

A Message from Mrs Kee

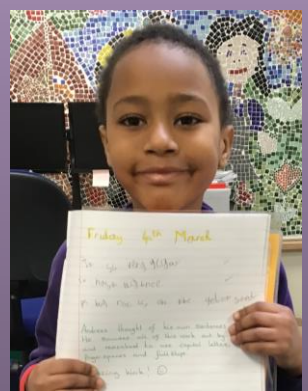
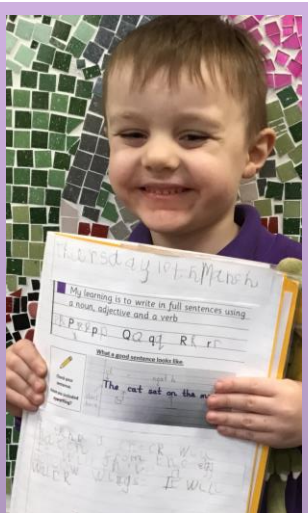
We have kicked started the new half term with lots of parent events, which has been so refreshing given the Covid restrictions that prevented us from doing this previously. We have had lots of positive feedback from parents about the library, the bedtime stories on the website and parent forest school sessions – thank you for sharing, it is much appreciated.

Our assembly on Monday was focused on Food Waste Action Week. The children discovered some key facts about the impact of food waste on their world. I challenged them to prevent food waste by always trying to eat what is on their plate so that it doesn't end up in the bin. Lots of children have impressed me with clean plates this week – well done!

Instead of our usual Merit Assembly this Friday, we celebrated rhyme and poetry with class performances of the rhyme or poem they had chosen to perform. Reception children stood up in front of their year group and performed their nursery rhymes wonderfully. The KS1, pupils stood up in front of all the other Y1 and Y2 pupils and delivered really confident performances. If your child hasn't performed their rhyme or poem to you at home yet, please encourage them to do so – we were all so proud of them.

Year 1 are learning about animals in their science lessons and, this week, we have been lucky enough to witness chicks hatching at school. They loved watching the eggs wobble, listening to little 'cheeps' just before the hatching commenced. We now have lovely, fluffy chicks!

Dragonflies won the reading competition for the 5th week in a row! Teachers count the number of reading diary entries for their class added on Marvellous Me and the class with the highest number of children get a new book for their class story book box. Help your child's class win next week by remembering to add their reading diary entry. Happy reading! *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole School (this week)	92.91%
Reception	88.34%
Year 1	96.14%
Year 2	94.38%



Congratulations to

Ladybirds

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.



Parent Forest School Sessions

We have completed one week of our parent forest school sessions and they have been a real success. We hope you enjoyed them as much as us! **Parent Forest School The final sessions are next week from 1.40pm on the following days:**

Monday 14th March – Owls

Tuesday 15th March – Foxes

Wednesday 16th March – Woodpeckers

Thursday 17th March – Dragonflies

Friday 18th March – Busy Bees



Merit Awards

This week's Merit assembly was a celebration of the children's wonderful poetry performances. There are pictures of the classes at the front of the assembly hall on the following pages.





Performance Poetry - Reception





Performance Poetry – Year 1





Performance Poetry – Year 2





Food Waste Action Week



Every day the equivalent of 20 million slices of bread are thrown away in UK homes. This could have fed breakfast to 10 million people.

Wasting food costs the average family **£700** a year, and has serious environmental implications, too. If we all stopped wasting food that could have been eaten, the benefit to the planet would be the equivalent of taking one in four cars off the road! Visit lovefoodhatewaste.com for more information.



A year's worth of wasted bread slices, laid end to end, could circle the Earth from pole-to-pole 28 times!



In school this week, for Food Action Waste Week, I challenged the children to try to eat what is on their plate to prevent food being thrown away and wasted. They certainly rose to the challenge!





Clean plates all round!

Look at all those clean plates - Well done!





Comic Relief (Red nose day)

RED NOSE DAY IS BACK! Red Nose Day is coming on **Friday 18 March**. By fundraising we can help people live free from poverty, violence and discrimination. This includes funding organisations that are supporting people right now in Ukraine. You can make a difference. Children can come to school wearing red or their own clothes on this date and if they do, parents are asked to donate £1.00 for Comic Relief by Parent Pay.



World Down Syndrome Day

Violet Way is a fully inclusive school. We are one big family and we respect each other, celebrating our differences. On **Monday 21 March**, we are asking children to wear odd socks for World Down Syndrome Day. This day is important for us as a school because it aligns with our school value 'We celebrate individuality'. You may remember children wore odd socks for Anti-Bullying week to promote individuality, acceptance, tolerance and kindness and we feel that this is also appropriate for World Down Syndrome Day. We will take the opportunity to celebrate inclusion and we would love everybody to join in. To help celebrate we are asking pupils to wear odd socks – the bolder the better! We will encourage children to remember and reflect on anti-bullying week when they also wore odd socks.



#InclusionMeans

#WorldDownSyndromeDay

Air Pollution and Parking

For Monday's assembly, we have a visitor coming to school to deliver an 'Air Aware' assembly. He will be talking to the children about air pollution: what it is, where it comes from and how it affects us.

In previous newsletters we have requested that parents be aware of the impact of sitting in idling cars. Engine idling wastes fuel and therefore money. Engine idling gives hazardous pollutions that may cause sickness and other diseases. Please ensure that you switch engines off to prevent air pollution. Parents should also be aware that there is due to be a parking trial taking place in the area soon. It may involve unmarked camera vehicles enforcing zig zag and double yellow lines. Remember to park safely and in line with the road rules.





Violet Way PTA



VIOLET WAY ACADEMY



Chocolate Bingo



Thursday 31st March

4:30 pm Arrive

Eyes down at 5pm

Limited Tickets will be available on Parent Pay from Monday 14th March

Non-school uniform
Thursday 31st March
in exchange for
Chocolate donations

What to expect ... please bring cash to pay for items. Most items 50p or £1

- Raffle – any prizes for the raffle please hand in to Miss Evans in advance
- Face painting - £3 (limited numbers)
- Bits and Bobs stand - toys + more
- Refreshments – **Bring your own juice bottle or re-usable travel mugs – *must have a lid.***
- Second hand uniform (please bring any donations in advance, washed and in good condition.)



Violet Way PTA

Private group

Violet Way PTA has a Facebook group. Login to Facebook and search Violet Way PTA. It is a private group and you will be asked to confirm you are a parent of a child at Violet Way Academy before Admin invite you to join the group. You will need to follow the Violet Way PTA group rules:

1. To join the group you **MUST** be a parent or carer of a child attending VWA.
2. Respect VWA and PTA. The school and PTA are working hard to do the very best for the children who attend, raising important funds. Any disrespectful comments will not be tolerated and will be removed
3. No promotions or scam. Self-promotion, spam and irrelevant links aren't allowed.
4. Respect everyone's privacy. Being part of this group requires mutual trust. Authentic, expressive discussions make groups great, but may also be sensitive and private. What's shared in the group, should stay in the group.
5. No hate speech or bullying. Make sure that everyone feels safe. Bullying of any kind isn't allowed, and degrading comments about things such as race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, gender or identity will not be tolerated.
6. Be kind and courteous. We're all in this together to create a welcoming environment. Let's treat everyone with respect.



FIERTÉ

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Our lovely library!

Thank you for all the positive feedback about our new library – the children are really enjoying using it. You may have noticed the new 'Star Foundation' donation container outside the front of school. Many thanks to the children at Violet Way Nursery for securing this. Parents can donate items (please see the front of the container). As a way of supporting the community, Star Foundation work closely with school and have also donated books to school for our new library – Thank you!

Library sessions with parents continue next week. Please see the dates below. Just go straight to the library with your child when the gates open until 9.05am.

Monday 14th March – Owls

Tuesday 15th March – Foxes

Wednesday 16th March – Woodpeckers

Thursday 17th March – Dragonflies

Friday 18th March – Busy Bees

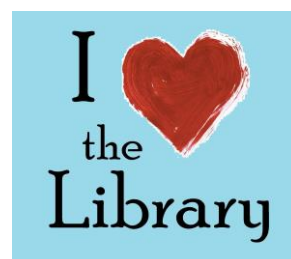
Each class will present the winner of the book competition during the parent library session. Thank you to parents for supporting the competition, we raised just over £150 towards new books for our library.

After we have completed our 'grand opening' library sessions, we will return to our regular parent library sessions, where you can come into the library with your child once every three weeks to change their library book with them. See the timetable below:

Week beginning: 21st March	Parent Session at start of day
Monday	Foxes
Wednesday	Kestrels
Thursday	Dragonflies

Week beginning: 28th March	Parent Session at start of day
Monday	Squirrels
Wednesday	Owls
Thursday	Busy Bees

Week beginning: 4th April	Parent Session at start of day
Monday	Badgers
Wednesday	Woodpeckers
Thursday	Ladybirds





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?

Grand Opening - Library sessions with parents – week commencing 7th March and 14th March

Forest school sessions with parents - week commencing 7th March and 14th March

Year 2 Parents SATs Meeting– Wednesday 16th March @ 9am

Red Nose Day– Friday 18th March Children can come into school wearing red or own clothes. Please donate £1.00 via Parent Pay.

World Down's Syndrome day – Monday 21st March – wear odd socks 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

Chocolate Bingo! Thursday 31st March 4:30pm – Please bring chocolate egg donations into school on this morning

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

