

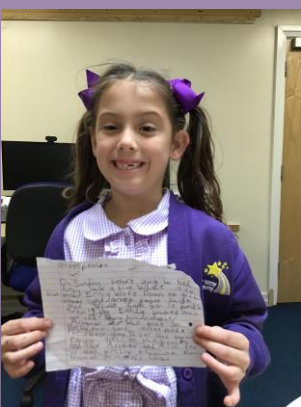
A Message from Mrs Kee

On Monday all classes enjoyed an archery class. We have utilised our Sports Premium funding to ensure all children have opportunities to experience a range of sports and be active. The children really enjoyed the archery experience, and it was great to see them taking advice from the instructor to improve their aim.

Class assemblies were focused on 'ohana'. The word is from the Hawaiian culture and means 'Family - Family means no one gets left behind or forgotten'. The children talked about how all families are unique and special. In Hawaii, the word 'ohana' has an even deeper meaning. Ohana means intentional family – we can choose who is in our family. It could be people who are related, or it could be those whom we intentionally choose. At Violet Way, we intentionally choose to be a family and our school value 'We leave no one behind' is very much linked to this.

This week the attendance information has not been included in the newsletter. We are sorry about this but, due to maintenance on our school management system we were unable to get the information for today. We will add it to next week's newsletter.

Walk to School Week was this week and lots of children and families have been making an extra effort to walk to school. On Monday we will be finding out which class had the most children walking, scooting or cycling to school and they will be presented with a prize. Let's hope you keep walking into next week too! Take care, *Mrs Kee*





Teacher achievements!

This week, the teachers all fully participated in PE training as part of a staff meeting. The focus was on developing skills for striking and fielding.



Home Achievements



Merit Awards

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

Reception



Year 1



Year 2





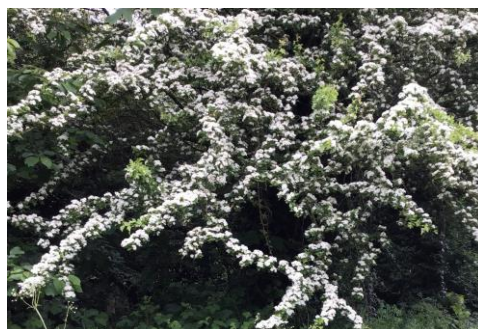
Curriculum Corner

This week, the children in Badgers used their observation to find different plants, using the iPad to take photos of plants and each other! How do you think they did?



EYFS -Understanding the World – Science

Reception - Badgers



Explore and
discover





Curriculum Corner

The PE focus in Year 2 for this half term is gymnastics using apparatus. The school has utilised our Sports Premium funding to employ a gymnastics specialist to team teach with our Year 2 teachers. The children have been developing and improving their jumps, landings, rolls, balances and travelling movements on the apparatus. They have been working towards developing their own gymnastics sequence, which they will be performing in their final lesson next week. Here are some lovely examples of what Kestrels have been working on.

PE



Stretch



Slide





Forest School Parent Sessions

THANK YOU! Parent Forest School sessions have started this week and have been well attended by parents and carers. Many thanks to Mrs Dawson, our Forest School lead, for planning and delivering the sessions and our supportive PTA who have helped during the sessions and decorated our forest area.



Toasting marshmallows
Hot chocolate
Forest play
Hide and seek
Having fun

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 continue next week, weather permitting. Parents are invited to attend their child's Forest School session on the following dates:

Badgers – Monday 22nd May

Woodpeckers – Tuesday 23rd May

Squirrels – Wednesday 24th May

Owls – Thursday 25th May

Busy Bees – Friday 26th May

Sessions take place in the afternoon and parents should arrive at 1:40pm, entering via the main green gates. Fingers crossed for good weather!





PTA updates

Our PTA are very busy organising events for the Summer Term. There will be a Year 2 disco on Thursday 8th June 5:00pm – 6:30pm. The cost of this is £2.50 per child and is to be paid on Parent Pay.

They are also organising a Summer Fair for Thursday 29th June. On this day the children are to come to school in non-school uniform and bring a bottle for the fair.

The PTA would also like donations of clean teddies in good condition for a stall. If you have any teddies in good condition that are in need of a new home, please donate them to school. There will be a box on the gate the first week back after half term for you to put them in when you come to school.

They are also looking for raffle prizes. If you do own a business and would be willing to donate a raffle prize please contact Stacey on the PTA or the school office. Thank you.

Year 2 Kingswood Residential

All payments should now have been made for Year 2 Kingswood Residential if your child is attending this year.

I know you will have many questions about what the residential involves and what the children need to take with them so we will be holding two parent meetings on Wednesday 7th June at 2.30pm and 5pm. If your child is attending the residential, you can come to either meeting at your convenience. The meetings will give parents information about the visit. As part of the meeting, parents will be required to complete a medical form for your child. Mrs Williams.

Year 1 Parents - survey

A Microsoft Form survey has been sent to you regarding the residential trip for Y2 pupils next year please can you make sure you complete before next week. Thank you.

The link for the survey is below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/9aGZLWbeMq>





Year 3 Transition Dates

For children attending Edge Hill in September the following date are important:

- Wednesday 24th May –Year 3 teachers to visit classes to meet at Violet Way
- Thursday 15th June – Year 3 teachers to visit Violet Way
- Tuesday 20th June – Year 2 children to visit Edge Hill for the afternoon
- Thursday 29th June – Year 2 children to visit Edge Hill and to stay for lunch

Some children may also attend additional transition sessions.



NB: There are a few children that are not attending Edge Hill in Year 3. For these children, parents are welcome to contact their child's new school to arrange a visit on Tuesday 20th June in the afternoon and Thursday 29th June in the morning. Otherwise, they should come to school as normal.

For Parents:

- After school Meeting – 13th June 6.30pm
- Open Morning – 23rd June – 9.10am

Violet Way Whole School Transition

We have several transition sessions planned for the second half of the Summer Term to support the children in Reception and Year 1 so that they feel ready for their new classes in September:

- Thursday 29th June – YR and Y1 to spend morning in new classes with new class teacher.
- Friday 7th July – YR children to have story time in their new Y1 classroom with their new class teacher.
- Friday 21st July – YR and Y1 to spend afternoon in their new classes with new class teacher.

Year 1 class teachers will also visit YR children in their Reception classes to get to know the children further during the Summer Term.





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 19th July

Holiday: Monday 22nd 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 4th September 2023

Friday 20th October 2023

Monday 8th January 2024

Friday 21st June 2024

Monday 22nd 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:

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

Year 2 Wednesday Sessions Summer Term:

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

Year 1 Thursday Sessions Summer Term:

Dragonflies	-	27/4	18/5	15/6
Ladybirds	-	4/5	25/5	22/6
Busy Bees	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 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

PE Enrichment Day – Monday 15th May – Archery for all!

YR Trip to Conkers Thursday 25th May

End of half term – Friday 26th May

Summer Term 2 starts – Monday 5th June

Father's Day Play and Stay – Friday 16th June

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

INSET day – Monday 19th June – school closed to pupils

Edge Hill Parent Open Morning for Y2 – Friday 23rd June

PTA Summer Fair – Thursday 29th June

Y2 Kingswood trip – 5th-7th July

Fierte Festival Sports Week – w/c Monday 10th July

Enrichment Day – Tuesday 11th July

Reports to Parents – Friday 14th July

Y2 Brewhouse production – Thursday 20th July

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

Last Day of Term – Tuesday 25th July – Summer Holiday starts Wednesday 26th July

