



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

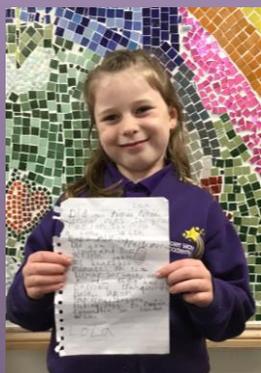
A Message from Mrs Kee

We have had a lovely week in school this week. I have awarded some Headteacher’s awards for good progress in reading lessons, improved writing and for children taking care of our school environment. In our KS1 Merit assembly this week, it was wonderful to see lots of children being awarded a merit for the hard work and effort they have put into their learning. We talked about how receiving a certificate and sticker is fantastic, but the feeling of pride is an even better reward.

Year 1 celebrated their learning about castles this week with a curriculum celebration day. The children dressed up, enjoyed royal dancing, music and special food. In art this half term, they have been using pencil to experiment with making different lines and shading. They have then used these techniques to create drawings of castles. I was lucky enough to see some excellent examples in their sketch books of their learning process and final outcomes. Well done Year 1!

All year groups were offered the opportunity to sign up for flu immunisations which were administered this week. A team of nurses came into school and were very patient and understanding. The children demonstrated our value ‘We are brave’ – well done!

Congratulations to Kestrels class as they are the attendance award winners for the fifth week in a row! Will another class be able to knock them off the top spot before we break up for Christmas? Please ensure your child comes to school every day. There are many fantastic activities taking place during the next two weeks. All parents will receive a letter before the end of term with information about their child’s attendance for the Autumn Term. Enjoy the weekend, see you next week *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole School (this week)	90.32%
Reception	87.41%
Year 1	89.86%
Year 2	93.43%



Congratulations to **Kestrels**

for being the class with the highest attendance for the 5th week running! **You are amazing Kestrels!** Well done on your fantastic attendance this week yet again.

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



Merit Awards

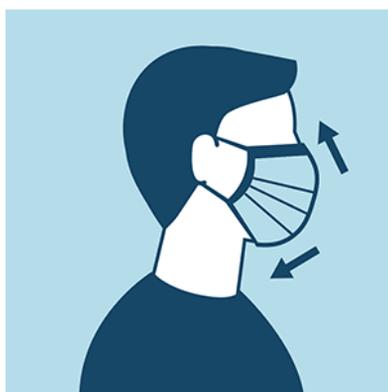
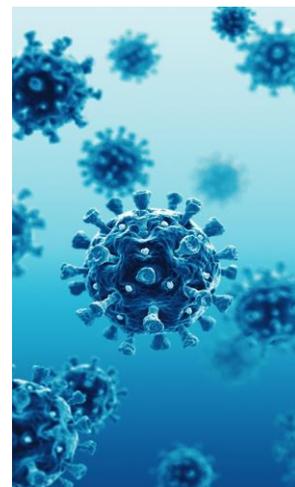
Congratulations to our Merit Award winners this week!





Covid Update

If your child has any of the three main symptoms of Covid ([as stated on the NHS webpage](#)) they will need to isolate, get a PCR test and follow the NHS isolation guidance. If they have been in contact with someone with Covid, or someone in the household is isolating, they do not need to isolate unless they develop symptoms. Staffordshire LA ask that, where we have identified that a child may have been in close contact with someone with Covid in school, parents engage with voluntary PCR testing as this can help to ensure that cases are kept low and prevent Covid coming into school as much as possible. We have sent out letters where this is the case and thank you to our families that have been supporting this at Violet Way.



There has been an update to the Government stance on face coverings. We have been asking parents to wear face coverings when coming into school for library mornings. We have a risk assessment in place and have ensured that we have reviewed our Christmas plans. Currently, we still plan to have our EYFS and Y1 performances in school and our trip to the Church. We do ask that parents wear face coverings to all events in school. Thank you for your continued support.

Parents should also be aware that any suspected or confirmed close contacts of the Omicron variant will be asked to isolate for 10 days regardless of vaccination status or age. They will also be asked to book a PCR test. Schools are not expected to undertake contact tracing. NHS Test and Trace will identify any positive cases – they will contact you directly. Further actions may be advised for schools by local incident management teams over Omicron cases. We will follow any guidance or procedures as required.

Parents can access the Government guidance here: [What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)





Year 1 Curriculum Celebration



Our Year 1 children were transformed into soldiers, princes, princesses, kings, queens and knights for their Castle Curriculum Celebration. They enjoyed a banquet of jelly and ice cream and danced beautifully.





Poppy Appeal

We would like to thank everyone who made donations to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal last month. We were sent a range of different items to sell and we managed to sell out of almost everything!

From the sales, we raised £299.02 for the armed forces charity. Thank you so much for your support and helping us to raise our children's awareness of the importance of charity, peace and kindness.



Personalised Christmas orders

Thank you very much to everyone who bought any of your child's personalised Christmas gifts. All orders should have been sent home either yesterday or today. The cards and gifts will certainly make the recipients smile! Thanks to you we have received £310.50 from the Christmas Card Project for our school!

Kindness at Christmastime

After an unusual Christmastime last year, the children are excited to celebrate and join in with the festivities this year. Christmas, along with other religious festivals, embodies the theme of kindness. We share food, give gifts and try to think about others less fortunate than ourselves. We invite parents to explore the theme of kindness at Christmastime by watching this video, talking about the questions together and creating a lovely kindness heart. We'd love you to share them with us too!

[Watch the John Lewis Christmas advert 2020: 'Give a Little Love' - YouTube](#)

- Can you count how many times kindness is demonstrated in this advert?
- Which examples of kindness can you remember from the advert?
- How do you think the characters felt when someone was kind to them?
- Why is it so important we are kind to each other?
- How could you show kindness to those around you this Christmastime?
- Creative activity: Draw a large heart on a piece of paper. Fill it with pictures, words and / sentences to show all the different ways you could demonstrate kindness to others. Decorate and hang somewhere in your house to remind you to be kind.





PTA Colouring Competition and Reindeer Food

We have received some fantastic colouring competition entries this week for the PTA Christmas Special, which includes an entry into the colouring competition and making reindeer food ! Closing date for the colouring competition entries is Thursday 9th December. The cost of the PTA Christmas Special is £3.00, and this includes a colouring competition entry and making reindeer food. Please pay £3.00 by ParentPay.

We are planning for the children to make their reindeer food to bring home on Thursday 9th December. The winners of the colouring competition will be revealed on Friday 10th December.

Staffordshire's Children & Family Services would value your thoughts and views on how they are working and what their future focus should be.

What do we do well?

What can we do better?

What are your thoughts and ideas?

Get involved! scan this QR code:

Any questions email: cvp@staffordshire.gov.uk

SCAN ME

Staffordshire County Council logo and The Voice Project logo are also present.

Feedback Fortnight

Over the next two weeks Staffordshire Children and Family Services are welcoming feedback from across the board including young people, carers and parents. This opportunity is running until Friday 10th December. They are actively seeking general feedback, views, and opinions on Staffordshire's Children and Family Services, so there is plenty of time to get involved.

This in turn will help to influence future focus for provision as well as supporting service development moving forward. Everyone's view counts! There is an online Survey which you can access via the QR code opposite or this link [Feedback fortnight 2021](#)





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?

Reception Christmas performances

Tuesday 7th December - Reception

9.15am – Foxes

10.15am – Badgers

2pm – Squirrels

Year 1 Christmas performances

Wednesday 8th December – Year 1

9.15am – Ladybirds

10.15am – Busy Bees

2pm - Dragonflies

Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner Day (plus a very special visitor!) - Thursday 9th

December– Wear your Christmas jumper (or a red, green, or sparkly jumper for example). Pay £1.00 to support Save the Children

Christmas Carol Concert - at St Peter's Church –13th December

End of Term – Friday 17th December

INSET – Tuesday 4th January

Children return for Spring Term - Wednesday 5th January

