

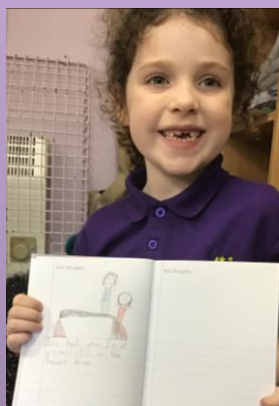
A Message from Mrs Kee

Our assembly this week was all about Harvest. We thanked the farmers for their hard work harvesting crops and the factory workers for ensuring we have food in the supermarkets. We talked about showing 'We care' in the community by donating food to charity and discussed the difference we could make if we all brought in just one food item to school to donate to the Food Bank in Burton. We do this annually and they are always very grateful for any donations received. Please pop any harvest donations (non-perishables, such as tins and packets of food) into the box outside the front of school from Monday next week. Please make sure any tins or packets of food donated are in date. If you would like to donate fresh food, such as fruit and vegetables, please do not send these into school until Thursday morning. Thank you for donating and supporting our local community. The children have been learning harvest songs in preparation for their short performances to parents next Thursday. Year 1 and Year 2 will perform their short harvest assemblies in the hall and Reception will be in classrooms. We look forward to you seeing them on Thursday.

Remember, the month of October is 'Walk to school' month. If you can't walk to school everyday, try to walk to school a few days per week to encourage active travel to school and a healthy lifestyle.

The votes have been counted and confirmed and our school council members have been chosen by each class. Thank you to all the pupils that put their names forward and presented to their class. The elected pupils were presented with their school council badges in the assembly today and were very proud.

I hope you have a lovely weekend, *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole school (this week)	93.87%
Reception	91.36%
Year 1	95%
Year 2	95.32%



Congratulations to
Owls (100%)
for being the class

WOW!

with the highest attendance this week!

Well done for your *fantastic attendance* this week.

**Make sure your
child attends school every day
so that they get the
most from their education.**

Merit Award Winners

Merit certificates are awarded to children who exemplify our school values, follow our school rules and demonstrate our star learner qualities. Check out our award winners this week!

Reception



Year 1



Year 2



Home Achievements



We heard about some super swimming, fantastic football and had a demonstration from a child showing us how to tie a Judo belt. Well done everyone!





School Council

Thank you to all of those children who put themselves forward to be their class School Council Representative. We were extremely pleased to see that so many children wanted to be selected to represent the school and have a say in what happens for the rest of the year. Also, thank you to the parents who helped their children to write their speeches which were very impressive!

Each class held a ballot to ensure that the vote was fair, and this was a secret ballot, just like when the adults vote in the elections. The first meeting with Miss Nicholson will be very soon! **We are pleased to announce that this year's School Council Representatives are:**



Reception

Badgers

Squirrels

Foxes



Year 1

Dragonflies

Ladybirds

Busy Bees



Year 2

Kestrels

Owls

Woodpeckers





Harvest Assemblies and Food Bank Donations

Harvest Assemblies – Thursday 19th October

The Harvest Assemblies are next week, and the children are looking forward to performing their songs to parents. Year 1 and Year 2 are assemblies in the hall. The Reception sessions will be in classroom and involve some play activities and some signing in the classroom. Parents from all year groups, please come to the main office to sign in.

Please see times below:

Year 2 - Kestrels- 9.10am	Owls – 9.30am	Woodpeckers – 9.50am
Year 1 - Dragonflies – 10.10am	Busy Bees – 10.30am	Ladybirds- 10.50am
Year R - Squirrels – 1.40am	Foxes – 2.00pm	Badgers – 2.20pm

Food Bank donations – as part of our Harvest Festival, we ask families to donate food if they can. There will be a box on the front gate from Monday, where you can drop off donations at the start of the school day. Please send non-perishable items, such as packets and tins from Monday 16th October and any fresh produce can be brought on the day. Mr Bill will take all food donations to the Food bank on Friday, after our morning assembly. Thank you so much for your support!



Parent Library Mornings – Update

Following the feedback from the reading meeting with parents, we have ensured that the Computing suite is not set up for music lessons until after the parent library session, allowing more space for parents to sit with their child to read. We hope that this has made our ever-popular sessions more comfortable. We plan to see how this goes over the next few weeks.

Mrs Kee has spoken to Headteachers across the Trust and regular parent library sessions are not being offered at the other academies currently. In response to recent feedback, we plan to continue to run them as they are, with the Computing suite open at every session. Mrs Kee will pop into some of the sessions to see if this has helped to ease some of the congestion identified by some parents.





Birthday treats

As a school, through our curriculum, we encourage healthy lifestyles, including healthy eating. In Design and Technology, the children make salads and breakfast pots in KS1, for example. For these lessons, our kitchen team provide the ingredients and ensure that appropriate adjustments are made as needed for any children with allergies or intolerances. We take this seriously as some allergies can cause illness or be life threatening. We manage this through the kitchen catering team who provide suitable school meals, adjusting menus as appropriate to ensure children's individual dietary requirements are met. This also applies to when we have biscuit or cake treat decorating for Mother's and Father's Day play and stay sessions.

Although we understand that parents like to send in treats for their child's birthdays for staff to hand out at the end of the day, after consulting with the Trust Catering Lead and other academies within the Trust, we have decided that we cannot facilitate this anymore in school. Over the last few years, the Trust have continued to provide guidance and support to ensure that our practices help to keep all the children safe. Our prize boxes for Marvellous me and reading rockets are non-food items and we will also ensure that teachers and staff in school do not buy food treats for pupils moving forwards and instead provide non-food items where applicable. For Easter, the PTA provide chocolate eggs, however, these are purchased by the catering team who provide alternatives as required.

From this point forwards, please do not send treats into school for birthdays. As an alternative to sending in treats, we will have a basket in the school library where parents can donate a book for their child, in their name, for their birthday. If parents send in a book, we will add a sticker stating, 'This book was donated fors birthday.' The book can be sent into class.

If parents do want to provide treats for their child's class, you can hand out treats offsite if you wish, however this would be at your own risk, and it does leave you potentially liable.

This information will also be provided in a letter to all parents and added to the website.





Volunteers

Since September, any volunteers for trips (other than when parents support walking to the church or Edge Hill) will need to have DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check. Volunteers will be asked to complete an application and provide identification documents, which these will be used for the DBS check. The school will fund all DBS checks for volunteers.

If you would like to become a volunteer for the school, please visit the main office for an application form. A big thank you to the parents and family members that have already applied to become a school volunteer, without your support our planned school trips would not be possible.

Current Vacancies

We currently have the following vacancies – please share with anyone you know that would be interested in applying

Teaching Assistants

We are currently looking to appoint **two Teaching Assistants with one-to-one support** to work in EYFS/KS1. The advert is available on [WMjobs](#). The application pack and full details of the role can be found on our Trust website [Fierte Multi-Academy Trust- Vacancies \(fierte.org\)](#) Applicants should submit a completed application form to hr@fierte.org by the closing date (Thursday 19th October). To find out more information about the role or to arrange a visit to the Academy please contact office@violetway.org

Cleaning Supervisor

We are also looking to appoint a Cleaning Supervisor. The advert is available on [WMjobs](#). The application pack and full details of the role can be found on the Trust website [Fierte Multi-Academy Trust- Vacancies \(fierte.org\)](#) Applicants should submit a completed application to hr@fierte.org by the closing date (Monday 6th November) To find out more information about the role or to arrange a visit to the Academy please contact office@violetway.org



**Next week!**

PTA Meeting

There will be a PTA meeting in school on **Monday 16th October** at 2pm to discuss and plan dates for the PTA events coming up in the new academic year.

Our PTA are always happy to welcome new members so if you want to find out more about the PTA and their role in supporting our school, please pop along on **Monday 16th October at 2pm!**



Hector the Scarecrow – Vote now!

The voting system is now live! Please vote for our Violet Way Scarecrow, Hector. If we win, the prize money will go towards our woodlands. Please support us by voting.

Voting finishes on Tuesday 31st at 5pm. Please vote now by visiting this link:

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=703908438435578&id=100064492848546

Marvellous Me Notifications

MarvellousMe have advised us that the issue with receiving notifications is being worked on as a priority and apologise for the inconvenience and frustration this causes. They hope to have everything back to normal next week.

In the meantime, please can you check your inbox in your MarvellousMe parent app daily, to catch up on any missed news. You will see all the messages there.

PE Enrichment day

Progressive Sports run our PE enrichment days and have had to change the date of the first one. Instead on Thursday 26th October, it will be the day after on Friday 27th October.

Last year the 'Glow in the Dark Dodgeball' was so popular, we have booked it in again for this academic year!

We have two other PE enrichment day (Spring and Summer term) and the school council will speak to their classes and vote for the sport they would like for these.





Application for a Reception place

Advance notice of Reception application process - The application process for a Reception place for September 2024 will open on 01 November 2023.

The easiest way for parents to apply is online. Further information can be found on the [Staffordshire admissions website](#). The closing date is 15 January 2024. You can find further information about Reception September 2024 admissions [here](#)

For more information about the EYFS and our Reception provision at Violet Way please click [here](#). We also have an [admissions page](#) with the details of how to apply through the Staffordshire Admissions website.

Tours of the school for new applicants are being held on the following dates and prospective parents can book by calling the office or emailing

office@violetway.org

- Thursday 9th November at 10am or 4pm
- Thursday 16th November at 10am or 4pm

Application for a Junior place

Advance Notice - Parents of children in Year 2 need to apply for a Junior School place – The application process for a junior school place for September 2024 will open on 01 November 2023.

The easiest way for parents to apply is online. Further information can be found on [Staffordshire admission website](#). The closing date is 15 January 2024.

Parents of pupils in Year 2 will receive a personalised letter in the final week before we break up for the October half term. The letter will have a Unique Identification Number – this is needed for the application process. Parents can access an 'Information to Parents' booklet through the Staffordshire [website](#).





Library and Forest School Dates

Parent Library Mornings – Autumn Term

Parents are invited to join their child, every three weeks for a parent library session. Gates will open 5 minutes earlier for the class whose library session it is. Reception sessions are on Tuesdays (start after the October half term). Year 2 sessions are on Wednesdays and Year 1 sessions are on Thursdays. Please see dates below for your child's parent library session.

Reception Tuesday Sessions:

Foxes	-	-	7/11	28/11
Squirrels	-	-	14/11	5/12
Badgers	-	-	21/11	12/12

Year 2 Wednesday Sessions:

Kestrels	20/9	11/10	8/11	29/11
Owls	27/9	18/10	15/11	6/12
Woodpeckers	4/10	25/10	22/11	13/12

Year 1 Thursday Sessions:

Dragonflies	21/9	12/10	9/11	30/11
Ladybirds	28/9	19/10	16/11	7/12
Busy Bees	5/10	26/10	23/11	14/12

Forest School Sessions – Autumn Term

Week 1:

Monday – Dragonflies

Tuesday – Owls

Wednesday - Badgers

Thursday – Kestrels

Friday – Foxes

These class will have Forest School Afternoons on the days above during the following weeks: 11/9 25/9 9/10 23/10 13/11 27/11 11/12

Week 2:

Monday – Ladybirds

Tuesday – Woodpeckers

Thursday – Squirrels

Friday – Busy Bees

These class will have Forest School Afternoons on the days above during the following weeks: 18/9 2/10 16/10 6/11 20/11 4/12





Dates for your diary

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)



What's Coming Up?

Toddler Morning – Every Tuesday morning 9:00am-10:30am, £2 per family FYI NO TODDLER GROUP ON 24TH OCTOBER

PTA meeting – Monday 16th October at 2:00pm
Flu Vaccinations – 17th October

Parents' Evenings – Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th October

Harvest Assemblies – Thursday 19th October

Kestrels- 9.10am

Owls – 9.30am

Woodpeckers – 9.50am

Dragonflies – 10.10am

Busy Bees – 10.30am

Ladybirds- 10.50am

Squirrels – 1.40am

Foxes – 2.00pm

Badgers – 2.20pm

Donated food will be taken to the food bank on Friday.

INSET Day – Friday 20th October

BOOK FAIR – w/c Monday 23rd October – dates and times TBC

Whole School Sports Enrichment Day – Friday 27th October

Parent Inclusion Coffee Morning - Friday 27th October
9.00 – 10.00

End of term – Friday 27th October

Autumn 2 – Children return to school following the half term holiday on Monday 6th November

Anti-Bullying Week Theme: Making a Noise about Bullying – week commencing Monday 13th November

Odd Socks Day – Monday 13th November – Children wear odd socks to school to celebrate individuality and uniqueness. Let's be kind to each other and respect each other's individuality.

