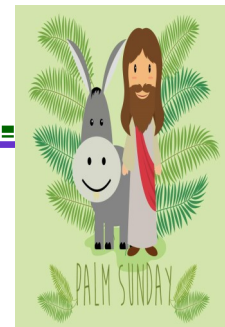


DIARY DATES

****ALL DATES ARE PROVISIONAL IN LIGHT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC****

Sunday 28th March	Palm Sunday
Monday 29th March	Parent Consultation Evening (telephone) Rec, Y2, Y6
Tuesday 30th March	Parent Consultation Evening (telephone) Y1, Y3, Y4/5
Thursday 1st April (Maundy Thursday)	Easter Service (in-school video link)
Thursday 1st April	School closes for the Easter holiday
Friday 2nd April	Good Friday
Sunday 4th April	Easter Sunday
Monday 19th April	School opens for the summer term
Monday 3rd May	May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)
Friday 28th May	School closes for half-term



PALM SUNDAY AND HOLY WEEK

This weekend is the final Sunday before Easter, also known as 'Palm Sunday'.

Palm Sunday is when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and was hailed as a Saviour and a King, crowds gathered to line his path with palm leaves.

Palm Sunday also marks the start of the most special week in the Christian Church, **Holy Week**. Holy Week is the week leading to Easter Sunday and is the time when Jesus was preparing to be die on the cross. During Holy Week, we remember Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, the Last Supper, His betrayal, His arrest, His trial, His journey to Golgotha, the help from Simon of Cyrene, His death, and His resurrection. Much of the story of Holy Week is remembered through 'The Stations of the Cross'.

Today, Rev. Sue has kindly brought a Palm Cross into school for each child to take home and keep.

... love God...



PARKING SAFELY

Please can we remind everyone to park carefully and considerately around the school site and only for as long as it takes to drop-off or collect.

Yellow zig zags and yellow lines are on the road to **keep everyone safe**, please, please respect these. We can all help to keep the children and one another safe by driving and parking carefully outside school.

Swapping, "I'll be alright here for a minute", for "I'll park where it is a little safer", could make a big difference!

Currently, our school times are staggered which also reduces the need for so many cars to be here at once. If we can avoid driving to school, we not only keep ourselves healthier, we also help protect the environment and reduce risk caused by too much traffic. It also gives a lovely additional time to spend chatting with your child whilst exercising.

We have received concern from parents about people parking on the zig-zags, or double-parking and the danger this could cause. **Please** park responsibly and considerately and keep the children and other members of our school and community nice and safe.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOOOUUUUUUUU!

Now we are all back together in school, please join us in sharing our 'Happy Birthday' wishes (in our best singing voices) with the following members of the school family who celebrate a birthday between 13th March and today (26th March).

Happy Birthday: Angel, Harry C., Amelia P., Lacey P., Harry B., Oliver F. and (for a very special event tomorrow) Mrs Mary Oldfield (see the back page)!



RAISING FUNDS FOR THE KINGSLEY KINGFISHERS

The Easter holidays are coming, with promise of better weather and the 'rule of six' coming back into force outside. So why not take advantage of the extra family time and get out and about while helping your local preschool at the same time?

Kingsley Kingfishers and Kingfishers of Dilhorne need your help – but it's so easy to do and you can even take the dog. All we are asking you to do is to walk, run, skip, hop, whatever you want to do, out in the fresh air for 5k – or 10k if you are feeling super active! Make a donation to our cause and you could even win a prize for the best photo of your family having fun.

To register, email committeekingfishers@yahoo.com and make a donation at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/kingfishers>.

We will add you to the private Facebook group then all you need to do is upload your pictures when you've done it and we'll take it from there. You could win a bottle of something nice for the grown-ups and some personalised water bottles for the kids courtesy of Cubby Crafts and Gifts, so what are you waiting for?!

So come on, let's all get out in the fresh air and help Kingfishers at the same time!



HOME TEST KITS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

NHS Test and Trace have announced that all adults in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. Test kits can either be collected or ordered online, as set out below. Schools cannot give test kits to parents, carers or household members.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus.

Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are different ways for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees;
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests;
- by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes.

For further details, visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

If you have any queries about the tests, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

STAYING SAFE

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.



STAYING NUT FREE

To continue to keep everyone safe in school, please ensure that you **do not send in any nuts, or nut-based snacks/lunch** for your child. All products which you buy in shops have a list of ingredients, and on these it will say if they contain nuts. If they do, please do not send them into school as **they cannot be eaten on site**.

If you are unsure if something contains nuts, or nut-based products, please play it safe and leave this at home.

This decision is made to keep **everyone** safe, which is something that each of us want.

QUESTIONNAIRES

To help us to reflect upon our work during the period of partial school closure from January to March, and the return to school of every child, please keep an eye out in your email inbox for a parent/carers questionnaire. If you wish to share your thoughts, please complete and return by the date on the form.

IT'S SUMMER TIME



Remember that clocks go forward by one hour this weekend as we enter British Summer Time.

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

We are delighted to be part of **Operation Encompass**, a new project run jointly between schools and Staffordshire Police which helps us to support children who have been in the home when domestic abuse has occurred and the Police were called. Parents/carers will have received a letter with more information, which can also be found in the News section of our website.



EVERY MIND MATTERS

Every Mind Matters is a new resource from the brilliant NHS which has lots of information to help during this unusual period. It contains practical tips and videos from experts on dealing with stress and anxiety, boosting your mood, dealing with change, coping with money worries, sleeping better and looking after your wellbeing.

www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters

PARENTS' EVENINGS

You would each have received an email inviting you to book a telephone appointment for this term's Parent Consultation Evenings being held next week. If you have not managed to reply to book a slot, please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Monday 29th March:
Rec, Y2 & Y6;

Tuesday 30th March:
Y1, Y3, & Y4/5.



TESTING IN THE COMMUNITY

We have been asked to share the following information:

Residents of the Staffordshire Moorlands are being encouraged to book a COVID test twice a week
– **even if they have no symptoms.**

One in three people who have the virus show no symptoms, so it is important we identify more of the "silent spreaders" of the virus if we are to break the chain of infection. While the roll-out of the vaccine has brought hope, it will be several months before everyone is vaccinated and many more months before the full benefit. That's why we need to keep testing even if you have had the vaccine.

So join us now in helping keep life moving again in Staffordshire and book a test today.

Testing is available at the South Moorlands Leisure Centre Cheadle (Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri & Sat).

You can book at test by visiting:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Coronavirus/Testing/Testing-for-people-without-symptoms.aspx?fbclid=IwAR2Sg1TO1ICPTq8U3iYm6YRYe8WkeJ0-zQeaSFCooEryTM88Tlrl-OpCe4>

STAY SAFE, STAY SMART, STAY 2 METRES APART!

Please can we ask adults to remain 2 metres apart when arriving at school and not to gather at school as this causes additional risk to you and to others, especially those trying to walk past you.

We can each play our part in keeping one another safe.
..love one another.



IMPORTANT SCHOOL TIMINGS

Please can we urge anyone who is collecting your child/children from school to only **arrive at the times for the relevant class**. Arriving early creates a gathering of too many adults, adds to the risk level, and means that some adults will have to walk past you to collect their child.

Children will leave school in the order below:

	Car park gate			Front gate	
	Arrive	Collect		Arrive	Collect
Year 1	8.40am	3.20pm	Year 3	8.40am	3.15pm
Year 2	8.45am	3.25pm	Years 4/5	8.45am	3.20pm
Reception	8.50am	3.15pm	Year 6	8.50am	3.25pm

LEARNING ABOUT THE 2021 CENSUS

Last week, classes learnt about the 2021 Census. Some classes took part in their own census and others looked at previous editions and how this data may have changed in 2021. We thought about why the data gathered from the census is useful and the different types of organisations who use this in their decision-making and planning.



A LITTLE HELPING HAND WITH MEALS

Many families may have experienced a change in circumstances at this time. Whichever year group your child is in, if you think that you may now be eligible for income-based Free School Meals, we would urge you to check and, if so, submit an application. This **also** applies to children who currently receive a lunch due to being in Reception, or Years 1 and 2.

To find out if you are eligible, or to apply for this additional support, please visit:
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals



A LITTLE MORE HELP

Digital Parenting Support: free online support for parents with children of all ages. This includes a "chat" facility with parenting coaches who offer professional advice and support. Within this service there is also online information for mental health, parenting, dealing with parental conflict, what I need to know about the Covid-19 situation and practical home learning and activity ideas. For more info please see the website:

www.parents.actionforchildren.org.uk

Materials to help support your child's emotional well-being following the COVID-19 pandemic - for parents and carers

<https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/advice.page?id=4Pf3vU6K9yM>

Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub – created to offer help for families in the Staffordshire Moorlands answering questions, helping you to find support and share ideas for coping with life in lockdown. www.facebook.com/staffordshiremoorlandsfamilyhub

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS - SELF-ISOLATION

Should your child, or any member of the household (or anyone your child may have been in contact with) display any symptoms of Covid-19, please do not bring them into school until any self-isolation period is fully complete. Should anyone in the household develop symptoms, please arrange a test as soon as possible. If your child has been in school the days prior to the test, or the days prior to the symptoms beginning, please let us know so we can follow our necessary procedures to minimise risk.

Please stay safe.



**CORONAVIRUS
SYMPTOMS?**



Do **not** visit A&E or your GP Practice.

Please call 119 or visit
www.nhs.uk/coronavirus
to book a test.





COMIC RELIEF

On 19th March, we celebrated Comic Relief with a non-uniform day in school - yay! We started the day talking about the purpose of Comic Relief in a whole-school online assembly. Then during the day, we told funny jokes, designed our very own red noses, and some classes enjoyed a Comic Relief quiz with very hard riddles!

It was a Friday full of fun! We raised a whopping **£165.76!**

By Evie K., Will and Maggie

NATIONAL DAY OF REFLECTION

Tuesday 23rd March marked one year since the first lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In school, we joined together for a moment's reflection and in each class we thought about those who we may have lost, or have not been able to see as much as we would like to. We also remember our wonderful Mrs Brassington who we lost in the last year to a non-Covid-19 related illness. Children have written prayers and also thought about the many positives from the last year. We continue to send our love, thoughts and prayers to those who suffered loss during this time.

Love to learn, love God, love one another.



SCHOOL MEALS CHANGES - FINAL WEEK OF TERM

As we enter the final week of an 'unusual' term, there will be a slight change to the lunch menu. We will remain on the Week 1 menu (which can be found on the 'School Family-Parents' section of our website), however, for one week, Wednesday (31st March) will now be a special Easter meal of roast turkey, or roast Quorn, and the Thursday (1st April) menu will be replaced by the Friday menu of fish fingers and chips, or Quorn nuggets and chips.

HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY!

A member of our school family is celebrating an incredible birthday milestone this weekend, as Ava's Great Nan, Mary Oldfield, is **100 years young!**

We all hope that you have a wonderfully special day and have lots and lots and lots of birthday fun!

HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY, 'NANNA MARY'!



JOHN 12: 12-13

"The next day, the great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet Him, shouting,

"Hosanna!" Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Blessed is the King of Israel!"
John 12:12-13

THANK YOU AND STAY SAFE

The staff team would like to send to you our thanks for your ongoing support of your school over the past few weeks. The children continue to show their brilliance in school and are wearing very big smiles! Have a lovely Palm Sunday weekend and we look forward to speaking with many of you at the parent consultation evenings early next week.

Love to learn, love God, love one another.

