



A Message from Mrs Kee

Our assembly on Monday introduced Anti-Bullying Week with 'Odd Socks Day'. The children really enjoyed wearing odd socks and thinking about individuality. Throughout the week, the children took part in many different activities which included discussing this year's theme, 'Make a Noise About Bullying'. On Wednesday, the school council designed some posters to be placed around school.

Today, the school celebrated Children in Need and the children loved wearing yellow or spotty clothes! Thank you to those of you who have donated £1 via ParentPay already.

The Year 1 children had a fantastic time today at Tamworth Castle which complemented their current learning in class. They listened well and were a credit to the school. Well done Year 1!

We look forward to welcoming you into school next week for our parent reading workshops. There are more details about these sessions further down in this newsletter.

In addition, there is information again 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)	92.77%
Reception	91.69%
Year 1	92.89%
Year 2	93.88%



Congratulations to
Badgers (97.7%)
for being the class



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.

Home Achievements

Thank you for
sharing your
home
achievements
in swimming
this week.

Well done!





A message from the Children's Commissioner for England

The Big Ambition survey is open to children and young people across England, and parents and carers can fill out the survey on behalf of children. I want to know what children enjoy about their schools, communities, family life, and the wider world. I also want to find out what young people would like policymakers and Government to focus on to help them achieve their future hopes and ambitions. The questions in the survey have been tailored to suit the age of the child answering, but, everyone is being asked what they think the Government should do to make children's lives better. I will be sharing what children tell me in **The Big Ambition** survey with policymakers across all the political parties to ensure they are putting children's voices and needs at the heart of their policies and priorities.

Further resources are available on [my website](#), printable versions of the survey if it cannot be completed online. The easy read version of the survey is an option via the [survey link](#).

Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner for England





Parent Reading Workshops

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.

Please can you make sure that your child has their Reading Rocket on this day and their school library book. We will be using these during the session.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you!



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.





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

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 ThinkTank – 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

