



Great [Wood] News

Autumn Term 10



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Diary Dates

16th November	-	Children in Need Day
17th November	-	Cheadle Christmas Lights Switch on
21st November	-	Y6 Safe & Sound Event @ Cheadle Fire Station
23rd November	-	Y5/6 Basketball @ The Cheadle Academy
28th November	-	PTFA AGM, 6.30pm - All Welcome
30th November	-	Tean Christmas Lights Switch on
2nd December	-	PTFA Christmas Shopping Trip **Limited Tickets Remaining**
3rd December	-	Parents Evening
5th December	-	Festival of Christmas Music @ The Victoria Hall
7th December	-	Nativity Performance, 2pm - All Welcome
10th December	-	Nativity Performance, 5.30pm - All Welcome
11th December	-	KS2 Visit of The New Vic Theatre - Wind In The Willows
13th December	-	Reception & KS1 Visit to Telford Winter Wonderland
14th December	-	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
	-	Christmas Extravaganza
17th December	-	PTFA Christmas Bingo
20th December	-	Christmas Lunch
	-	PTFA Christmas Disco
21st December	-	Christmas Breakfast
	-	Christmas Carol Service
	-	School Closes for Christmas Holidays



PTFA Christmas Shopping Trip

SELLING FAST

Once again, this year our wonderful PTFA have organised a Christmas shopping trip. This year we are going to Liverpool with its fantastic Christmas markets, on Sunday 2nd December. This is a very popular PTFA event and gives you an opportunity to enjoy your Christmas shopping, with friends and family, without having to drive, or worry about the dreaded Christmas parking!

The coach will be leaving school at 8.30am and will leave Liverpool at 5.30pm for the return journey.

Tickets are priced at just £10 per person, available from the school office.



There will be an exciting raffle taking place during the journey, where you could win lots of goodies for Christmas!

Festival of Christmas Music 2018

Once again this year our choir are taking a part in the Festival of Wednesday 5th December. This is a wonderful Christmas event combining the Staffordshire Youth Orchestra and massed schools choirs. Separate letters have been issued to those involved.



Guy Competition

Congratulations to this years Guy competition winners, Tabitha Ford and Hope McCormack.

A fantastic Guy girls, well done!



The colder weather is now upon us and in conjunction with our Health and Safety team, we would like to share some winter safety tips/rules with you.

- * If children are riding a scooter or bike to school, it is recommended they wear a helmet and have reflectors on their scooter/bike (due to the darker nights and icy weather). Can you please ensure that these recommendations are met for the safety of your child.
- * When it is icy, please use the gritted paths around school.
- * Please ensure that your child has a warm coat, hat and gloves for outdoor playtimes and lunchtimes.
- * All children will need a named Great Wood tracksuit, (available from Something Special, Cheadle), for their PE lessons, as in dry weather PE lessons will continue to be outside.



Thank you for your co-operation in these matters and for your help in keeping our Great Wood children, healthy, warm and safe.

Remembrance

Pupils at Great Wood took part in the Remembrance Service on Sunday 11th November, as part of the community who remembered those who fought in the Great War. Our four team captains laid a wreath on both the war memorials in Tean and read out poems during the church service. The poems had been based on the forgotten names on the war memorial, including Arthur Rowe, a former Great Wood pupil. The school hosted the refreshments after the service in which visitors could see the displays the pupils had prepared to showcase their learning of the WW1 centenary. Thank you to all the pupils who attended during the morning, you represented the school with dignity and were highly praised by the local community. The Royal British Legion were in attendance and were thankful of the fundraising the pupils have supported this year.



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Keeping warm!

As we say a reluctant goodbye to the summer and the cold weather creeps in, we ask that all children bring a coat to school, to wear at playtime and lunchtime. Also, as it becomes appropriate, please can you ensure that your child/children have hats and gloves to keep them warm, when they are on the playground. Children that do not have suitable outdoor clothing, will not, as the weather becomes colder, be allowed to have an outdoor playtime and will have to remain inside at break and lunch times. Thank you for your help in keeping our Great Wood children warm and cosy.



Exciting News for our Great Wood Choir!

Our fantastic choir has been asked to perform at the Cheadle Lights Switch On, during the Christmas Festivities. What is different this year is that Great Wood is the only local primary school, which has been invited to perform. We are sure that you will agree that this is an amazing opportunity for our Great Wood choir to showcase their talent, in a fantastic start to the festive season.

A separate letter will be sent out to the children that will be involved in this event.



PTFA Bonfire Extravaganza!



A fantastic turnout produced an extremely enjoyable evening and great PTFA fundraiser. The amazing event produced over £850 profit, for our Great Wood children. We would like to say a special thank you to all those that helped on the day, especially our fantastic bonfire builders, firework team, organisers, soup makers, stall holders and marshalls. This event takes a tremendous amount of hard, but worthwhile, work. The funds raised by our fantastic PTFA team, via your amazing support, enable our children to benefit from, all the important extras they provide.

The BIG  **SPOTACULAR**

This year we will once again be supporting the BBC Children In Need Appeal at Great Wood. We will be selling official merchandise in the school office, this year we have:

 <p>SOLD OUT</p> <p>Keyrings £2.00</p> <p>Selection of wristbands including the NEW Colour Changing wristband £1.00</p>	 <p>NEW Pudsey Glow in the dark Keyrings £2.00</p>	 <p>SOLD OUT</p> <p>Blush & Pudsey Ears £2.50</p>	 <p>SOLD OUT</p> <p>NEW Blush & Pudsey Pin Badges £1</p>
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Fancy Dress day, Pudsey style!

On Friday 16th November ,why not come to school dressed up in spots, bright colours, or even as Pudsey himself!

Wear your brightest colours or your spottiest clothes, pyjamas, or onesies, or just wear a pair of stylish Pudsey ears and join us for a day of Great Wood Children in Need fun!

We ask you to donate £1 per child!




Pudsey Biscuits!

Also on Friday 16th November, for one day only, Lesley and Jan will be selling their amazing Pudsey Bear biscuits priced at just 50p each. Once they are gone, they are gone!



Toy Stall!

We will also be holding a toy stall,

An ideal opportunity to clear out your unwanted toys and books. All items will be sold at pocket money prices and the stall will be manned by our year 5/6 children.

Please send in your unwanted toys any day this week and help children in need.



Bugs! - We have a couple of bugs going around school at the moment, to help stop these spreading please can you refrain from sending your child back to school until 48hours after any episode of sickness. Thank you for your help.



SCHOOL HONOURS HEROIC FORMER PUPIL KILLED IN GREAT WAR

Youngsters from a Staffordshire school today visited JCB for a poignant lesson about a long-forgotten pupil, who served his country with distinction in the Great War.

JCB has given employees the opportunity to pay tribute to their relatives, who served in WWI with the unveiling of 40ft x 25ft high roll of honour bearing their pictures and names.

Now it has come to light that among the 50 brave men honoured on the montage was a former pupil of Great Wood Primary School in Tean. Private Arthur Rowe attended the school more than 120 years ago and died in France in 1917 at the age of 34. He was injured on the battlefield and lay there for three days before being rescued and taken to a field hospital where he later died.

Today pupils from the school visited JCB's World HQ to see the special commemoration of Private Rowe. During the visit they heard the story of the brave soldier's army service from two of his descendants, his great grandson Dave Atkinson and his great-great grandson Jack Atkinson, who both work at JCB.

Jack and Dave presented Head Teacher Ben Adamson with a framed photo of Private Rowe to ensure his memory lives on at the school. Pupils later laid a wreath at Tean War Memorial where Private Rowe is also commemorated.

The presentation came just days before the father and son head to Ypres in Belgium, where they will spend Sunday, November 11th – the actual Centenary of the signing of the Armistice – paying tribute to their brave ancestor at special Menin Gate commemorations.

Jack, said: "I am 27-years-old and it is essential that the younger generation keeps these stories alive. I'm delighted to have had the opportunity to tell Private Rowe's tale to pupils at his former school, because it means he is not forgotten."

Dave Atkinson, of Fulford, near Blythe Bridge added: "It was only when we were researching my great-grandfather's story that we discovered he had gone to Great Wood Primary School. The stories of sacrifice by the Great War generation are easily forgotten and I think it's wonderful that the school is so interested in Private Rowe's bravery and will now keep his memory alive."

Great Wood Community Primary School Leader Ben Adamson said: "We are amazed to hear that one of our former pupils served his country with such distinction in the First World War and are thrilled to be presented with his picture. It's really very poignant to learn about Private Rowe as the Centenary of the Armistice approaches. We will ensure that he is never forgotten and his picture will hang in the school with pride."

Private Arthur Rowe, of Tean, died without ever meeting his newly-born daughter, Helen, who is Dave's grandmother. He left a widow Gertrude and two other children Marjorie and Cyril. He was working at Tean Mills when he was called up to war in 1916 and joined the Manchester Regiment. He was severely wounded by German artillery during the battle of Poelcappelle at Passchendaele in October 1917.



As the battle raged around him, he was wounded and lay on the battlefield for three days in the cold and rain, before he was eventually rescued and taken to a field hospital. He had suffered devastating injuries and died on October 16th 1917.

A letter sent to his family just after his death has recently been discovered and it describes how he had been “horribly wounded” and had his right leg amputated.

JCB are supporting the fund raising efforts of the Royal British Legion in this special Centenary year and has donated a unique poppy-liveried mini excavator to the charity’s appeal, which raised £25,500.

In addition, a specially commissioned art installation, to mark the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice, was unveiled. Designed and made by JCB graduates and apprentices, it features 255 porcelain poppies – one for each Uttoxeter, Rocester and Denstone person who lost their lives in The Great War. The poppies have been handcrafted by more than 30 JCB employees, who were former members of the Armed Forces.



Break Sales

Our wonderful Lesley and Jan in the kitchen provide break sales for children in years 1-6 each morning. Prices are as follows:



Toast	30p	Oatcake	60p
Milkshake	60p	Hot chocolate	50p **Starting next week**

We would be very grateful if you could ensure that your child has enough money with them, to order what they want each day. This makes snack time far easier for Lesley and Jan, in the kitchen and avoids children being disappointed if they ask for more than one item, but only have enough money for one.

Headlice - We have, unfortunately, got the problem of headlice in school again. Please be extra-vigilant in checking your child's hair each week and treating as necessary, to help us to eliminate this persistent problem. Many thanks for your help.

