

A Message from Mrs Kee

This week, I have enjoyed visiting lessons in Year 1 and Year 2. The children in Year 2 were participating in circuits in PE, working on improving their scores at jumping, running and throwing. They are challenging themselves to beat their personal best each time and it was lovely to listen to them supporting and encouraging one another. Year 1 children have been tasting different salads and talking about their favourite ingredients. They were carrying out important research in preparation for designing and making their own salad. The children in Reception continue to impress me with how well they have settled into school. I have seen some lovely creations and word writing this week.

Our assembly this week was all about Harvest recognising that donating food to charity can be one way in which we can help and show our community that 'we care'. Please remember to pop any donations (tins and packets of food) into the box outside the front of school from Monday. Unfortunately, we cannot accept fresh produce this year. Please make sure any tins or packets of food donate are in date. Thank you for donating and supporting our local community.

Thinking about our local community, can we also ask that parents are considerate when dropping off and collecting children from school. Let's show our community that 'we care' by parking cars considerately. This means not parking over driveways, blocking exits or parking in turning spaces. If you are waiting in a car, please switch your engine off so that we don't have unnecessary fumes polluting the air around our school. Where possible, you could encourage you child to walk or scoot to school with you.

Thank you to the parents that were able to compete the parent voice survey last week. I have included the results in this week's newsletter. We will use these, along with our pupil voice to continue to keep getting better.

Wishing you a lovely weekend, *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole School (this week)	94.62%
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Reception	93.53%
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Year 1	94.17%
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Year 2	96.06%
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Congratulations to

Woodpeckers

for being the class with the highest attendance this week! Well done on your fantastic attendance this week.

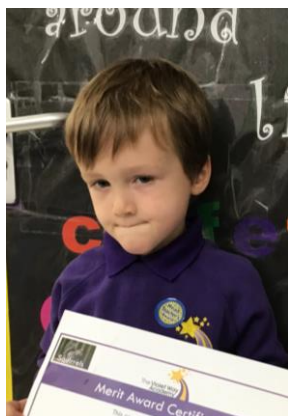
Make sure your child attends school every day so that they get the most from their education.



Merit Awards

Congratulations to our Merit Award winners this week.

These children have been awarded a Merit certificate this week for following our Golden Rules, showing our school values or demonstrating the star learner principles. We are very proud of you!



FIERTÉ

MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

INSPIRING ALL TO EXCELLENCE



Attendance and Punctuality

We would like to remind parents about the importance of arriving at school on time for drop off in the morning. It is crucial that you get your child in to school between 8:45am when the gates open, and 8:55am when the gates close. This helps to ensure children have a good start to their day and that they are ready to start their learning. As a reminder, drop off is between 8:45am and 8:55am for everyone and collection times are as follows: Reception - 3:00pm, Year 1 - 3:10pm and Year 2 - 3:15pm.

Our current whole school attendance is 94.62%, this is slightly below average, and we would love to see this increase over the next couple of weeks before we break up for half term! We will be holding some attendance clinics next half term where attendance is a concern.

Attendance Facts

Attendance of 95% for the year equals 10 days that your child has been absent, that is 2 full school weeks of your child's learning missed for that year.

Attendance of 90% for the year equals 19 days that your child has been absent, that is almost 4 school weeks missed.

Attendance of 85% for the year equals 29 days that your child has been absent per, that is almost 6 school weeks missed.

Attendance of 80% for the year equals 38 days absent per year that is over 7 school weeks missed.

Snack time

Healthy eating is a priority for our school and Fierte Trust and as you can see from our lunchtime menus, our catering team work hard to ensure that our children have healthy, balanced meals at school. Parents are asked to send in healthy snacks for children to eat at break. You can also pay for toast for a morning snack. Healthy snacks would include fruit, vegetables, healthy breakfast bars (not the kind with a high sugar content), crackers, and breadsticks. Please remember that no chocolate or sweets should be sent into school, these should be for you to use as treats at home as it is easier for you to monitor then. Finally, we do ask that no nuts or products containing nuts are sent into school, we appreciate that these are a good source of protein however we do have children with severe nut allergies, and this could be life threatening to them. The [NHS Change for Life](#) website has lots of ideas for healthy eating at home and school.



Did you know?

Half the sugar kids eat and drink each year comes from snacks and sugary drinks between meals - that's 10kg of sugar each year!





Parent Voice

Last week we shared a Parent Voice form for you to complete with the aim of gaining an insight, from a parent perspective, about what is working well and what we might need to improve. We had 46 responses and the results are recorded on the following pages:

Violet Way Academy has a happy and welcoming atmosphere.

Strongly Agree	32
Agree	14
Disagree	0
Strongly disagree	0
Don't know	0



My child enjoys school and is happy at Violet Way Academy.

Strongly Agree	29
Agree	16
Disagree	1
Strongly disagree	0
Don't know	0



My child feels safe at school.

Strongly Agree	32
Agree	12
Disagree	1
Strongly disagree	0
Don't know	1





The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.

Strongly agree	22
Agree	21
Disagree	0
Strongly Disagree	0
Don't know	3



When I have raised concerns, they have been dealt with properly.

Strongly agree	18
Agree	22
Disagree	0
Strongly Disagree	0
Don't know	6



The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.

Strongly agree	16
Agree	22
Disagree	4
Strongly Disagree	1
Don't know	3



The school provides an interesting range of curriculum and enrichment activities.

Strongly Agree	24
Agree	21
Disagree	0
Strongly Disagree	0
Don't know	1





For parents with a child with SEND, they were asked: My child has SEND and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.

Strongly agree	2
Agree	2
Disagree	0
Strongly disagree	0
Don't know	0



My child does well at Violet Way Academy.

Strongly agree	22
Agree	21
Disagree	1
Strongly Disagree	0
Don't know	2



The school lets me know how my child is doing

Strongly agree	10
Agree	23
Disagree	6
Strongly Disagree	2
Don't know	5



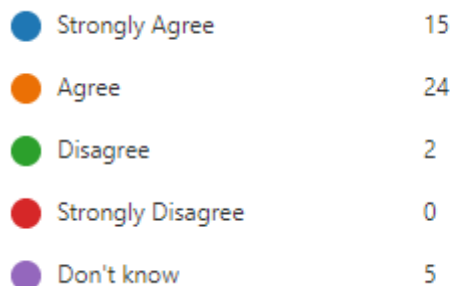
My child can take part in clubs and activities at Violet Way Academy.

Strongly agree	12
Agree	24
Disagree	4
Strongly Disagree	0
Don't know	6





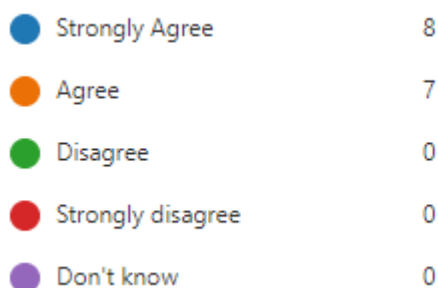
The school supports my child's wider personal development.



I would recommend this school to another parent.



The induction period for Reception pupils (including key person meeting and play and stay session) was helpful in supporting my child's transition and preparing them for school (*this question was posed to children currently in Reception*)



The survey finished with two questions asking parents about the key strengths and areas for development for the school from a parental perspective. We will be sharing these (anonymised) in next week's newsletter with information of where we have, or plan to, put something in place. Thank you to the parents that were able to contribute, we appreciate you taking the time to help us identify some key strengths and what might need to improve from a parental perspective.

Thank you for your continued support.





Important dates coming up

Reminder about school photographs: Tempest Photography will be in school on Wednesday 13th October to take individual and siblings in school photographs. Just a reminder that there will be no family photographs this year.

Parents' meetings will be via Teams this year. They are an opportunity to hear about how your child has settled into their new year group and class. The parents' meetings will be on Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th October 2021. You should have received a MS Form to complete and send your preferences to your class teacher. They will be in touch soon to confirm dates and times.

The last day of this half term will be on Thursday 21st October, as we have a planned INSET day on the Friday. The children will return to school on Monday 1st November.



Harvest

Our assembly focus this week was all about Harvest and helping others less fortunate than ourselves. In school, the children have been learning about Harvest recognizing that donating food to charity can be one way in which we can help and show our community that 'we care'. Please remember to pop any donations (tins and packets of food) into the box outside the front of school from Monday. Unfortunately, we cannot accept fresh produce this year. Please make sure any tins or packets of food donate are in date. Thank you for donating and supporting our local community.





Dates for your diary

Staffordshire Term Dates 2021-22

Autumn Term 2021

Inset day: Wednesday 1 September

Term Starts: Thursday 2 September

Half Term: Monday 25 October – Friday 29 October

Term ends: Friday 17 December

Holiday: Monday 20 December – Monday 3 January

Spring Term 2022

Inset day: Tuesday 4 January

Term Starts: Wednesday 5 January

Half Term: Monday 21 February – Friday 25 February

Term ends: Thursday 7 April

Inset day: Friday 8 April

Holiday: Monday 11 April – Friday 22 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 17 April

Summer Term 2022

Term starts: Monday 25 April

May Day: Monday 2 May

Half Term: Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June

Term ends: Wednesday 20 July

Holiday: Thursday 21 July – Friday 2 September

Violet Way Inset Days

Wednesday 1st September

Friday 22nd October

Tuesday 4th January

Friday 8th April

Monday 6th June (School closed for Queen's Jubilee)

Monday 20th June

What's Coming Up?

Curriculum Morning (Reading focus) – Year 1 and Year 2 – Thursday 16th September

Parent and Toddler sessions begin on Tuesday 21st September (9:00am-10:30am)

Y1 Packington Farm trips -

Ladybirds – Monday 20th September

Busy Bees – Tuesday 21st September

Dragonflies – Thursday 23rd September

Coffee and cake afternoon – 8th October

Tempest individual school photographs in school – Wednesday 13th October (No family photographs)

Harvest Assemblies – YR, Y1, Y2 – Recorded songs and poems shared by class teachers by Friday 15th October (please send in non-perishable food donations for the food bank into school from Monday 11th October)

Parents' Meetings – Monday 18th October and Tuesday 19th October (via Teams)

Anti-Bullying Week Theme: One Kind Word – week commencing Monday 15th November

Odd Socks day celebrating individuality and uniqueness – Monday 15th November

Speak Out Stay Safe (NSPCC) – YR, Y1, Y2 – week commencing 22nd November

Flu immunisations – Wednesday 1st December

Christmas Carol Concert at St Peter's Church – week commencing 13th December TBC

