







-  We care
-  We are brave
-  We celebrate individuality
-  We leave no one behind



A Message from Mrs Kee

What a week we've had! The annual Trust 'Fierte Festival' took place this week, with every academy across the Trust involved. Along with lots of sporting activities organised in school, including dance, Nerf Wars, Archery, Multisport, Walk and Talk and sports days, we also had a number of pupils from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 go to Anker Valley Primary in Tamworth for an inter-academy KS1 competition. All of our teams represented the school beautifully and were good sports, displaying fair behaviour and great teamwork. They demonstrated our school value 'We are brave' showing courage and perseverance in the face of challenge. Our Year 1 team won the year group trophy for Violet Way. Well done to everyone involved and thank you to Mrs Williams for organising the event and to the staff that supported.

Fierté Festival Fun!


Our sports days this week were well attended by parents – thank fully the weather was dry and they were able to go ahead. Although I'm told it was rather gusty on Wednesday! We have received some lovely feedback from parents and grandparents about the sports days, commenting on how all the children were enjoying themselves, how well organised the events were and thanking all the staff. I would also like to say thank you to Miss Cullumbine, our PE lead, who organised the sports days and, as I am sure you are aware, this is a mammoth task!

Children in Reception and Year 1 enjoyed a transition afternoon in their new classrooms. Our PSHE lessons include talking to children about change and feelings about change and encouraging them to view this positively. See you all next week, *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole school (this week)	93.58%
Reception 	95.65%
Year 1	94.24%
Year 2	90.89%

Sports Awards

Along with our sporting theme for the week, this week in our Merit Assembly, children received a certificate for being Ambassadors for Sport.

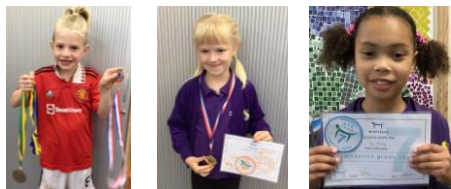


Congratulations to **Woodpeckers (99%)**

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



Thanks for sharing – well done!





Fierte Festival – What a Week!

The Trust Fierte Festival kicked off on Monday with every school in the Trust delivering a whole school 'opening ceremony'. The theme this year was linked to the Olympics and, as well as all of the sporting events on offer, children learnt about the Olympic Games and sports in class. Some examples of learning across the school include: finding out about Olympic symbols, making flags and medals, wreaths or Olympic torches, completing sport related writing and maths tasks, making friendship medals, talking about equality in sport. As a school, we focused on 'COURAGE' as an underlying theme because it is part of our value 'We are brave' and the meaning of this value. We wanted pupils to demonstrate this value throughout the Fierte Festival week – and they certainly did!

We observed children trying new sports and activities they hadn't tried before. We saw children persevering with archery and multisport games – not giving up! We saw children aiming for their own, personal sporting best.

We are brave



We will try new things even if we feel afraid of doing them. We do what we know is the right thing, even when it is difficult. If we find things challenging, we keep trying and never give up. We support each other to face our fears and persevere. We aim to be the best that we can be.

It can be hard for children of a younger age to manage disappointment, however, we encouraged children to focus on the feeling they had when they were enjoying running, jumping, racing, aiming in archery, playing Nerf battle, playing team games. It is a wonderful feeling to win but it is also a wonderful feeling to be part of a team, to feel your heart beating faster as you race through the wind and to have fun and enjoy the moment! It is important to recognise that we are all different. If we don't win, it's about getting back up and trying again next time. This is a really important skill to develop and applies to learning across the curriculum.

As part of their learning this week, children watched a video of Derek Redmond, a British sprinter who held the record for the 400m sprint but tore his hamstring in the middle of a race at the 1992 Olympic games, losing his chance of winning the race. He had worked so hard and was distressed and disappointed but did not stop and hobbled to the end of the race to finish. He demonstrated the value 'We are brave' showing courage and deciding to complete the race he had trained hard for. You can watch the short video clip by clicking here: [Derek Redmond: Inspirational Olympic Moment \[Barcelona 1992\] - YouTube](#)





Fierte Festival in action!



Dance



Multisport



Enjoyment!

Nerf battle





Nerf battle



Teamwork



Warm up

Learn & laugh



Egg steal

Perseverance



The children enjoyed a range of sporting events and activities throughout the week. You can see the joy on their faces!





Enjoy and achieve!





Good sports!





Kingswood photographs



We leave no one behind



We are brave





Kingswood photographs



Challenge



Reach for the stars!





PTA Funds

We are fortunate to have a supportive PTA who have worked hard this year to raised funds for school to benefit pupils. The PTA Fair raised £900!

They have planned and delivered events across the academic year including, an online Christmas raffle, letters to Santa, Chocolate Bingo, Summer Fair. The money raised is used for a range of purposes to support our pupils in school. This academic year, funds were used to:

- subsidise the cost of trips
- purchase books for the library
- purchase a new sound system
- give every child an chocolate egg
- provide Y2 leavers presents
- purchase Kingswood t-shirts and activities in school for children not attending Kingswood

In addition, the PTA have supported in other ways, for example using their extra special connections to make sure that the Easter bunny, Father Christmas and Mickey Mouse could come to school! Thank you to all our PTA members for their support – we look forward to working with you again next academic year. Particular thanks needs to go to Stacey Gaynor, Michelle Jamieson, Chelsey Farmer, Katie Connell, Jenny Bagworth, Christina Cotterill and Jenny Clarke.

Of course, we also need to say thank you to behind the scenes helpers and parent helpers as well of all our parents who have supported the PTA events across the year and helped us to raise funds to support our pupils.

A meeting will be arranged in September and new members are always welcome!

Reading Rockets and Thumbs Up

Reading Rocket books should have been returned today for final count. Children will still have a library book and reading book but these will need to be returned to school on **Friday 21st July**.

Thumbs Up points – last day was today for final count and any prizes that need to be given out will be handed to children next week





End of Year Reports

End of year reports have been shared with parents today. Please click on this link to share a comment about your child's report and complete our annual parent survey:

<https://forms.office.com/e/UFCUFWvqvG>

We would really appreciate it if you could take a moment to complete the survey as it enables us to recognize strengths and areas for development from a parental perspective. Something really useful that came from last year's parent survey was our curriculum enrichment overview, which we will produce again and share in September for the whole overview of the new academic year. Thank you!

Toddler Group

Many thanks to Jo Smith for planning, organising and running the Toddler Group sessions this academic year. They provide an excellent opportunity for families to come to school and enjoy play-based and creative activities with their very young children. It is a great opportunity for socializing with other children and for parents to meet up too.

Thanks also to Becky Dunn who has supported the Toddler Group, bringing experience and ideas to her role in supporting the group and its success.

The Toddler Group will continue next academic year, so if you know of any parents with pre-school age children that would like to attend, please let them know! Toddler group will be back on Tuesday 12th September in the next academic year.

Toddler club will be every Tuesday morning 9:00am-10:30am, £2 per family

Key dates for Year 2

'Reach for the Stars' Brewhouse production – Thursday 20th July - Children need to bring a party themed outfit, in bright colours to stand out on stage, to school by Monday 17th July.

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





Staff leaving

At the end of the academic year, we will be saying goodbye and good luck to some members of staff.

Mrs Batkin and Mrs Deakin have worked at Violet Way for many years and are looking forward to retirement – school dinners will be replaced by a cup of tea and a cake.

Another long-standing employee Mrs Tongue (Nursery), who has worked at Violet Way for just over 25 years, is also retiring. Some of you will know these staff from when older siblings attended Violet Way and before the school was academised. I am sure you will wish them all a happy retirement.



Mrs Hoose has supported children with interventions and has been working in Reception and her post completes its term at the end of the academic year. We wish her the best with future endeavours.



Mrs Williams has worked at Violet Way for over ten years and her contribution to the successful running of the whole school in her role of Deputy Headteacher is to be commended. We wish her well for the future as she settles back home in Wales with her family.



We are currently in the process of appointing Teaching Assistants and Lunchtime Supervisors and are interviewing next week. We will keep you posted!





We welcome,
all ages, stages, abilities,
SEN, additional needs, home-
schooling, adults and nervous
swimmers



Maximum of 5 in class.
All lessons taught from
the water.
Level 2 Swimming
Instructors

We offer a family friendly
approach to swimming with pupil-led
progress through simple
structured lessons via groups, 1:1
or 2:1 classes

Swim over
to our
website



Come Join Our Pool!



 07540335880

 [DaniellesSwimmingAcademy](#)

Based at Everlast, Burton-On-Trent





Parent Library Mornings

We have really enjoyed welcoming parents to our morning library sessions this year. We have had lovely comments from parents about how much they value these sessions, spending quality time reading and choosing books from the library with their child. When talking to children, they also comment on how much they enjoy the library mornings. When we had our Trust Strategic Peer Review, it was noted that:



“The before school library sessions are well attended by parents/carers and children; parents very much value this opportunity and the provision of a library they can readily access.”

“Teaching Assistants are warm and welcoming, younger siblings eagerly take part and children enjoy reading together, also seeking out specific books they want to read.”

“Those children who attend without family members equally enjoy and gain from the session adeptly supported by the staff present.”

Parent Library Session – Autumn Term 2023

We are looking forward to restarting the library sessions in the Autumn term. Please note that there will be no library morning sessions in the first few weeks of the Autumn term as we support the new Reception pupils with their morning routine. We will add the dates of library sessions in the first newsletter in the Autumn term.

Forest School Sessions

Many thanks to Mrs Dawson for all her hard work delivering Forest School sessions with every class across the academic year. Forest School sessions enable children to learn about safety, rules, considered risk, social skills, teamwork, independence, cooperation, resilience and more! In addition, curriculum links are carefully crafted to enable pupils to learn about plants, growth and the weather in context.

Forest School Sessions – Autumn Term 2023

After a short period of transition in the first few weeks of the new term, Forest school sessions will resume. Forest school dates will be added to the first newsletter. Please remember your child will need to wear their normal school uniform top and jumper with plain, dark joggers (black or navy) or leggings (no jeans). They will need a pair of wellies, with their name written clearly inside, to keep in school. Wellies in school currently will be sent home with your child in the last week of term.





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 – **LAST SESSION OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR NEXT WEEK!**

YR Seaside day – 20th July

Y2 Brewhouse production – Thursday 20th July

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

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





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.

