

DIARY DATES

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

7th-11th February	Children's Mental Health Week
14-18 February	'Resilience Week' (part 2 of our 'Learning Behaviours' focus)
Tuesday 15th February	Parent Consultation Evening - Reception, Years 3, 5 & 6
Wednesday 16th February	Parent Consultation Evening - Years 1, 2 and 4.
Friday 18th February	School closes for half-term
Monday 28th February	School re-opens

Love to learn, love God, love one another.



CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

This week we have been celebrating 'Children's Mental Health Week' in school. We started the week by joining together for a virtual assembly featuring Oscar-winning actor Olivia Colman, Blue Peter presenter Lindsey Russell, and Strictly Come Dancing star, Oti Mabuse, to talk about ways in which we can stay mentally healthy and follow this year's theme of 'growing together'.

Supporting each other with our physical and mental wellbeing is an important part of life here at St. Werburgh's and this is special annual event in the school calendar.

We are also very proud to have three staff who are trained as Mental Health First Aiders. Each class has been enjoying a range of activities throughout the week which also focus on ways to stay calm and relax. The week builds upon our recent 'Teamwork Day' and the ways in which we can support one another and, to quote our school motto, to '**...love one another,**'

TEAMWORK DAY

We were delighted to hold a very special day here in our lovely school, to celebrate the impact and benefits of teamwork.

Throughout the day, we staged lots of activities in each class to develop children's understanding of how to work as part of a team and how this can help us to support one another and to achieve well. 'Teamwork Day' is the first of our programme of events aiming to further-develop children's learning behaviours. This is part of a whole-school focus on children becoming increasingly comfortable, confident, positive and happy when approaching new learning opportunities and challenges, especially given the challenges we have all faced over the last two years.



The school family had a great time taking-on team tasks and working together to solve problems. We looked at why teams are important and successful, and to how many different teams we all belong, including family, friends, class, school, TMPF (The Moorlands Primary Federation), church and others.

Teamwork Day helped to not only support children with their learning but also with their wellbeing by knowing how brilliant it is when there are others around who want to help.

Our next special 'Learning Behaviour' celebration is the upcoming 'resilience week'.

...love one another.

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

Monday 15th January to Thursday 10th February.

Happy Birthday: Ava, Millie, Tom, Jasper, Etti, Vesper, Sebastian, Evan, Aaliyah, Carys, Bobby, Ophelia, Brodie, Zac G., Mr Casey, Mrs Emery and Mr Eccles.



YEAR 5/6 DANCING AT THE THEATRE

On Monday 24th January, a group of 20 Years 5 and 6's went to The Regent Theatre to perform in the '022 Dance' festival. In the morning, the dancers came to school feeling very enthusiastic and eager to perform. After lunch, we got on the bus and travelled to the theatre.

On arrival, we were met by Craig, who ran the festival, and he showed us to our dressing rooms, where we would get ready for the rehearsal. After putting our jazz shoes on, Craig directed us to the stage. Lucy would be the stage manager for this performance and she told us where the sight lines were. These are white lines in the wings. If you stand in front of them, you can be seen by the audience but if you stand behind them, you can't. She also told us not to touch the lights and that there might be dry ice (smoke) but this wouldn't make us cough! Then, we practised our dance and the stage crew said it looked brilliant and that our performance would be great!

We had quite a big break in between the rehearsal and the performance so we had a visit to McDonald's, which we really enjoyed. We were even given balloons! After this, we returned to the theatre and prepared for the performance. We put on our Chimney Sweep outfits - we were performing as chimney sweeps from Mary Poppins - and Mrs Bloor and Mrs Eyre did our hair. When we were called to the stage, we waited eagerly to perform and show off our new dance. We felt nervous but we knew we would be great. Our performance went brilliantly, the audience applauded and even clapped along to 'Step in Time'. We absolutely loved performing on stage and really wanted to do it again!

By Lyra and Lacey P.



BIKEABILITY

It was wonderful to see the children on their bikes again as they learnt how to stay safe whilst riding, through our annual Bikeability training. Years 4 and 5 had a great time (even when the weather changed a little!) developing their skills of steering, signalling, balancing and generally staying safe on two wheels! Safe cycling will also help children to continue to lead a healthy lifestyle.

NSPCC NUMBER DAY

On Friday 4th February, we all came to school in our own clothes which contained numbers or patterns because it was 'Number Day', which is organised by the NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children), to raise money (£108 - thank you!) for children less fortunate than ourselves.

In the morning, we joined a whole-school assembly to discuss what activities we might do and why it was important to raise money. We learnt that maths comes into everyday life all of the time, for example: telling the time, the date, working out change, how old you are, and even how many shoes to put on your feet in a morning! We were challenged to find a job that didn't include maths. We came up with lots of ideas but EVERY job needs maths!

Throughout the day, we took part in lots of problem-solving tasks. One of which was to choose a number between 1 and 100, multiply this by 2 and then multiply this answer by 5. Finally, take the zero away from the answer, what answer do you always have? Can you work out what it is? We managed it in Y5/6! We really enjoyed our learning throughout the day and although it really challenged us, we found it very interesting to find the different answers.

By Evie and Alfie

PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING

To continue to keep you updated with your child's progress in school, we offer five points of communication throughout the school year. These are two parent consultation evenings (October and February) and three school reports (at the end of each term). Next week, the third of these will be taking place, which is the parent consultation evening for the half-way point in the year. Details on how to book your five minute telephone appointment with your child's teacher will be emailed from the class email account. Please respect the five minute time limit so all parents/carers have a chance to talk with the teacher. As always, if there is anything which you wish to discuss urgently with your child's teacher, then please let us know at any time of the year.



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



JOB VACANCY

Here in our lovely school, we are currently looking for a talented practitioner to join our team as a one-to-one Learning Support Assistant on a temporary contract.

The post will commence after half-term (for two terms) and will be up to four mornings and three afternoons, with the possibility of joining us as a lunchtime supervisor too.

If you are a qualified learning support assistant/ teaching assistant and have experience working within an educational setting and wish to find out more, please contact the school office.

Love to learn, love God, love one another.

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



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, mental health or dial 111. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps). To protect the health visitor from sending messages to you, text STOP to our number. Messages are charged at your usual rates.



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 Covid-19/coronavirus: please isolate and arrange for a PCR test.

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.

The current governmental guidelines state that children who are close contacts of a positive Covid-19 case no longer need to self-isolate and instead should complete a daily Lateral Flow test for seven days and if this is positive then they need to self-isolate immediately (there is no longer any requirement for a confirmatory 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.

For further (regularly updated) information on the virus, visit:

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

COVID-19 - LATEST GUIDELINES

Governmental guidelines for the management of Covid-19 have changed a few times over recent weeks. At the time of writing, if anyone is symptomatic, then they still need to arrange for a PCR test and remain in isolation (and off school) until the result is returned. If anyone has been a 'close contact' of a positive case, then a daily Lateral Flow test is needed for at least a week. Should these continue as negative, then isolation is not required. However, should these return as positive, then isolation must commence immediately (no confirmatory PCR test is necessary). On day 5 of isolation (the day of the test, or symptoms beginning is day 0/zero), if you feel as though your child is well enough, they may take a Lateral Flow test. If this is negative, then a second test may be taken the following day (at least 24 hours later). If these are both negative then the isolation can end. If the day 5 or 6 test is positive, then this process begins again for day 7 or 8; or 8 and 9 with the need for two consecutive days (at least 24 hours apart) of negative results in order to end isolation early. If the tests remain positive throughout days 6-9, then isolation ends at 23:59 on Day 10. Your NHS Covid-19 App will keep you up-to-date with the most recent guidelines. Please follow the advice regarding testing and isolation, so we can keep each other, and especially the more vulnerable members of our school and extended families, safe.

It is essential that we work together to try to reduce the virus' impact on children's learning. As such, please ensure that your child accesses all remote/ home learning opportunities during a period of isolation (unless too unwell). Children have had a great deal of interruption to their learning over the past few years and we wish to continue to support them. If you need to borrow a laptop or tablet so your child can learn at home, please just let us know.

The above guidelines, may be subject to change in the event of a number of cases in school and subsequent advice from the Local Authority Outbreak Team.

Of course, you will understand that periods of absence may also mean that some usual plans/procedures in school may need to be changed.

Please stay safe, keep others safe, and be vigilant.

...love one another.

RAINBOWS

Are you the parent/carer of a girl aged between 5 and 7? And would you like them to join Girlguiding, an international youth organisation promising fun, friendship, crafts, games, activities, trips, badges and much much more?

Kingsley Holt Rainbows has spaces for girls to join right now! We meet on Thursday evenings from 5.30 to 6.30 and our volunteer leaders are all fully DBS checked and trained so as well as having lots of fun, you can be assured that your daughter is in safe hands.

For more details, contact Jane McFarlane (parent of Edward in Year 4) on 07539 265791 or catch me at the school front gate!



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.

PCSO HELP WITH PARKING

You will be delighted to hear that our local PCSO will be joining us more regularly around school to help to offer advice and support on the roads so we can all keep the children and one another safe. Please do not take any risks with your parking. If you have parked near school, only stay around the school site for the time it takes to drop-off or collect your child so others can use that space and reduce congestion and risk.

WRAP-UP WARM

Now that the chilly months are upon us, please can you ensure that all children bring to school a warm coat each day and a hat and gloves to keep nice and toasty. Can we also request that children also have joggers and a sweatshirt for any outdoor learning in PE. As we need to keep school well-ventilated, a vest is also a very good idea.





SOCCER SCHOOLS

Book all 3 days & receive x2 free SCFC EFL match tickets

Girls Only Soccer Schools are being delivered by Stoke City's Community Trust this Half Term indoors at the Academy Dome and will include:

- Small sided games and tournaments, Competitions & Prizes, Sessions to develop skills, Fun & Games
- Book all 3 days and receive 2 free SCFC EFL home match tickets - 40 places available.
- Pre booking required. To book your place visit tickets.stokecityfc.com/en-GB/categories/soccer-schools

Mon 21 Feb - Weds 23 Feb

Girls aged 6 - 15 Years Old

9.00am - 3.00pm

Academy Dome, ST4 4TH

£15 a day

Stoke City Community Trust

TIMINGS

Below is a reminder of the timings for each class. Please can we ensure that we follow these timings. The start of the school day for each class is stated below.

Children need to arrive in school by these times.

	Car park gate			Front gate	
	Arrive	Collect		Arrive	Collect
Yr 1	8.40am	3.20pm	Yr 3	8.40am	3.15pm
Yr 2	8.45am	3.25pm	Yr 4	8.45am	3.20pm
Rec	8.50am	3.15pm	Yrs 5/6	8.50am	3.25pm

FROST, ICE AND SNOW ...WHICH WAY TO GO!



In the event of any icy/snowy conditions, please use only the cleared pathways for both entrances. To help maintain social distancing, please allow space for others to pass on the gritted area. If you also have a child at Kingsley Kingfishers and usually access school through the car park gate (Reception and Years 1 and 2), in the event of ice or snow, please use the front/main gate as a path will be cleared from here to the Kingfishers' entrance.

In the unusual (and rare!) event that we have to close due to health and safety issues caused by snow or ice, we will endeavour to contact you through text message and also aim to also put a message on the school website (www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk).

Please remember NOT to walk across the school car park as this is not open to parents/carers and is also not gritted.

Wrap up warm and remember your cosy hat!

SAFEGUARDING

Keeping children safe is important to us all. Our school Safeguarding Policy is available to be viewed on the website, or if you require a printed copy, please contact the office.

Further details on how you can keep your child safe, including the Prevent Duty (to prevent children being drawn into radicalisation or extremism), can also be found within the Safeguarding section of the website: www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk/st-werburghs/our-school/safeguarding/

If you have any questions regarding safeguarding please speak to a member of the team, or follow the links on the website.

KEEPING YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE

If your child has any technological devices which allows them to access the internet, our website offers information of how you can keep your child safe online. Staying safe online is a big part of our Computing curriculum, and by visiting a few of the sites listed, and with a little bit of research of your own, you can find out more about the important age restrictions for social media (including WhatsApp and TikTok) and other tips about E Safety/ ways in which you can protect your child in the online world.

www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk/st-werburghs/school-family/parents/

THANK YOU

As we are now into February and many of you reached the end of 'veganuary', or other commitments for the first month of the year, we would like to thank you for your support. We have enjoyed a busy few weeks including (but not limited to): 'Teamwork Day'; 'Number Day'; Bikeability; dancing at The Regent Theatre; Y2 and Y6 SATs information meetings; and we are now learning about how to support our wellbeing during 'Children's Mental Health Week'.

Unfortunately, we have been affected by Covid-19 cases this term, and we continue to appreciate your support during these periods. We would also like to thank those who were able to return questionnaires to help us as we move forwards.

Hope the New Year Resolutions are going well! Please stay safe.

Love to learn, love God, love one another.