

DIARY DATES

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

Sunday 14th November	Remembrance Sunday
Tuesday 16th November	School photos - individuals and in-school siblings
Friday 19th November	Children in Need
Thursday 25th November	Flu vaccinations (whole school)
Friday 17th December	School closes for the Christmas holiday
Wednesday 5th January 2022	School reopens for the spring term



WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



This weekend marks Remembrance Sunday - an extremely special time during which we think about the brave men, women and animals who gave their lives in conflict. Due to the current situation, especially in the Staffordshire Moorlands, celebrations may continue to look a little different, but we can - and will - remember those we know, those we love, and those from our Parish and community who fell. We were also proud to share news with you of the lighting of a beacon at Kingsley cenotaph to mark 100 years of the amazing Royal British Legion.

On Armistice Day (11th November), we began by joining together online for a whole-school service with the wonderful Rev. Sue. At 11:00, we all met again for a moment of remembrance. Throughout the two events, children shared poems and prayers, remembered those from our village who were lost in conflict, and thought about such an important time for our country and across the world.

To keep everyone safe, Mr Lucas from the Royal British Legion has been sadly unable to join us in school but, as you know, we have been selling poppies and similar items to raise funds for the organisation. We hope to take some of our older pupils to the cenotaph next week to see the poppies and wreathes laid in remembrance, including the one on behalf of our school family.

At a time of worry across the world, coming together to share in remembrance is a very special occasion for us all.

...love one another.



HARVEST THANK YOU

Thank you for all of your kindness and generosity with donations for our Harvest.

We are delighted to have passed so many much-needed items to our friends who do such a wonderful job at the Trussell Trust Cheadle and District Foodbank.

The kind volunteers who manage the foodbank have asked us to pass on their thanks for such generosity from the St. Werburgh's family.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOOOUUUUUUUU!

We love to celebrate birthdays in school during our in-class, virtual 'Praise and Celebration' on a Friday. Please tune-in your best singing voice and join us in celebrating with the following children who have enjoyed a birthday from 23rd October to Friday 12th November.

Happy Birthday: Oscar-John, Nicholas, Zara, George D., Harry D., Kayde, Tommy C., Blake H. and Alexander B.



A LITTLE HELPING HAND WITH MEALS

Many families may be finding things a little tougher at the moment. 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.

Those children in receipt of income-based Free School Meals are also eligible for additional benefits in school.

To find out more, or to apply, please visit:

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals



ASSOCIATE TEACHERS

We are delighted to currently have three Associate Teachers in our lovely school to support the children's learning. Mrs Kent, Miss Vaughan and Miss Dean have joined us as part of their journey to becoming a teacher through our partnerships with Keele and North Staffordshire Teacher Education (KNSTE) and Staffordshire University.



We now have a text messaging service for parents/carers of children aged 0-19 who live in Staffordshire.

Get advice from our Public Health nurses (Health Visitors and School Nurses).

TEXT: 07520 615722



Feeding and nutrition



Child development



Parenting advice and support



Emotional health and wellbeing



Behaviour difficulties



Family health

We might inform someone if we were concerned about your safety but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other health care staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate message back to confirm we have received your text. Texts will only be sent between 9am and 5pm. If you need help before you hear back from us contact your GP, nearest walk in centre or dial 111. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We request messaging from all mobile numbers only (texting does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps). To prevent the health visitor from sending messages to you, text STOP to our number. Messages are charged at your usual rates.



SCHOOL MENU

Previously we let you know that our catering provider, Chartwells, were offering a reduced menu due to different factors. We are delighted that from Monday 15th November, the full menu will once again be available.

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AND WHAT TO DO

Coronavirus/Covid-19

Below is a list of possible Covid-19/ coronavirus symptoms:

- High temperature (feel hot to touch on the chest or back);
- A new, continuous cough (coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours – if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual);
- A loss of, or change to your sense of smell or taste – you've noticed that you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of the symptoms. We have also been advised that the virus could present itself in children as an upset stomach, or headache.

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus: please arrange for a PCR test as soon as possible.

The person displaying symptoms should stay at home until the results have been returned. Should the result be positive, then it is essential that the infected individual self-isolates as per the government guidelines and does not attend school, or come onto the school site.

If you are worried about your symptoms, or are unsure what to do, please use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service (<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>). If your child is under 5 years old, call 111 straight away.

If your child has symptoms and has undertaken a test:

please do not return to school until results are known and shared with us.

The current governmental guidelines state that children who are close contacts of a positive Covid-19 case no longer need to self-isolate. However, it is recommended (and strongly encouraged) that if they have been a close contact, then they do take a PCR test. Of course, if your child is unwell, please keep them off school until they feel better - even if they have returned a negative result.

Although this may seem a little frustrating, it is essential that we protect the children, your families, the staff and our families. For further (regularly updated) information on the virus, visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

COVID-19 IN SCHOOL

As you know, we have recently been affected by a number of positive cases amongst members of the school family reported during the half-term break.

We thank you for working with us to minimise the risk of transmission in school and also thank you in advance for ensuring that you maintain vigilance in looking for any symptoms presented by your child/ren, or within your household. We know that the Staffordshire Moorlands continues to see a large number of positive cases and unfortunately, we have felt the impact of this in our lovely school. Please continue to support us by talking to your child/ren about the importance of washing their hands thoroughly, maintaining good hygiene, and acting in a sensible manner to reduce the spreading of any germs. Also, please, please keep your child at home should they be displaying symptoms of the virus, until they have taken a PCR test and the results are known and shared with school.

We continue to maintain contact with the Local Authority Covid-19 Outbreak Team whilst we have multiple cases in school.

Please stay safe, and continue to play your part in keeping others safe.



FLU VACCINATION

On Thursday 25th November, the NHS School Age Immunisation Team will be joining us to deliver childhood flu vaccinations.

The vaccination is designed to help prevent your child (and subsequently any household members) from contracting the flu. You will have received an email on 14th

October with the details of the immunisation and how to give your consent. Consent must be given **before 9.00am on 23rd November.**

Please note that consent must be given directly to the NHS via the link sent, and not to school.

CHILDREN IN NEED

On Friday 19th November, we will be holding our annual 'Children in Need' celebrations in school.

To raise funds for this important charity, we are holding a non-uniform day. There will also be activities in each class which help us to think about this brilliant organisation (and Pudsey Bear!).

We would welcome any donations. Of course, we appreciate that times may be a little challenging at the moment, so please don't worry if you are unable to make a donation, children should still come in non-uniform.

...love one another.



WELCOME

We are delighted to welcome Miss Lindop-Parkes to our school family.

Working for our catering provider, Chartwells, Miss Lindop-Parkes will be keeping our tummies nice and full in her role as our new school cook whilst Miss Varley is on Maternity Leave.



The Valley is 130!

Saturday 27th November 12pm - 2pm

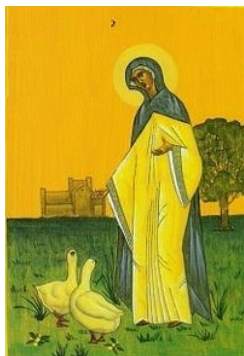
Come and Celebrate 130 years in the life of our unique school!

- Look around the building & grounds
- Look through the archives & memorabilia
- Coffee and Cake

THE VALLEY OAKAMOOR SCHOOL
Learn to Love and Love to Learn

School Drive, Oakamoor, Staffordshire, ST10 3DQ. Tel.: 01538 702355 (opt 2) e-mail: office@valley.staffs.sch.uk

Ofsted www.ofsted.gov.uk www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk **TMFP** [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/valleystaffs) [instagram](https://www.instagram.com/valleystaffs)



TIMINGS

Below is a reminder of the timings for each class. Please follow these to help us to reduce the number of people waiting on site.

	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	Year 4	8.45am	3.20pm
Reception	8.50am	3.15pm	Years 5/6	8.50am	3.25pm



JOINING OUR RECEPTION CLASS IN 2022

Although it only seems like yesterday when our fabulous Reception Class joined us, applications are now open to join the **September 2022 Reception Class intake!**

If you, or anyone you know is thinking about a place for a young superstar to join the brilliant St. Werburgh's family, the deadline for applications is

15th January 2022.

To apply, visit:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/Apply/Overview.aspx>

For further information about the Reception class of our lovely school and to book an after-school visit on either the 18th, 23rd, or 30th November, please email:

office@st-werburghs.staffs.sch.uk

STAYING NUT FREE

To continue to keep everyone safe in school, may we remind all that **NO nuts, or nut-based snacks/lunch** should come into school with 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 in school.

SMILE PLEASE

On **Tuesday 16th November**, we are welcoming 'Academy Photography' into school to take individual pictures of the children (and any new staff!). Please can we ensure that children are in full school uniform and have been practising their best and biggest smiles! Each child will have an individual photograph taken, and for those children with brothers or sisters **in our school**, Academy will also photograph them together. If you have any questions, or wish to clarify anything, please let us know by Monday 15th November.



THANK YOU

This week we stand alongside you all to remember those who have served their country in the military and especially those who sadly gave their lives in conflict.

**'When you go home, tell them of us and say,
for your tomorrow, we gave our today'.**

(John Maxwell Edmonds)

We will remember them.

...love one another.

