

A Message from Mrs Kee

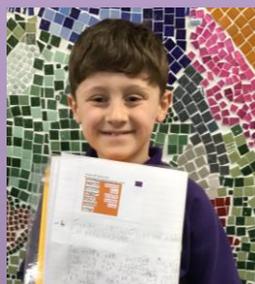
This week I have been incredibly proud of our team of staff at Violet Way, who have pulled together in the event of staff absence to ensure the continued smooth running of school for our pupils. They have taken on different roles, covering staff absence and have continued to smile – thank you.

We have some children who have demonstrated our value ‘We are brave’ and have risen to the challenge I set last week! Last week I challenged the boys in school to complete and share some writing with us and we received some lovely writing, including a letter and a homemade book – well done! Kestrels have also had a ‘double whammy’ this week as they are the class with the best attendance in school and were the winners of the reading prize for being the class with the most reading log entries this week – a super achievement Kestrels! I am sure they will enjoy reading the new addition to their class book box.

I have really enjoyed awarding lots of Headteacher’s Awards this week for a range of reasons, including effort in maths, writing, teamwork, perseverance and achieving personal goals. Look at all those happy, smiling faces! Well done!

In assembly this week, we listened to the Aesop’s Fable ‘The Tortoise and the Hare’ and related this to our value ‘We celebrate individuality’. The Tortoise is confident and believes in his own ability. He wins the race, despite being a slower animal. In the end, the hare apologised to the tortoise for being mean at the start. We are all different and unique and we set our own personal goals of what we want to achieve. We encourage our pupils at Violet Way to respect and celebrate each other’s individual differences. There is a lovely book that you can watch this weekend all about celebrating individuality: [IT’S OK TO BE DIFFERENT- READ ALOUD CHILDREN’S BOOK – YouTube](#) I’m sure you’ll enjoy watching this with your child.

Wishing you a lovely weekend. See you next week, *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole School (this week)	92.11%
Reception	89.20%
Year 1	91.69%
Year 2	95.40%

Congratulations to **Kestrels**

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 Award Winners

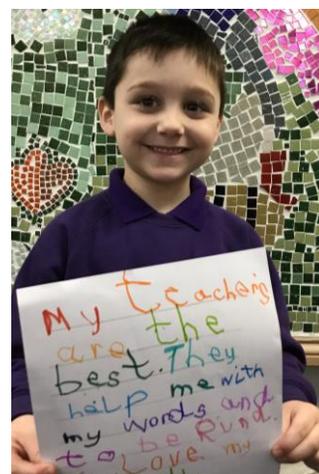
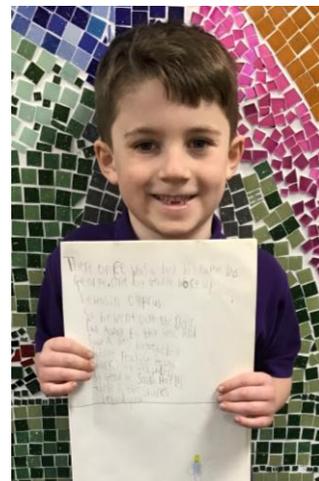




Home learning



It has been a pleasure to look at and read the home learning from pupils across the school this week. Such effort and care has been taken to complete their home learning challenges. Well done! Thank you for parents for motivating and supporting pupils with their home learning challenges.





Communication – Pupil Absences

IMPORTANT NOTICE – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

We have had some parents emailing class teachers to inform them of their child's absence. We thank you for providing this information to class teachers however we politely request that all absences are reported to the school office. Please call into school to speak to the office staff or leave a message on the answer phone to inform us of any absence. You can also email office@violetway.org If you wish to email your child's class teacher, you may do this as well, but all absences MUST be reported to the school office. This is to ensure that all absences are correctly reported and recorded properly. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Parent Meetings

Our next parent meetings are scheduled for Monday 28th February and Tuesday 1st March.

We have listened to parent feedback and would like to provide a hybrid offer of Teams and face-to-face meetings to suit parents. We understand that many parents work and find it easier to attend meetings virtually via Teams. Some parents prefer to have a face-to-face meeting in school.

In order to ascertain the demand for Teams and face-to-face meetings, class teachers have shared an MS Forms survey for parents to inform us of their preference for the type of meeting they would like to attend.

Please complete the survey by Tuesday 25th January at the latest.

After this point, we will collate the information and will be able to plan the two evenings. We will of course keep you informed.

Many thanks for your support.





Covid continues....

Thank you to parents for continuing to LFD test when advised. Confirmed cases are relatively low in school and we continue to keep measures in places.

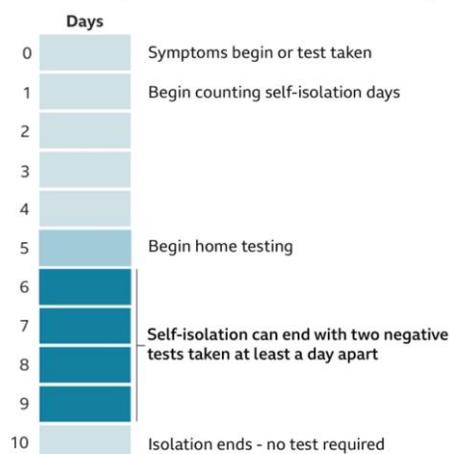
We will continue to communicate regularly with the Local Authority as appropriate and follow any guidance as required. Although we do have a few positive cases in some classes across the school, we continue to monitor the situation daily. There has not, at this point, been a spike in cases and we continue with our current measures, which includes:

- good hygiene practices, reviewed with children regularly
- ventilation (keeping windows open slightly to allow air flow)
- good cleaning routines
- systems in place for informing close contacts
- staff continue to LFD twice per week and daily if identified as a close contact
- anyone with symptoms to isolate straight away and get tested
- parental events postponed currently
- educational visitors asked to wear masks
- risk assessment in place

We are not currently having whole school assemblies in the hall. Children will have their Monday and Friday assemblies in year groups. Mrs Kee continues to regularly review the situation and will keep parents informed.

The diagram opposite explains the current isolation Expectations. You begin isolation the day after Symptoms or a positive test. You have to isolate for at least five full days. You can LFD test on day five and day 6 (24 hours apart) and if both tests are negative, you can finish isolating immediately. If the tests are positive you continue to isolate up to 10 days or when you have two negative tests 24 Hours apart.

How five-day isolation rule works in England



Source: NHS





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?

Library sessions with parents – POSTPONED until w/c 31st January 2022

Year 2 African Drumming Sessions – 24th January

Reception visits to Wing Wah – Week commencing 31st January

Children's Mental Health Week – Week commencing 7th February

Safer Internet day - Tuesday 8th February

Parent online safety workshop – Tuesday 8th February at 2:15pm

World book day – Thursday 3rd March

World book dress up assembly - Friday 4th March
(There will be a reading theme over these two days)

Food Waste Action Week – Week commencing 7th March

World Down's Syndrome day – Monday 21st March
– wear blue and yellow and donate £1.00

Mother's Day Play and Stay sessions – Friday 25th March

Year R - 9:00am

Year 1 - 10:00am

Year 2 - 11:00am

Easter Egg hunt in the Woodlands with the Easter Bunny – Thursday 7th April

