



# Great [Wood] News

## Autumn Term 1



### School Contact Details



Telephone: 01538 702355 option 4  
Email: [office@greatwood.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@greatwood.staffs.sch.uk)

Arbor: School Messaging  
Website: [www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk)



We would like to welcome our Great Wood family to the start of our new school year. Traditionally this is a very busy term for our children and families. We have lots of exciting events planned, including trips, visitors, events and challenges. We look forward to another amazing Nativity and (dare we say it) fantastic Christmas activities.

We hope all of our Great Wood family will enjoy a fabulous term.

### Diary Dates

Monday 11th September	-	Academy Photography - Individuals/Siblings
Wednesday 13th September	-	Painsley Catholic College Prospective Parents Evening, 6pm
Wednesday 20th September	-	Meet The Teacher Parents Evening
Tuesday 26th September	-	The Cheadle Academy Prospective Parents Evening, 7pm
Wednesday 27th September	-	PTFA Meeting, 6pm @ The White Hart - All Welcome
Friday 29th September	-	MacMillan Coffee Afternoon - All Welcome
Thursday 26th October	-	PTFA Spooky Disco, 6-7.30pm
Friday 27th October	-	School Closes for Half term
Monday 6th November	-	Inset Day - School Closed to Pupils
Tuesday 7th November	-	School Re-Opens
Friday 17th November	-	BBC Children In Need
Thursday 23rd November	-	Flu Vaccinations
Friday 24th November	-	Tean Christmas Lights Switch On
Tuesday 5th December	-	Nativity Performance, 5.30pm
Thursday 7th December	-	Nativity Performance, 5.30pm
Friday 8th December	-	Alzheimer's Elf Day
Monday 11th December	-	R/1 & Y2/3 Christmas Trip - SnowDome Tamworth
Tuesday 12th December	-	Victoria Hall Christmas Concert
Thursday 14th December	-	KS2 Christmas Trip - The New Vic Theatre, The Nutcracker



We would like to send a very warm welcome to the children and families, who are joining us for the first time - welcome, Charlie, Jaxson, Willow, Kole, Joseph, Joshua, Eliza, Pariesia and Libbie in Reception and to Erin joining our Year 1 class. We look forward to getting to know you all during our exciting Autumn Term.

We would like to welcome Mrs Foxall to our school family, joining our Learning Support Team.

Mr Day, from TMPF will teach our children Modern Foreign Languages, on a Tuesday, across the school. Our children will be enjoying Spanish and learning to speak to each other in a foreign language.

Mrs Whiteley will continue to deliver our music lessons, each Friday, where our children will experience a variety of musical lessons and singing.

### Academy Photographs

Academy will once again be in school on Monday 11th September, to take individual/family group photos of our wonderful children. If you have any younger children, not yet in school and you would like Academy to take their photo too, please bring them into school at 8.30am on 12th September. **Please ensure all children are wearing full school uniform and NOT PE kits on this day.** Children in Years R, 1, 2 & 3 will need to bring PE kits with them. Year 5/6 will need to bring their swimming kits only.

Please do not hesitate to contact any member of our school team if you have any queries.



### Year 5/6 Class Swimming

Years 5 and 6 class will start swimming on Monday 11th September 2023. The children will leave for their lesson on Monday afternoons at 1.45pm, so pupils will need to have their swimming kit with them. Please note girls will need to wear a one piece costume and boys are not allowed to wear baggy shorts.



### Meet the Teacher

We are pleased to invite you to our meet the teacher parents evening, as we start the Autumn term.

On Wednesday 20th September we will be holding our parents evening, when we welcome you to come and meet your child's teacher, should you have any questions or concerns. Teachers will be available in their classrooms between 3.40pm-5.45pm.

Bookings will be available via Arbor, our online Parent Portal. Here you will be able to choose the most convenient available slot. Each appointment will be 5 minutes. Please consider their schedule and be aware they might ask you to arrange an extra meeting (at a later date), if you feel you need more time for discussions.



Thank you to everyone using our Arbor Parent Portal.

The portal can be used to access your child/children's profiles and to top up your child's break, dinner and Wrap Around accounts.

**We would kindly ask that you "top up" your child's account in advance.** Accounts not topped up in advance will be suspended.

As children order their break snacks with their teacher each morning, please ensure that your child knows what they are allowed to order for their snacks, as the cost of their snack will be added to their account.

If you are having trouble accessing or navigating the site, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to help.

### TMPPF – Term Dates 2023/2024

#### Autumn Term 2023

**Inset Day for staff (schools closed):** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September

**Term starts for pupils:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September

**Half Term:** Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

**Inset Day for staff (schools closed):** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November

**Term ends:** Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

**Christmas Holiday:** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January

#### Spring Term 2024

**Inset Day for staff (schools closed):** Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January

**Term starts for pupils:** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January

**Half Term:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February

**Term ends:** Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

**Easter Holiday:** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

#### Summer Term 2024

**Inset Day for staff (schools closed):** Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April

**Term starts for pupils:** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April

**May Day:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May

**Half Term:** Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May

**Term ends:** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July

**Inset Day for staff (schools closed):** Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>



### PE Days

Please be reminded children are required to wear PE kit on PE days.

R/1 Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

2/3 Monday & Wednesday

4/5 Wednesday & Thursday

5/6 Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday



**Important Notice**

As we commence a new school year we wish to remind you **not** to book holidays in school time. We cannot authorise these absences and you may be fined by Staffordshire Local Authority.

### Break Sales

Our Cook Katie, alongside Jan, will continue serving our lovely break time snacks. These will be available each morning at the following prices. Please remember to top up your Arbor account in advance to enable children to purchase snacks.

Toast	30p	Milkshake	70p	Toast & Jam	35p
Pancake	40p	Crumpet	30p		



Please note: children in Reception are only allowed to order one item.

### Every Mind Matters



Every Mind Matters is a new resource from the brilliant NHS. It contains practical tips and videos from experts about 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](http://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters)

### School Office

Please may we remind you that the school office is closed every Thursday afternoon from 1pm. Therefore, we kindly request that you please contact us before this time to advise of any changes to the collection of your child/children. Emergency calls will, of course, still be taken on the usual school number and naturally, we will still contact you should any need arise. However, we ask that you please do not contact us for non-emergencies on Thursday afternoons. Many thanks for your help and co-operation with this.



### A helping Hand With Meals

We understand that families may have had a change in circumstances. Whichever year group your child is in, if you think you may now be eligible for income-based Free School Meals, we would urge you to submit an application. This also applies to children who currently receive a lunch due to being in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2.



Applications are quick and easy with an instant yes, or no answer as to your entitlement. The link can be found on the website at <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-online.aspx>

Please contact us at [office@greatwood.staffs.sc.uk](mailto:office@greatwood.staffs.sc.uk) if you need any help.

### Year 6 Transition to High School

Please be aware that the closing date for Year 6 parents to apply for a high school place, for their child, is **31st October 2023**. Please ensure that you have made your application before this date. Applications can be made using the online application service, which is available at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/admissions](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/admissions) and by following the links to 'Apply online'.

If any parent requires help with the application process, please contact the school office, who will be happy to help.



Please ensure that your child's name is on their uniform, ties, PE kit, bags, water bottles etc.



Please can we take this opportunity to remind all parents and carers to park considerately on Vicarage Road at the beginning and end of the school day. Please, please help us to keep our children safe by parking considerately and **NOT** on the zig zags; when dropping off or collecting children. Also can we remind you that the staff car park is for staff and visitors' vehicles only, unless prior arrangements have been agreed with the school office.

Thank you.

## IT'S GOOD TO TALK

Don't wait until you can't cope before you seek help. For good days, bad days and all the in-between days, there are lots of places you can turn to for support.



**IT'S ALWAYS OK TO ASK FOR HELP**

## Great Wood Wrap Around



Our exciting Wrap Around care facility has become an amazing success. The children have a great time, playing with their friends, enjoying a variety of activities and using a wide range of resources. We open at 7.30am, until the start of the school day and from 3.30pm until 6pm in the evenings. We still have spaces available, so why not come and join us. For further details, please contact Gina, Julie or Jan on 07398634160. We hope to see you there, enjoying the fun!

**\*\*Please be reminded all bookings for Wrap Around are now via Arbor, under the "clubs" section. Children's places are not secure if they are not booked correctly, numbers are increasing and we are limited to 26 children per session. Please book to avoid disappointment.**

Please can all parents/ carers be reminded that dogs are **NOT ALLOWED** on school grounds. Thank you for your co-operation.



For health and safety reasons, please can we request that children do not come down the steps from Great Wood Hall to cross vicarage Road. Please use the driveway and cross with Jan, the crossing lady. Thank you.



## Autumn/Winter Menu -3 Week Rota

	WEEK ONE	WEEK TWO	WEEK THREE
<b>MONDAY</b>	Mac & Cheese (V) <b>or</b> Mixed Bean Chilli with Rice (Ve)(Wg) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Rainbow Veg Scoop of Vanilla Ice Cream (V)	Vegetable Lasagne (V) <b>or</b> Lentil & Mushroom Keema Curry with Rice (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Rainbow Veg Scoop of Vanilla Ice Cream (V)	Pizza Mac & Cheese (V) <b>or</b> Mild Sweet Potato & Chickpea Curry with Rice (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Rainbow Veg Scoop of Vanilla Ice Cream (V)
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Mild & Sweet Chicken Curry with Rice (Wg) <b>or</b> Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Sweetcorn & Peppers, Cauliflower Apple Crumble (Ve)(Wg) with Custard (V)	Chicken Paella (Wg) <b>or</b> Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Sweetcorn, Green Beans Apple & Pear Crumble (Ve)(Wg) with Custard (V)	Chicken Tandoori with Golden Rice (Wg) <b>or</b> Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Sweetcorn, Green Beans Peach & Pineapple Crumble (Ve)(Wg) with Custard (V)
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy <b>or</b> Chickpea & Veggie Puff with Roasties (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Broccoli, Sliced Carrot Strawberry Jelly & Peaches (Ve)	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy <b>or</b> Homemade Veggie & Stuffing Roll with Roasties & Gravy (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Cauliflower, Carrot Batons Orange Jelly & Mandarins (Ve)	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy <b>or</b> Veggie Sausage Toad in the Hole with Roasties & Gravy (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Cabbage, Sliced Carrot Strawberry Jelly & Pineapple (Ve)
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Tuna & Pea Pesto Pasta (Wg) <b>or</b> Penne with Tomato Super Sauce (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Green Beans, Swede Chocolate Mousse with Pears (V)	Penne with Chicken Meatballs in Classic Tomato Sauce (Wg) <b>or</b> Penne with Classic Tomato Sauce (Ve)(Wg) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Cabbage, Garden Peas Banana Custard (V)	Chicken, Broccoli & Sweetcorn Pasta Bake (Wg) <b>or</b> Penne with Beany Bolognese (Ve)(Wg) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Swede, Shredded Carrots Chocolate Mousse with Mandarins (V)
<b>FRIDAY</b>	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips <b>or</b> Falafel Wrap with Mint Yoghurt & Chips (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Baked Beans, Garden Peas Flapjack (Ve)  4/9/23, 25/9/23, 16/10/23, 6/11/23, 27/11/23, 18/12/23, 8/1/24, 29/1/24, 19/2/24, 11/3/24	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips <b>or</b> Vegeball Marinara Sub with Chips (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Baked Beans, Garden Peas Chocolate Shortbread (Ve)  11/9/23, 2/10/23, 23/10/23, 13/11/23, 4/12/23, 25/12/23, 15/1/24, 5/2/24, 26/2/24, 18/3/24	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips <b>or</b> Garden Vegetable Goujons with Chips (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Baked Beans, Garden Peas Iced Shortbread (Ve)  18/9/23, 9/10/23, 30/10/23, 20/11/23, 11/12/23, 1/1/24, 22/1/24, 12/2/24, 4/3/24, 25/3/24

Freshly baked bread, fresh fruit, yoghurts and fresh drinking water available daily

V - Vegetarian Ve - Vegan Wg - Wholegrain

## Choir

Our fantastic Mrs Roberts will, once again, be running our Great Wood choir this year for our KS2 Children. Rehearsals will take place during Wednesday lunchtimes. Children who are interested in joining, can join rehearsals on Wednesdays.



## Starting School in September?

Do you have, or know anyone who has, a child who is due to start school next September? Parents of these children are warmly invited to come and have a look round school and see what we have to offer. Please contact the school office for more details.



### After School Clubs

For the first half of the summer term we will be running a selection of after school clubs. The clubs available are as follows:

	Key stage 1 (Reception, Y1 & Y2)	Key Stage 2 (Year 3, 4, 5 & 6)
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	ASM Sports - More Details To Follow	
Thursday	Fun Club (max 25)	Maypole (max 25)
Friday		Football Club (max 30)



Clubs will start week commencing 18th September and run from the end of school until 4.30pm. The **last week for clubs will be week commencing 23rd October 2023**, except for ASM which runs until the end of the Autumn term.

If your child would like to take part, please sign up to any of our clubs, under the clubs section on Arbor.

#### Sickness

May we remind you that as advised by the Health Protection Agency, all children must be kept away from school for 48 hours, after their last episode of sickness, or diarrhoea.



#### Earrings

We would like to make you aware that our P.E. policy guidance states that no earrings, (or any other jewellery), can be worn during P.E. lessons. Also, plasters, or tape put over earrings is not permitted. On P.E. days please can you ensure that your child does not wear earrings to school, or is capable of removing them themselves, (staff are not able to do this for them), to enable your child to do P.E. Any children that are wearing earrings, on P.E. days and that are not able to remove them independently, will not be allowed to participate in that P.E. lesson.

