



Great [Wood] News

Autumn Term 11



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Diary Dates

23rd November	-	Y5/6 Basketball @ The Cheadle Academy **Cancelled**
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



PTFA Christmas Shopping Trip

There's still time to get your Christmas Shopping trip tickets, going to Liverpool's fantastic Christmas markets, on Sunday 2nd December. 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!



Health & Safety During Bad Weather

Not that we are trying to tempt fate but....should we experience icy and/or snowy conditions, may we please remind you to walk on only the gritted paths.

In the event of school closure due to bad weather, we will endeavour to contact parents by text message. Closures made before the beginning of school will be listed on Staffordshire County Council website as soon as possible.

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/schoolsandcolleges/emergencyclosures.

We are unable to let children into school before 8.50am. As the weather is cold now in the mornings, please make sure your child does not arrive before 8.40am - they tend to turn a very nasty shade of blue!



Wrap up warm!

The weather is becoming markedly colder and it is becoming extremely chilly on the playground. Please ensure that your child/children are wearing appropriate winter clothing, including hats, scarves and gloves, so that they can enjoy their play times.

Spelling Bee

This year our children have, once again, taken part in the TMPF Spelling Bee. Our finalists this year, who took part in the Grand Final at Bishop Rawle on 20th November were;

Seb in Year 1, Alfie in Year 2, Anna in Year 3, Jacob G in Year 4, Sophie Peach in Year 5 and Isobel in Year 6.

We are extremely proud to report that, across the Federation that Seb came a very close second in the Year 1 category and Alfie was the overall winner for Year 2. In KS2 Anna came third for Year 3, Jacob G was the proud winner in the Year 4 category, Sophie was joint second for Year 5 and Isobel spelt her way to victory for Year 6.

What a fantastic result Great Wood! Well done!



PTFA Meeting

Our next PTFA meeting will be on Wednesday 28th November, at 6.30pm, which will be the AGM. Come along and join us, for a brew and find out all about our Christmas events.



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.



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



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.

Christmas Dinner



Ho,ho, ho! Lesley and Jan are once again busily planning our school Christmas Dinner, which we are looking forward to enjoying on Thursday 20th December.

As the number of children having dinner significantly increases on that day, it is really important that we let the kitchen know, in advance, how much food to order and prepare.

We will, therefore, assume that, **unless you tell us differently**, your child will be having Christmas dinner. **If you wish your child to bring SANDWICHES on that day and not have a Christmas dinner, please complete and return the reply slip to school, before Tuesday 4th December.**

If your child receives the Universal Infant Free School Meals there will be no charge for the Christmas lunch, children in Key Stage 2 the cost of the Christmas dinner this year is £2.20.

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Christmas Dinner

My child _____ (name) will **NOT** require a school Christmas Dinner on Thursday 20th December and I will be providing sandwiches on that day.

Signed _____



Pudsey comes to Great Wood!

Great Wood raised money on Friday 16th November, to support Children in Need.

Our children (and staff) dressed in spots, bright colours and Pudsey onesies, to raise funds for the extremely worthwhile campaign.

In addition to dressing up, Lesley and Jan made Pudsey biscuits and the children supported a toy stall, with their donations of toys and then sold them for Pudsey.

Our school family managed to raise a staggering total of **£506.00! This is our best ever total, Fantastic!**

We would like to thank all of our Great Wood family for your generosity and kindness. Your fantastic support will enable many children, who really need our help, to receive the assistance they are desperate for.

THANK YOU, YOU ARE AMAZING!

2018 Christmas Activities

Tean Christmas Lights Switch on

On Friday 30th November our Great Wood choir will be representing our school at the traditional Tean Christmas Lights switch on. We hope you will be able to join us for the festivities.



Carol Singing

Children from key stage two will be putting on their Santa hats to sing Christmas carols to some of the pensioners from the community, this is a much loved Great Wood tradition, filled with Christmas spirit!



Festival of Christmas Music

Once again this year our choir are taking a part in the Festival of Christmas Music at the Victoria Hall, Hanley on Wednesday 5th December. This is a wonderful Christmas event combining the Staffordshire Youth Orchestra and massed schools choirs.



Key Stage 1 Nativity

Not long now till our little ones will be practising hard to wow you with their Nativity performances, which take place at 2.00pm on Friday 7th December and 5.30pm on Monday 10th December.



Key Stage 2 Visit to The New Vic Theatre

On Tuesday 11th December our key stage 2 children will be attending this year's Christmas performance of Wind in the Willows at The New Vic Theatre.



Reception & Key Stage 1 Visit to Telford Winter Wonderland

Thursday 13th December will see our excited early years and key stage 1 children enjoy lots of festive adventures and a visit to Santa at Telford Winter Wonderland!



Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

Wear a Woolly for Save the Children on Friday 14th December.



Christmas Extravaganza & Visit from a Special Someone!

Friday 14th December, more details to follow.

All children will have the opportunity to visit our Grotto, meet Father Christmas and receive a present.



Christmas Bingo

Our PTFA Christmas Bingo will be held on Monday 17th December. Doors will open at 6.00pm and 'Eyes Down' will be at 6.30pm Refreshments will be available and there will be a Christmas raffle on the night. Lots of bingo prizes will be available to win, including a variety of Festive goodies!



Christmas Lunch & Christmas Outfit

Ho,ho, ho! Lesley and Jan are already busily planning our school Christmas Dinner, which we are all looking forward to enjoying on Thursday 20th December. We also invite you to wear your favourite Christmas outfit to enjoy the festivities. A non-uniform day, just for fun! So put on your festive outfit, get into the Christmas spirit and join us in dressing up for Christmas!



Christmas Disco

Our PTFA sparkly and festive Christmas disco will be held on Thursday 20th December, 6.30-8pm.



Christmas Breakfast

Children are invited to come and join us for a hot Christmas Breakfast and a Christmas film, on Friday 21st December from 8.30am, £1 per child. Please wear your Christmas jumper, or outfit.



Christmas Carol Service

Come and join us for our final exciting Christmas event of this busy term. We hope that you will join us in our choral festivities at Christ Church on Friday 21st December. The service starts at 2pm and everyone is welcome.

