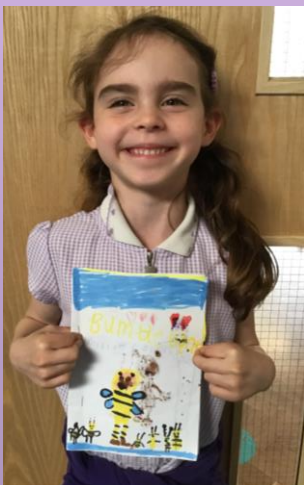


## A Message from Mrs Kee

Congratulations to Badgers, Dragonflies and Owls for being the classes with the most children walking, cycling or scooting to school during Walk to School week. The children received a badge, and they will also receive a special 'Walk to School week' bookmark – we are waiting for these to arrive from the printers. Remember walking to school has many benefits – it is good for your health; it's a social experience and it helps the environment by keeping more cars off the road. Less cars on the road means it is safer and less idling means the air we breathe is cleaner. Do your bit - walk to school as often as you can.

Talking about 'doing your bit', I would like to say a special thank you to the children that have been litter picking on the way to school. Your actions embody our school value 'We care' and are entirely selfless – no one asked you to do it and you have taken it upon yourselves to make a difference in our local community. Well done – I am very proud of you. I am also proud of our youngest pupils whose behaviour on their school trip to Conkers was exemplary. They had a wonderful and memorable experience and demonstrated how grown up they all are now.

A special thank you has to go to Mrs Dawson, who completed her final parent Forest School session today. A fantastic time was had by all. Thank you to parents and carers for attending, we hope you enjoyed it too! I hope you enjoy a lovely, sunny break. Take care, *Mrs Kee*





## Attendance

Whole school (this week)	<b>90.94%</b>
Reception	<b>90.22%</b>
Year 1	<b>89.76%</b>
Year 2	<b>92.78%</b>



Congratulations to  
**Busy Bees (99.23%!)**

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







## Curriculum Corner

In Key Stage 1 the focus for their English unit of learning was performance poetry. The children in Year 1 and Year 2 have enjoyed learning poems and rhymes to perform to the rest of the school.

In Year 1, each class learnt a rhyming poem or song to perform and in Year 2, the children worked as a whole year group to perform a rhythmical poem about an Iguana! The performances included actions, clapping rhythms and lots of smiles. Well done!





As part of their current unit of learning, the children in Reception have had the opportunity to watch caterpillars change into chrysalides and emerge as beautiful butterflies.

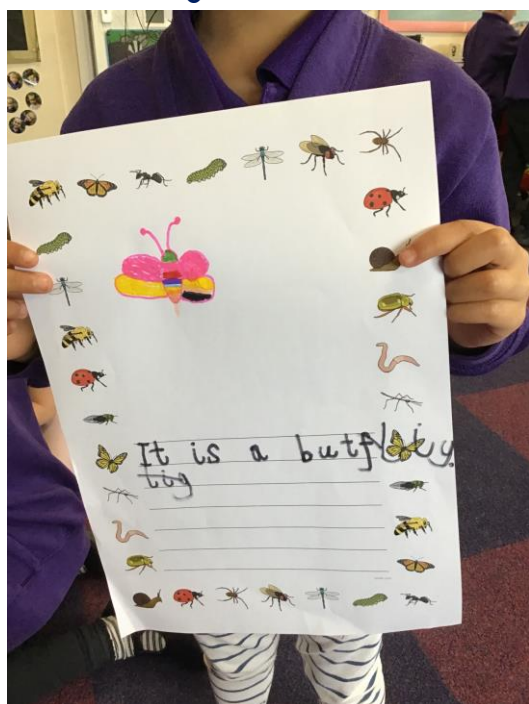
They have been able to raise and feed their very own butterflies and then release them into the wild!

The caterpillars arrived in a plastic cup and had to be placed in a safe place away from direct sunlight. They remained in the cup and ate, spun silk and grew almost TEN times their original size! After a while they hung upside down forming into chrysalides. Once hardened, they were gently moved into a pop-up butterfly habitat. Once their transformation was completed, the children were able to observe and write about them before releasing them.



## EYFS -Understanding the World

### Reception







## 'We Care' in Action!

These children from Year 2 and Reception have been litter picking on the way to school. They have taken it upon themselves to become champions of 'We care' in the local community and we couldn't be prouder!

They have been surprised by the amount of litter that has been thrown on the floor or in the bushes but have not been deterred! The children have been working hard everyday and their efforts have not gone unnoticed.

It is important to consider why the rubbish is there in the first place and what we can do to help. If you are out walking, put your rubbish in the bin. If there is not a bin nearby to put your rubbish in, put it in your bag or pocket and pop it in the bin when you get home. We can all do our bit to show 'We care' about our local community and make our local area the best place to live!

What will you do to make a difference?







## Forest School Parent Sessions



Many thanks to Mrs Dawson for completing two weeks of successful Forest School Parent Sessions. We are not sure if she'll ever get the smell of campfire out of her hair! The sessions were really well attended by parents, carers and grandparents and it was a pleasure welcoming you to our school. We hope you enjoyed the opportunity to share a Forest School experience with your child.

**Play** **Learn**  
**Explore** **Discover**

## Year 2 SATS

Well done to all of our Year 2 pupils who have completed their SATS assessments during the month of May. The assessments support teachers in making their final teacher assessment of pupil attainment at the end of Year 2. The children have worked hard during their school life at Violet Way and have had the opportunity to 'show us what they know' through the SATS. Well done!







## 125 Marvellous Me Thumbs Up Winners!



Mrs Kee had the great pleasure today of spending time with the children that have earned 125 Marvellous Me Thumbs up points. As the sun was shining, the hot chocolate was swapped for ice lollies! The children also enjoyed playing parachute games altogether.

Well done!







## Reception trip to Conkers!

Explore and discover



Independence



Teamwork







## Staffing for 2023-2024

We are reaching the time of year when children and parents will be starting to think about classes and staffing for September. The children in Year 2 that are going to Edge Hill have met their new Year 3 teachers this week. They were excited to meet their new teachers and asked lots of interesting questions.



After the half term break, I will be able to provide you with information about next year and staffing. We have planned a series of transition dates and opportunities for the children currently in Reception to spend time in their new Year 1 classes and their new teacher and for current Year 1 pupils to spend time in their new Year 2 classroom and with their new Year 2 teachers. Although dates may be subject to change, here is the outline of transition activities we have planned for current YR and Y1 pupils:

YR to new Y1 and Y1 to Y2 classes - Thursday 29th June 9.45am - 11.30am

Teachers to read stories to their class in new classroom - Friday 7th July

Whole school swap over YR-Y1 and Y1-Y2 - Friday 21st July pm

## Year 3 Transition Dates

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

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

*Some children may also attend additional transition sessions and this will be discussed with individual parents as required.*

*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 – 13<sup>th</sup> June 6.30pm
- Open Morning – 23<sup>rd</sup> June – 9.10am







## Year 1 Trip

### **Year 1 Walk to Burton Geography Trip Wednesday 21st June**

As part of our Year 1 Geography learning the children will be walking into Burton on Wednesday 21st June, to study the physical and human features of our town, as well as look at how it has changed over time. All classes will arrive at school at the normal time and will walk into Burton after registration. The classes will take part in a range of activities including a visit to the library where we will be looking at pictures of Burton past.

Packed lunches will be provided by the school. Children will need to wear their school uniform, a sun hat and have a high factor sun cream applied before they come to school. They will also need to bring a backpack with a light, waterproof jacket, drink bottle and a small snack.

If you are able to volunteer to support on this trip, please either speak to your class teacher or email the office at [office@violetway.org](mailto:office@violetway.org) by Wednesday 7th June.

If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher.

## Good luck Miss Smith!

Miss Smith starts her maternity leave after the half term. Her baby is due in just a couple of weeks! We wish her well and she has promised to keep in touch and let us know all the details when baby arrives.

Mrs Wright, who is covering the maternity leave, has been in school lots over the past couple of weeks working with the children in Ladybirds and is excited to officially start after the half term.

## Here comes the sun!

Please ensure that you apply a high factor sun cream to your child before they come to school. The weather is getting warmer and children will need a sunhat and a water bottle to ensure they keep hydrated. We will encourage children to seek shaded areas if it gets particularly hot. Please remember that children should still wear long trousers for Forest School (joggers or leggings).







## PTA information

Our PTA are very busy organising events for the Summer Term. There will be a Year 2 disco on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 Parent Survey results

Thank you to the Year 1 parent that completed the survey about the end of Y2 trip for next academic year. Although many parents would still be interested in a residential trip, overwhelmingly, parents would like us to explore options for a day visit. Mrs Kee is going to be looking at different options and will update you after the half term.







# 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

**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

**YR Pirate Picnic** – 20<sup>th</sup> June

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

**Transition** - YR to new Y1 and Y1 to Y2 classes - Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June

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

**YR Science day** – 3<sup>rd</sup> July

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

**Transition** - teachers to read stories to their class in new classroom - Friday 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

**YR Seaside day** – 20<sup>th</sup> July

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

**Transition** - Whole school swap over YR-Y1 and Y1-Y2 - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July pm

**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







# 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.

