



Words from St. Werburgh's

Issue 6 - Autumn 2019



DIARY DATES

Sunday 22nd December	Parish Christmas Carol Service - 4.00-5.00pm in Church
Wednesday 25th December	MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Monday 6th January 2020	School closed for pupils
Tuesday 7th January	School re-opens for the spring term
Wednesday 8th January	NSPCC 'Speak Out Stay Safe' assembly
Tuesday 14th January	Deadline for applications to join our Reception Class in 2020
Friday 14th February	School closes for half-term
Monday 24th February	School re-opens
Thursday 2nd April	School closes for the Easter holiday
Monday 20th April	School re-opens for the summer term
Friday 17th July	School's out for summer!



RECEPTION CLASS ADMISSIONS 2020

If you, or anyone you know, are thinking about our **OUTSTANDING** school for your child in September, **applications for places are now open ...but** will close in early January. If they would like to visit us to see our lovely school for themselves, please ask them to contact the office (01538 702355—option 1) and we would be delighted to meet them.

To apply, please visit the **School Family-Parents-Admissions** section of our school website: www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk/st-werburghs

SPREADING JOY IN THE COMMUNITY

On Tuesday 17th December, a group of very talented singers performed at Morrison's. We sung a variety of Christmas songs including: Winter Wonderland, Little Donkey and We Wish You a Merry Christmas. On this occasion, we decided to raise money for the NSPCC; a fantastic charity supporting children in need. Overall, we raised a wonderful £144.00.

On Thursday 19th December, 14 members of Year 6 went to Cheadle Cricket Club to visit some senior citizens from the local area. Whilst there, we made Christmas cards, shared colouring, completed word searches and sang for them. We really enjoyed spending time with them and spreading a little Christmas cheer; we hope to see them again soon.

By Aimee, Isabella, Ruby and Libby



PTA THANKS

A big thanks to the wonderful members of your PTA who have helped to raise funds for the children throughout 2019. Your time and great effort is valued and appreciated by us all.

Thank you, thank you, thank you.



ATTENDANCE STARS

Our attendance for the week ending 20th December:

Reception - 98.8%
Y2 - 96.4%
Y4/5 - 94.3%

Y1 - 96.4%
3/4 - 88.3%
Y6 - 93.2%



CAR PARK

Please can we remind all that the car park is for staff and visitors only. We also request that you do not walk across the car park with children as there are moving vehicles and we all want to keep children safe.



Silent Night, Holy Night

CHRISTMAS IN OUR PARISH

St. Werburgh's Church Christmas Carol Service

Everyone is warmly invited to join us for the Church Christmas Carol Service in our lovely church on

Sunday 22nd December at 4.00pm.

Please join us for a real festive treat.

The annual Service is very popular, so please arrive in plenty of time.



PANTOMIME FUN

On Wednesday 18th December, all of the St. Werburgh's family took a very exciting trip to Hanley to enjoy this year's pantomime: Sleeping Beauty—oh yes we did! The performance gets better and better every year and, as always, was creative and funny. Towards the end of the performance, two representatives from our school took to the stage. During this part of the performance, we heard Mr Casey's amazing singing and saw Isabella's fantastic dancing. Overall, we had a great day full of: biscuits, ice cream, fruit shoots and pantomime lunch. It made us feel very festive indeed!

By Isla B and Isabella

NATIVITY THANKS

Thank you to those who were able to join us, or help us to prepare for the Foundation Stage/ Key Stage 1 Nativity performance of '**A Miracle in Town**' last week. We are so proud of the little acting superstars and are sure that many of you are still humming the songs! There were plenty of big smiles and kind comments. Thank you also for ensuring that no photographs were posted on any form of social media - this keeps all of the children safe and that is important to us all!

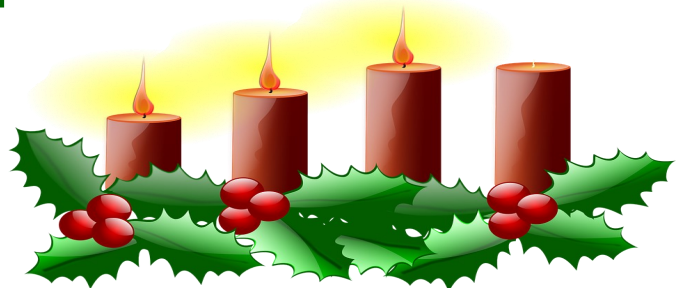
BEING NEIGHBOURLY

May we politely remind all that the small residential car park opposite the front of school is a private car park. Please respect this and the residents as this area is, in effect, their driveway!
Many thanks for your care and consideration.

SAFE PARKING

May we continue to thank those who park safely and considerately around our school site.

By parking safely, courteously, and legally, we are helping neighbours, other parents, Parishioners, and all road users, to be safe and happy.



STAYING SAFE

Through our commitment to keeping children safe, our Computing lessons have shown children ways to stay safe online. Information on how you can help your child to stay safe online can be found in the '*School Family - Parents*' section of our website.

Should you feel any child is in immediate danger, please contact the Police (999) or Staffordshire County Council's First Response service on 0800 1313 126.

ROAD SAFETY

At this time of year, it's important to **Be Bright and Be Seen** when you are out and about near roads.

BE BRIGHT – wear fluorescent or brightly coloured clothing when walking to and from school – it shows up well in daylight and at dusk.

REFLECTIVE – When it's dark outside, wear reflective clothing to be seen in car headlights. Reflective vests, sashes or wristbands work well.

IMPROVE – improve your visibility with accessories, clip on reflectors, armbands and stickers added to your coat or bag are a great way to improve your visibility.

GREEN CROSS CODE – always choose routes and crossing places that are well lit and remember to use the Green Cross Code.

HEADLIGHTS – if you like to cycle, it's the law to have clean and working headlights on your bike at night (white at the front, red at the back) as well as a rear reflector. It's good to fit spoke reflectors too.



PLAY SAFETY AND SAFELY

Please **do not** allow **any** children to use the fixed play equipment on the grassy area at the front of school **at any time**.

This is simply to keep children safe.

Many thanks for your help and for ensuring that anyone collecting your child is also aware of this important message.

ATTENDANCE AND LATENESS

Attendance is an essential part of a child's education.

As you know, school begins at 8.55am. After this time, your child will be marked as 'Late'.

Excessive lateness, or poor attendance, can lead to fines being issued to parents by the Local Authority. If your child is going to be absent for the day, you **must** call school **before 9.30am** to let us know why they will not be in - this is simply to safeguard children!

CHILDREN SING BEAUTIFULLY AT THE VICTORIA HALL

On Tuesday 10th December, seven of us who are part of Mr Prescott's TMPF Choir (Isla E, Ella, Nelson, Sophia, Evie K., Lillie and J-M) visited The Victoria Hall to take part in a schools' Christmas Concert. We all sang beautifully and were sure that the audience enjoyed it too.

By Isla E. and Ella (Y6)



THANK YOU AND MERRY CHRISTMAS

Many thanks for your support of the school throughout 2019, it is highly appreciated by the whole staff team. We have really enjoyed teaching your child and look forward to this continuing in 2020.

The children have been learning lots all year - and a special congratulations to our lovely Reception Class for completing their first full term at school! What Stars!

On behalf of the whole St. Werburgh's and TMPF teams and Trustees, we wish you all a very, very magical and merry Christmas and a happy and joyful New Year.

We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Tuesday 7th January 2020**.



ADVICE FOR PARENTS/ CARERS ON HOW TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE

We know that Santa often brings lucky and well-behaved children wonderful Christmas gifts and that these may include Nintendo Switches, X-Boxes, PlayStations, iPads, mobile telephones, iPods, laptops and other exciting items. Obviously, these pieces of amazing technology are fun and can also be used for education purposes - for example, 'TT Rockstars'. However, once 'online' with their own device, we are sure that you will agree that it is essential your child is safe. Therefore, we wanted to share some e-safety advice.

6 essentials to keep your children safe online

Follow this list to help keep your children safe online:

Use parental controls to block upsetting or harmful content, control in-app purchases, or manage how long your child spends online. They're really easy to set up too. More info about setting controls on mobiles, tablets, home broadband, games consoles, apps, wifi, films, music and TV is on the [NSPCC web pages](http://www.nspcc.org.uk), (www.nspcc.org.uk) and there's a useful helpline number too.

Regularly remind your kids not to give out personal information, like their address, phone number, school name or email address. It can be easy to forget with live streaming videos (like YouTube) that anyone could be watching, and it's important not to give away too much information about themselves.

Get to know the games, apps and social media sites they use. Learn how to use them yourself and how their privacy, block and reporting settings work.

Make sure they know that people aren't always who they say they are online and that they don't accept friend requests from people they don't know (even if the person has mutual friends, it doesn't mean they can be trusted).

Talk about the risks of sharing photos online or sending them to others. Once they're out there, they're out there!

Let them know that you're listening and want to know if anything at all makes them feel uncomfortable online, no matter what.

Please also make yourself aware of the age restriction of certain social media platforms, for example **Whatsapp is for 16+**, **Snapchat is for 13+**, and **TikTok is for 13+**.

These controls are to there to simply keep your child safe in the online world.

Need to know more?

These are the places we've found the best advice and guidance:

NSPCC (www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/) great for easy-to-follow parental control guides and knowing what to talk about;

Think u know (www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents) great if you're concerned, need to understand social media or are worried about online abuse;

Staffordshire Police (<https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/police-forces/staffordshire-police/areas/staffordshire-police/campaigns/2019/cyber-bullying/>) explains cyber bullying and online harassment;

Livestreaming article (<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/professionals/our-views/live-streaming-what-professionals-need-to-know/>) great if you've got a budding 'youtuber' on your hands;

internetmatters (www.internetmatters.org) great for cyberbullying advice;

CEOP Child exploitation and online protection command (www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre) - if you suspect abuse report it to one of their specialist advisers now.

Advice on keeping children safe can also be found on our school website, www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk.

We hope you find the above information useful, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact a member of staff.