

A Message from Mrs Kee

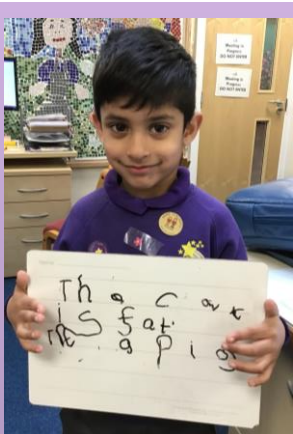
This week, we started our 'Children's Mental Health Week' with an assembly all about 'Growing Together'. We also did some breathing techniques together! During the week, the children have been thinking about activities that make them feel positive and happy and have taken some time in class to engage in relaxation exercises. There is a really lovely video you can watch on Youtube with very simple breathing techniques that children will love. Click on the link and enjoy!

[Alphabreaths - The ABCs of Mindful Breathing – YouTube](#)

This week was also a time for children to learn about online safety, including respectful online relationships. Many games that children play involve talking to others online and, although this can be a great experience and opportunity for children to socialise, it can also lead to unkind words and behaviours online. We teach children what respectful online behaviours look like and what to do if someone is being unkind to them online. It can be a minefield for parents! To help, you can visit our online safety page on the website [Violet Way Academy - Online Safety](#) and I have also created a Safer Internet 2022 page with a presentation all about respectful relationships online and how parents can help. [Violet Way Academy - Safer Internet Day 2022](#) Check out the photographs of what the children did for Internet Safety day in the newsletter this week.

This week the children in Reception have been working hard on their independent writing. During their continuous provision, they have been choosing to write lists, sentences and even their own books! I think we have some budding authors and illustrators at Violet Way! Also, I have been challenging a child in Foxes to complete more complex jigsaws after I received a letter from her asking for some more jigsaws for her class. Today she worked with two of her friends to complete a 104 piece jigsaw – great teamwork – well done!

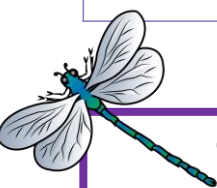
In the spirit of positive mental health, I wish you a relaxing weekend, *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole School (this week)	88.34%
Reception	86.47%
Year 1	86.99%
Year 2	91.50%



Congratulations to
Dragonflies

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



Achievements



Well done to two of our
Year 2 pupils.

One achieved 'Best
dressed Beaver' and the
other got a Distinction in
her ballet exam.



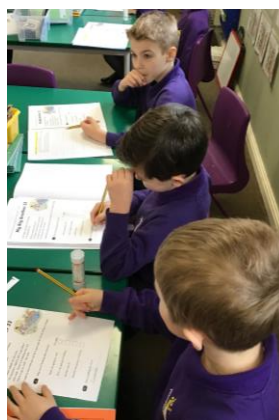


Reading Competition

Congratulations to Dragonflies class who have won the Reading Competition for two weeks in a row, adding two new books to their class book box collection!



Reading around school



Y2s were focusing on reading comprehension skills today. They played 'fastest finger' to find the information in the text.



Mrs Williams has been visiting reading groups and has been really impressed with children's phonic knowledge and application.





Children's Mental Health Week



Growing Together

Relaxing,
exercising,
meditating,
learning,
laughing,
growing
together and
reaching for
the stars!





Children's Mental Health Week



Our class thinks kindness make people happy, so I wrote some notes in our classroom.
'Please be nice to everyone'
'Please play nice'
'Be happy. Yes. Do it!'



We enjoyed doing yoga this week!

Playing in the woodlands makes us feel good!



We made feelings monsters





Safer Internet Day



Digiduck

stories help us learn about online safety.



It is important to be respectful online. If you are worried or have a problem, speak to a trusted adult straight away. Never share any personal information online.



We learnt about online safety and checked our knowledge using an online quiz.





Domestic Abuse

Domestic violence or abuse can happen to anyone. Domestic abuse, includes physical, emotional and sexual abuse in couple relationships or between family members. It can happen against anyone, and anybody can be an abuser. Domestic abuse also includes honour-based abuse and forced marriage. Just one incident counts as abuse. Domestic abuse can affect anyone regardless of ethnicity, age, gender, sexuality or social background. If you are suffering from physical, sexual, psychological or financial abuse, or are being threatened, intimidated or stalked by a current or previous partner or close family member, it's likely you're a victim of domestic abuse. **You're not to blame for what's happening. You're not alone.**



Support and helplines

New Era Domestic Abuse - Local helpline: 0300 303 3778 or, if you'd like to chat online with New Era, you can do this now by [live chat](#).

National Domestic Abuse Helpline - The [National Domestic Abuse](#) website provides guidance and support for potential victims, as well as those who are worried about friends and loved ones. It also has a form through which you can book a safe time for a call from the team. Call: 0808 2000 247

Women's Aid - [Women's Aid](#) has a range of direct services for survivors, including a live chat service and an online Survivors' Forum. They have developed additional advice specifically designed for the current coronavirus outbreak.

Men's Advice Line - The [Men's Advice Line](#) is a confidential helpline for male victims of domestic abuse and those supporting them. Call: 0808 801 0327

Services for perpetrators

Anyone that's displaying unhealthy or abusive behaviour within their relationship and wants to change this can access help from New Era. New Era Perpetrator services can also help children under 16 years of age who need help with relationship based behaviour or are in need of one to one guidance around healthy relationships. Phone: [01785 601690](tel:01785601690)
Email: new-era@rrpgov.uk





Covid continues....

Thank you to parents for supporting us and following advice after a rise in Covid cases in school. We continue to ensure measures are in place to keep numbers as low as possible. There is still an impact of Covid on staffing levels, although this is improving and there has been an impact on attendance levels. We hope to see a reduction in the number of cases.

Library sessions with parents are due to restart after the half term (hopefully in our new library!) Our measures will continue next week but will be reduced after half term.

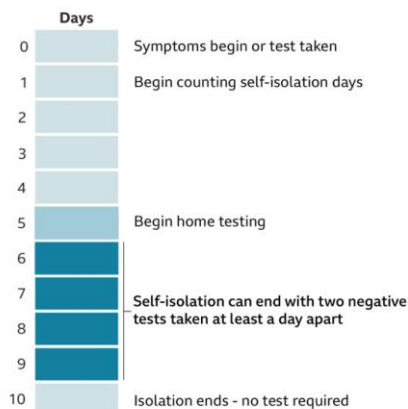
We will continue to communicate regularly with the Local Authority as appropriate and follow any guidance as required. We continue to monitor the situation daily. Measures in place currently include:

- 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
- daily testing for close contacts
- 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

bbc





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?

Book Fair– Monday 28th February after school till 6.30pm

Wednesday 2nd & Thursday 3rd March 8.40am – 9am

World book day and dress up day – Thursday 3rd March

Food Waste Action Week – Week commencing 7th March

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

Red Nose Day– Friday 18th March Children can come into school wearing red.

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

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

