

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

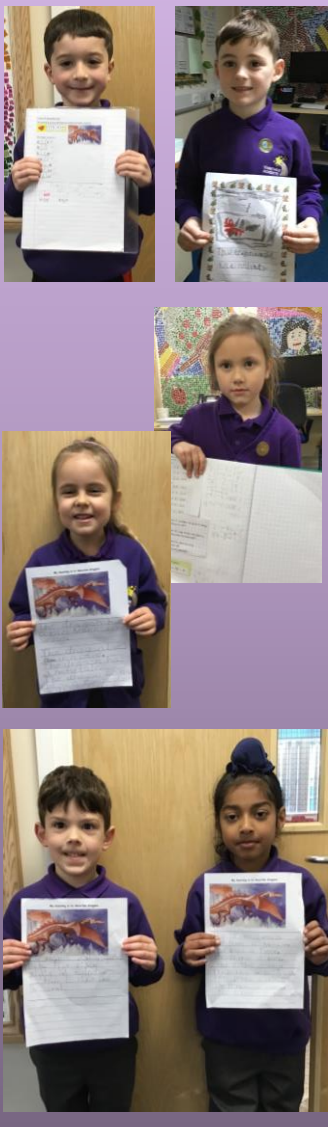
A Message from Mrs Kee

Our assembly on Monday introduced this half term's Jigsaw PSHE theme 'celebrating difference', which links to our school value 'We celebrate individuality'. We took time to reflect on how each of us are completely unique and how special that is and encouraged children to think about what makes them special and unique. This year, we will be joining in with Anti Bullying week, starting with odd socks day on Monday 13th November and, as part of this week, the children will be 'celebrating individuality' including wearing odd socks on Monday!

Mrs Dawson has been leading campfires in the children's Forest School sessions. The children have all been very well behaved, listening carefully to instructions and learning about how to stay safe.

There is information about the National Sleep Helpline in this week's newsletter. At any given time up to 40% of adults and 50% of children (80% with a SEND diagnosis) have difficulties with their sleep. Almost 60% of adults feel there is a lack of support for sleep issues. The free helpline is run by trained sleep advisors. We have provided information for parents that may find this a useful resource. In addition, there is information about how to access HOPE support as a parent if you have a child struggling with their emotional wellbeing.

Have a lovely weekend, *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole school (this week)	95.18%
Reception	94.24%
Year 1	95.5%
Year 2	95.63%



Congratulations to **Owls (97.67%)** **WOW!** for being the class with the highest attendance this week!

Well done for your **fantastic 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



Thank you for sharing your home achievements in swimming, karate, gymnastics and football!

Well done!





Be SPOTacular!

On **Friday 17th November** children and staff can wear spots or yellow to raise money for Children in Need. We suggest a donation of £1, which can be paid through ParentPay.

Parents of children in Year 1, please note as the children in Year 1 are on a school trip they will need to wear uniform so that they are easily recognisable. They need to wear their school uniform top and jumper/cardigan and joggers on the bottom (what they would usually wear for forest school). As there is a lot of walking, they can wear trainers. Children in Year 1 can wear spotty or yellow socks on Friday, if they want to join in, or a yellow / Pudsey-style headband.



Be Bright Be Seen!

Bright

Wear fluorescent or brightly coloured clothing when walking to and from school.

Reflective

When it's dark outside, wear reflective clothing to be seen in car headlights.

Improve

Improve your visibility with accessories - clip on reflectors, bands and stickers to your coat and bag.

Green cross code

Only cross at crossings and well lit areas. Remember to use the Green Cross Code.

Headlights

Remember it's the law to have clean and working headlights on your bike in the dark. **White** at the front, **red** at the back, as well as a rear reflector.

Think

Always think about what you're wearing before you head out in the dark. Are you too dark to be seen? **Think smart, stay safe.**

Be Bright, Be Seen



Now you see me

Now you don't



Be Bright, Be Seen.



At this time of year many children will be travelling to or from school throughout the Winter months in the dark. Bright and reflective clothing can greatly reduce the risk of children being involved in a road traffic accident and will help keep them safer whilst walking, scooting or cycling to school.

Be Bright Be Seen!





Anti-Bullying Week and Odd Socks day!

It is Anti-Bullying Week next week and will be kicking off with odd socks day on Monday! Anti-Bullying Week is an annual UK event which aims to raise awareness of bullying and highlights ways of preventing and responding to it. This year the theme is 'Make a Noise' and the children will be talking to who they can speak to in school if they are worried about anything.



The week will begin on Monday with Odd Socks day! Children and staff should wear odd socks to school to promote individuality, acceptance, tolerance and kindness. Over the week, the children will watch videos, join in with circle times and complete activities linked to Anti-Bullying Week and celebrating individuality. The work they do will build on our current PSHE theme of 'celebrating difference' and links to our school values 'We care', 'We are brave' We celebrate individuality' and 'We leave no one behind'.

Our school council will be creating some posters to spread the 'Make a Noise' message, highlighting who children can talk to in school.

In school, we encourage the children to use the following phrases 'please don't do that I don't like it' and, to support their understanding of what bullying actually is, compared to falling out, disagreements, and nasty incidents, we use 'STOP' (Several Times On Purpose). We make sure children understand what behaviour is not bullying, for example, occasional loss of temper, hurting by accident, falling in and out with friends and minor disagreements.



Parents and carers can find out about antibullying week on the Antibullying Alliance website. Just click on the link below! You can also download their Parent and Carers pack with lots of information about what bullying is, what advice you can give your child and some activities to do together at home.

[Parents and Carers \(anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk\)](https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk)





Reading News

We are excited to announce that we now have nine new **Reading Ambassadors** to help promote 'reading for pleasure' across the school. They are all in Year 2 and will be responsible for some exciting tasks such as writing book recommendations, keeping the library organised, reading books to the younger children and helping Miss Nicholson to run the lunchtime Book Club.



We are holding **Parent Reading Workshops** on 21st, 22nd and 23rd November and the focus will be 'reading for pleasure'. Dates and times for each class are in the 'Dates for your Diary' section at the end of the newsletter.

Thank you to our PTA and Parents!

We are delighted to inform you that we placed second in the Tesco Stronger Starts and will receive a grant award of £1000.00 for a proper scooter rack where children will be able to park their scooters at school. Please see the confirmation email to the PTA below!

Organisation name: Violet Way Academy PTA
Project title: Cycle/Scoot to School Project

Congratulations!

We are delighted to let you know that following the Tesco Stronger Starts vote in your local Tesco stores, your project came Second and has been chosen by Tesco Customers to receive a grant award of £1,000.00!

We care



We are also excited to inform you that we placed third in the Garden King scarecrow competition and won some money for a more suitable home for our chickens in the winter.





Sleep Helpline



the national sleep helpline

Does your child suffer with sleep issues?

Do you struggle with your child's bedtime?

Will your child not sleep in their own bed?

WE CAN HELP

03303 530 541
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Monday & Wednesday 9am - 11am



50%

Around 50% of children will have a sleep issue at some point*

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL SLEEP HELPLINE?
In partnership with Furniture Village, The Sleep Charity has launched a brand new National Sleep Helpline to ensure that everyone has access to high quality, evidence-based advice.

HOW CAN THE NATIONAL SLEEP HELPLINE HELP YOU?

- Run by a team of specialist trained sleep advisors
- Offer you some practical strategies and recommend services that could help
- Ensuring you understand how sleep plays an important part in your child's mental health and wellbeing
- Listen without judgement and help you decide what next steps are right for you
- Empower you with sleep knowledge so you can understand why your child might not be sleeping well and how that can change

03303 530 541
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Monday & Wednesday 9am - 11am

POWERED BY  IN PARTNERSHIP WITH 

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*Survey of 2,000 adults by OnePoll, Aug 2021

Current Vacancies

Cleaning Supervisor - Advert available on [WMjobs](https://www.wmjobs.com). The application pack and full details of the role can be found on the Trust website [Fierte Multi-Academy Trust- Vacancies \(fierte.org\)](https://www.fierte.org) Applicants should submit a completed application to hr@fierte.org

Class Teacher (Maternity Cover)- We are seeking to appoint a part time Class teacher to cover Maternity leave in Y2. The advert is available on [WMjobs](https://www.wmjobs.com). The application pack and full details of the role can be found on the Trust website [Fierte Multi-Academy Trust- Vacancies\(fierte.org\)](https://www.fierte.org). Applicants should submit a completed application to hr@fierte.org by the closing date (Thursday 16th November).





HOPE Peer Support

Here for Parents

Being a parent can be challenging especially when our children are struggling with their emotional well-being. We think we're getting it wrong, feel alone and have nowhere to turn.

If your child or young person is struggling with anxiety, low mood or depression, stress or overwhelming emotions, it can be really hard to get the support you need as a parent.



Could you benefit from speaking to another parent who has gone through a similar experience?

A HOPE Parent Friend can offer you a confidential weekly call, video call or email and will listen with empathy, understanding and without judgement.

Our HOPE parent friends are vetted, trained and fully supervised volunteers

To find out more contact your HOPE mentor in school or Keddie on:

keddieHOPE2021@outlook.com

07508 176043

Our HOPE mentor in school is Mrs Taylor.





Christmas Performances – Save the date!

Please see below for the dates and times of our Christmas performances.

Reception Christmas Nativity – Thursday 14th December

9:15am -Foxes

10:15am - Badgers

1:45pm - Squirrels



Come and celebrate the birth of a special baby!

Year 1 Christmas Singalong – Wednesday 20th December

9:15am – Ladybirds

10:15am – Dragonflies

2:15pm – Busy Bees

Parents are encouraged to join in with our Year 1 Christmas singalong!



Year 2 Christmas Carol Concert at St Peter's Church– Monday 18th December

All of Year 2 – 1:45pm start time

We will be asking for parents to accompany us during the walk to the church from 1:10pm and back to school after the performance.

Further details will be shared next half term.





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

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.

YR – Dental Hygiene play and stay – Tuesday 14th November 9am – parents invited

YR Robot Workshop – Thursday 16th November

Y1 trip Tamworth Castle – 17th November

Children in Need – 17th November - Be like Pudsey and wear spots or yellow and pay £1 on Parent Pay to raise money for Children in Need.

Parent Reading Workshops – parent invited – All will be at 2:15pm on the following dates:

Tuesday 21st November – Badgers, Dragonflies and Kestrels

Wednesday 22nd November – Squirrels, Ladybirds and Woodpeckers

Thursday 23rd November - Foxes, Busy Bees and Owls

Year 2 trip to Think Tank – 29th November

Christmas dinner day – 7th December – Wear your Christmas Jumper

Reception Nativity – 14th December: 9:15am Foxes 10:15am Badgers 1:45pm Squirrels

Year 2 Carol Concert at St Peter's Church – Monday 18th December 1:45pm start

Year 1 Christmas Singalong – Wednesday 20th December 9:15am-Ladybirds 10:15am-Dragonflies 2:15pm-Busy Bees

Pantomime time! 22nd December – We have a theatre production company providing a panto for all children.

Break up for Christmas – Friday 22nd December

