and differences between a Victoria child's life and present day. Thank you to all the staff that made it happen!

Our target for attendance is 96% and our whole school attendance figure this week was 96%! Research has shown a strong correlation between attendance and attainment ([Attendance and Attainment: a five year study](#)) and promoting excellent attendance is the responsibility of the whole school community. Improving attendance is in everyone's interests and it is everyone's responsibility. Overall, our attendance year to date is 94% so we are certainly close to our target. If anyone has any concerns or needs support regarding their child's attendance, please let us know.

Walk to School Week is next week and we encourage parents and children to walk, scoot or cycle to school if they can. Children that walk some of the way (if you live further away but park and stride) will still be counted. Let's get walking! Take care, *Mrs Kee*



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## Attendance



Whole school (this week)	96.08%
Reception	96.82%
Year 1	94.41%
Year 2	96.92%



Congratulations to  
**Kestrels (99.17%!)**  
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

Another super swimmer sharing her achievements  
this week – well done!



## Merit Awards

Here are our Merit Award winners for  
this week. Well done!

## Reception



## Year 1



## Year 2







## Year 1 Victorian Day



**Learning  
together**







## Year 1 Victorian Day



Experience





## Walk to School Week

Staffordshire County Council has been promoting the national Walk to School Week Campaign in May to help promote the benefits of more active travel. We excited to be involved again this year. The national campaign, which starts on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May, is encouraging parents and children that can, to ditch the car or the bus for the week, to put their walking shoes on and walk, scoot or cycle to school.

There will be a prize for children in the class with the most children walking, scooting or cycling to school each day next week. Happy walking!



## After School Clubs – Summer Term 2

We will be sending out Microsoft Forms links soon for you to be able to sign your child up to our clubs for the second half of the summer term. Places are given on a first come first served basis. See more details below:

Street Dance – Thursdays after school until 4:15pm. For Summer 2, this club will be offered to Y2 children first. The Microsoft Form to sign up will be released on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 4pm.**



Gymnastics Club – Tuesdays after school until 4pm. For Summer 2, this club will be offered to Y1 children first. The Microsoft Form to sign up will be released on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 4pm.**

Drama Club – due to unforeseen circumstances Rob Adcock is unable to run drama club in the second half of the summer term. He is hoping to resume the club next academic year.

We are currently looking at options for clubs for next academic year. If any parents are aware of local clubs that may be interested in running an after-school club for Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 pupils at Violet Way, please get in touch with school via the office email [office@violetway.org](mailto:office@violetway.org).







## Curriculum Enrichment - Archery

As part of our commitment to providing our pupils with a broader range of activities and ways to keep active, Miss Cullumbine (PE lead) has booked archery sessions for every class across the school. Working with Progressive Sports, we are making effective use of our Sports Premium funding to raise children's awareness and experience of different sports and activities they can engage with, keep active and have fun! In the Autumn term we had glow in the dark dodge ball, this term we have archery and at the end of the year, during our Fierté Festival week, we have booked Nerf wars!

## Forest School Parent Sessions – Start next week!

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Please be aware that the Parent Forest School sessions can only take place if the weather is agreeable. Although Forest School sessions can be delivered when it is raining, our Forest School lead (Mrs Dawson) will risk assess before each session to check if delivery of the session is viable. We will endeavor to run the sessions as planned but if any session is unable to go ahead, parents of that class will be informed before lunch on the day of the planned session.

For any parents that are able to attend the sessions, please ensure that you wear appropriate clothing, including wellington or walking boots and a raincoat. Please be mindful that the woodlands terrain is uneven and can be slippery underfoot. As such, it is not suitable for and parents or carers that would struggle in these conditions.

Parent Forest School sessions will take place over the next two weeks, weather permitting. Parents are invited to attend their child's Forest School session on the following dates:

Dragonflies – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May

Foxes – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May

Ladybirds – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May

Kestrels – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May

Owls – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May

Badgers – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

Woodpeckers – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

Squirrels – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May

Busy Bees – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May

Sessions take place in the afternoon and parents should arrive at 1:45pm, entering via the main green gates. Fingers crossed for good weather!





## Can you help our little gardeners?



We are asking for donations of seeds or plants to help us to develop our school garden areas. If there are any parents, carers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, other family members or friends of the family that could help us on our quest to brighten up our outdoor spaces and help the children's learning about plants and growing, we would really appreciate it. Please send any donations with your child into school. Thank you.



## Mental Health Awareness Week

The Mental Health Foundation's, 'Mental Health Awareness week' is from 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May and the theme is anxiety. Anxiety is a normal emotion in us all, but sometimes it can get out of control and become a mental health problem. Lots of things can lead to feelings of anxiety, including relationships, starting a new job (or losing one) or other big life events. We can also get anxious when it comes to things to do with money and not being able to meet our basic needs, like heating our home or buying food.

Anxiety is one of the most common mental health problems we can face. In a recent mental health survey carried out by the Mental Health Foundation around stress, anxiety and hopelessness over personal finances, a quarter of adults said they felt so anxious that it stopped them from doing the things they want to do some or all of the time. Six in ten adults feel this way, at least some of the time. On a positive note, anxiety can be made easier to manage.

Focusing on anxiety for this year's Mental Health Awareness Week will increase people's awareness and understanding of anxiety by providing information on the things that can help prevent it from becoming a problem. To find out ways you can deal with anxiety, click on this link: [What can we do to cope with feelings of anxiety? | Mental Health Foundation](#)

15 to 21 May 2023

**Mental Health Awareness Week**



#ToHelpMyAnxiety



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# Term Dates 2023-2024

**We are providing next academic year's term dates below for your reference:**

## **Staffordshire Term Dates 2023-2024**

### **Autumn Term 2023**

Inset day: Monday 4 September

Term starts: Tuesday 5 September

Half term Holiday: Monday 30 October - Friday 3 November

Term ends: Friday 22 December

Holiday: Monday 25 December - Friday 5 January

### **Spring Term 2024**

Term Starts: Monday 8 January

Half term Holiday: Monday 12 February – Friday 16 February

Term Ends: Friday 22 March

Holiday: Monday 25 March – Friday 5 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 31 March

### **Summer Term 2024**

Term Starts: Monday 8 April

May Day: Monday 6 May

Half term Holiday: Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May

Term Ends: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July

Holiday: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Friday 30 August

Please also make a note of our planned INSET days for next academic year at Violet Way:

### **Violet Way Inset Days**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July (disaggregated)

## **Academic Calendar 2023-2024**

To support parents with planning, please find the calendar for next academic year opposite, including our planned INSET days.



## **Term Time Absence**

Requests for term time absence must be made in advance via the school office. Please remember, in line with Trust Policy, holidays during term time will not be authorised and parents may incur a fine.







# 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

Please note change to Woodpeckers and Foxes dates for this term.

### Week 1

Monday – Badgers

Tuesday – **Woodpeckers**

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 – **Foxes**

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

**PE Enrichment Day** – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Archery for all!

**YR Trip to Conkers** Thursday 25<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 – school closed to pupils

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

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

**Y2 Kingswood trip** – 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> July

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

**Enrichment Day** – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July

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

**Y2 Brewhouse production** – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July

**Y2 Graduation** – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July (Kestrels 9:15am, Owls 10:00am, Woodpeckers 10:45am)

**Last Day of Term** – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July – Summer Holiday starts Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July

