



Great [Wood] News

Spring Term 5

Diary Dates

14th February	-	Valentines Lunch
	-	Y3/4 Music Assembly, 2.30pm - All Welcome
	-	School Closes For Half Term
24th February	-	School Re-Opens
25th February	-	Pancake Lunch
5th March	-	World Book Day
6th March	-	KS2 Dance Festival @ St Werburghs - <i>Separate letter to those involved</i>
11th March	-	Reception Children Muddy Morning
	-	PTFA Meeting, 6.30pm - All Welcome
13th March	-	Sport Relief
17th March	-	Scholastic Book Fair
18th March	-	Mother's Day Afternoon Tea
23rd March	-	Reception & Y6 School Measurement Programme
24th March	-	Reception Children Muddy Morning
30th March	-	Academy Class Photograph's and Year 6 Leavers
1st April	-	Easter Lunch
2nd April	-	School Closes for Easter
20th April	-	School Re-Opens
8th May	-	Bank Holiday - School Closed
11th May	-	SATS Week
22nd May	-	School Closes for Half Term
1st June	-	School Re-Opens
	-	Y6 Visit to Laches Wood
10th June	-	Y5/6 Cricket Tournament
12th June	-	Y6 PE Transition @ TCA
17th June	-	Y3/4 Cricket Tournament
27th June	-	Ashby-de-la-Zouch Choir Concert - More details to follow
24th June	-	Academy Photography Sports Teams and Music
1st July	-	KS2 Athletics Competition
	-	Sports Awards Evening
4th July	-	Cheadle Carnival
8th July	-	Halle Concert



School Ties



We are also having an increasing number of children arriving in school without their tie. We would be grateful if you could ensure that your child wears their tie every day because, as you are aware, it is a compulsory part of our school uniform. Ties are available to purchase from the school office at a cost of £4.85.

WOW - Amazing News!!

We are extremely proud to announce another Great Wood victory. Our outstanding gymnastics team took part in the CADSSA Gymnastics event, where our Great Wood team summersaulted over the competition to win 1st place overall. To achieve this our fabulous children had to beat some much larger schools in the area. Congratulations to our amazing team, Alyssa, Jacob D, Freya, Sophie, Molly, Jessica B, Eleanor, Amber, Elsie, Aaron, Anna, Amelia H, Jacob M, all your hard work and training definitely paid off! A special recognition goes to Amber Hargreaves for coming 2nd in the year 3/4 beginners category.

As always our children presented themselves well and were easily recognisable as Great Wood children, earning praise from the staff from other schools. They performed routines with high levels of control, skill and professionalism.

As usual, a massive "thank you" to the fantastic parents who transported and stayed to support us and to Mrs Roberts our teams amazing coach for all her hard work and time training the team.



K2M Assembly

On Friday 14th February our fabulous Mr Chapman will be leading our year 3/4 children in their K2M assembly.

Parents, Carers and Grandparents are welcome to join us and listen to their amazing guitar and ukulele playing (we are sure you have already sampled this at home)!



The assembly will start at 2.30pm, hope to see you there!

Weather

Keep an eye out for any potential snow problems. In the unlikely event that we do have to close, we will endeavour to contact parents as early as possible via text messages and a message will be posted on the school website www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk



Y3/4 Swimming

Year 3/4 Swimming will continue after half term until the last session on Tuesday 31st March.



Children's Mental Health Week

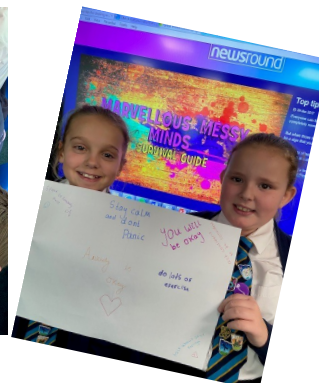
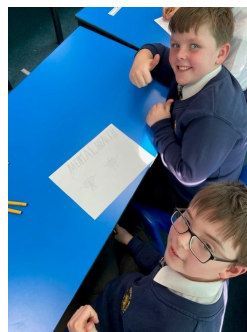
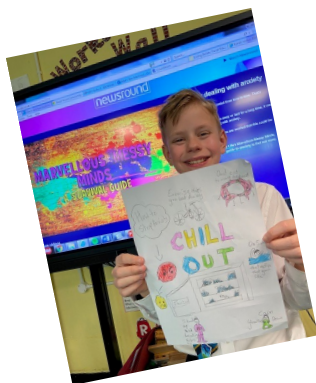
Last week, we marked 'Children's Mental Health Week 2020'. Pupils in year 5/6 spent time learning about coping with anxiety and talking about top tips to cope with it.



"I have learnt a lot from Mental Health week, like when you have a worry don't hold it inside, tell somebody" Jess Rushton, age 11

"It's ok to talk about your worries. Do things to take your mind off your worries like go for a jog, take deep breaths and exercise" Summer McAlpine, age 11

"If you have anxiety, make sure you don't keep it in, you should talk about it with a friend or trusted adult" Leo Harris, age 10



For further information about 'Children's Mental Health Week', please visit: www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk

Lateness

Please may we remind you that our school day begins at 8.50am when the doors open to children. They remain open until 9.00am when registration takes place.

Children should arrive at school between these times, to ensure that they are marked present and do not incur 'late' marks. If your child receives 10 'late marks', you could receive a penalty notice from Staffordshire Local Authority.

Lateness is recorded on children's attendance and it is important that they are on time.



Friday 14th February

Valentines Lunch



Fish Fingers or Quorn Dippers
Chips & Beans

For dessert...

Shortbread Hearts
or Jelly

£2.30 for children in Years 3-6

Tuesday 25th February

Pancake Lunch



Chicken Pie & Mash or Cheesy
Bake

For dessert...

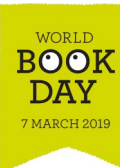
Pancakes with a choice of
toppings or Chefs Choice (TBC)

£2.30 for children in Years 3-6

World Book Day

Thursday 5th March is World Book Day. All our children will be asked to dress as their favourite character from their favourite book. Whether its Little Red Riding Hood, Harry Potter or the Wimpy Kid, pick the character that you would most like to be and come dressed as them for the day.

Each child will receive a National Book token to use against the purchase of any book costing over £2.99 at participating book shops, or clubs.



PTFA Meeting

Our next PTFA meeting will be held on, Wednesday 11th March at 6.30pm. Please come and join us and help organise our upcoming events.



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Half Term

Happy Holiday!

School closes for Half Term on Friday 14th February.

We hope you have a restful break and look forward to seeing you all back in school on Monday 24th February, when we start the second half of a busy Spring Term!

After School Clubs

We are fast approaching the end of the first half of the Spring Term, after half term we will once again 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	ASM Invasion Games £3 per session	
Tuesday	Year 2 SATS Booster	Y6 Revision Group - Please see separate letter for full date information
	Film Club (max 30)	
Wednesday	ASM Gymnastics £3 per session	
Thursday	ASM Alternative Sports £3 per session	
Friday		Tag Rugby (max 30)

Clubs will start week commencing 24th February 2020 and run from the end of school until 4.30pm. The last week for clubs will be week commencing Monday 30th March 2020.

Please complete the slip below and return it to school as soon as possible.

Please Note: ASM Clubs are now required to be paid for in full, this half term is 6 Weeks.

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Childs Name	Clubs they would like to take part in:

Younger children should be collected at the end of the club. Upper Key Stage 2 may walk home with your permission.
I do/do not give permission for my child to walk home (delete as required)

Signed _____ Parent/Carer

Drop-in Health Sessions

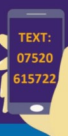
See your **SCHOOL NURSE** on
Tuesday Mornings
09.00 - 10.30 (TERM TIME) at
Cheadle Health Centre

Bedwetting
Emotional Support
Growth Concerns
Developmental concerns
Unsure as to where to go ?

ARE YOU A PARENT OR CARER OF A CHILD AGED
BETWEEN 0-19 WHO LIVES IN STAFFORDSHIRE?

We now have a text messaging service
where you can get confidential advice and
support with behaviour, parenting, child
development, emotional health and
wellbeing and general health queries.

TEXT: 07520 615722



Drop-in Health Sessions

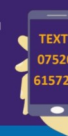
See your **SCHOOL NURSE** on Wednesday
afternoons 2.30pm- 4pm on
5th, 12th, 19th February 2020 at
Leek Health Centre

Bedwetting
Emotional Support
Growth Concerns
Developmental concerns
Unsure as to where to go ?

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Information/Reminders

- Please ensure that your child's name is on their uniform and PE kit.
- All** dinner money for the week ahead should be sent in on a Monday morning, in a **purse or envelope** clearly marked with your child's name so that we can ensure that we send you the correct change. £2.30 per day, £11.50 per week.
- Please help us to keep our children safe by parking considerably when dropping off or collecting children. A reminder that the school car park is for staff and visitors to school **only**.
- The school office is closed on Thursday afternoons.
- If your child is ill, please ensure that you contact school to inform us as soon as possible on the first morning of the illness.



Free School Meals

**Free
School
Meals**
Are you entitled?

A reminder that FREE school meals are available for some families, who meet specific criteria. There is no singling out of children in receipt of these meals, they receive a hot meal or sandwiches just the same as any other child because of the systems that we use. The online checking service is a faster way of applying for free school meals that gives you an instant yes or no answer as to your entitlement. The link can be found on the website at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Parking

We are once again noticing a steady increase in vehicles driving down to school.

We would like to remind you that **no vehicles** should be brought down onto the school car park at ANY time of day. This car park is for staff and visitors to school only. Also, in the interests of the health and safety of our children, it is not appropriate for vehicles to be coming and going up and down the drive, especially at the start of the school day and at home time. Should you need any assistance, please contact us and we will be happy to help.



Headlice

We seem to have an extreme case of Head lice in school, which, unfortunately, despite previous requests we are struggling to get under control. Please can we ask all parents to check their child's hair carefully for any 'little visitors' and treat accordingly. Unless everyone checks and treats their child's hair we are going to have an ongoing problem. **Help may also be available if you contact your health visitor or GP.** We really appreciate your help with this, thank you!



HOLIDAYS AND TERM DATES

Spring Term 2020

Half Term: Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February

Term ends: Thursday 2nd April

Inset Day for staff (schools closed): Friday 3rd April

Easter Holiday: Friday 3rd April – Friday 17th April

Summer Term 2020

Term starts for pupils: Monday 20th April

May Day: Friday 8th May

Half Term: Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May

Term ends: Friday 17th July

Inset Day for staff (schools closed): Monday 20th July

Summer Holiday: Monday 20th July – Monday 31st August



Please **do not** book holidays during term time as you risk receiving a penalty notice from the Local Authority if your child does not attend school.

Gloves, Hats and Scarves - Please can we remind you that it is very cold on the playground at the moment, so please can you ensure that your child/children have suitable outdoor clothing. Gloves, hats and scarves are a huge help, in fighting off the cold.



ADVICE ON HOW TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE

6 essentials to keep your children safe online

Follow this list to help keep your children safe online:

1. **Use parental controls** to block upsetting or harmful content, control in-app purchases, or manage how long your child spends online. They're really easy to set up. More info about setting controls on mobiles, tablets, home broadband, games consoles, apps, wifi, films, music and TV is on the [NSPCC web pages](http://www.nspcc.org.uk), (www.nspcc.org.uk) and there's a helpline number too.
2. **Regularly remind your kids not to give out personal information**, like their address, phone number, school name or email address. It can be easy to forget with live streaming videos (like YouTube) that anyone could be watching, and it's important not to give away too much information about themselves.
3. **Get to know the games, apps and social media sites they use**. Learn how to use them yourself and how their *privacy, block and reporting* settings work.
4. **Make sure they know that people aren't always who they say they are online** and that they don't accept friend requests from people they don't know (even if the person has mutual friends, it doesn't mean they can be trusted).
5. **Talk about the risks of sharing photos** online or sending them to others. Once they're out there, they're out there!
6. **Let them know that you're listening** and want to know if anything at all makes them feel uncomfortable online, no matter what.

Please also make yourself aware of the age restriction of certain social media platforms, for example **Whatsapp is for 16+**, **Snapchat is for 13+**, and **TikTok is for 13+**.

These controls are there to simply keep your child safe in the online world.

Need to know more?

These are the places we've found the best advice and guidance:

[NSPCC](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/) (www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/) great for easy-to-follow parental control guides and knowing what to talk about;

[Think u know](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents) (www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents) great if you're concerned, need to understand social media or are worried about online abuse;

[Staffordshire Police](https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/police-forces/staffordshire-police/areas/staffordshire-police/campaigns/2019/cyber-bullying/) (<https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/police-forces/staffordshire-police/areas/staffordshire-police/campaigns/2019/cyber-bullying/>) explains cyber bullying and online harassment;

[Livestreaming article](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/professionals/our-views/live-streaming-what-professionals-need-to-know/) (<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/professionals/our-views/live-streaming-what-professionals-need-to-know/>) great if you've got a budding 'youtuber' at home;

[internetmatters](http://www.internetmatters.org) (www.internetmatters.org) great for cyberbullying advice;

[CEOP Child exploitation and online protection command](http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre) (www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre) - if you suspect abuse, report it to one of their specialist advisers now.

Advice on keeping children safe can also be found on our school website, www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk.

We hope you find the above information useful, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact a member of staff.



Cheadle & District Foodbank

Cheadle and District foodbank are in desperate need of items. If you would like to donate food for the Cheadle Food Bank, please leave it in the box at the back of Christchurch.

Long Life Milk

Long Life Fruit Juices

Tins of Custard

Tins of Rice Pudding

Packets of Biscuits

Pasta Sauce

Packets of Pasta (not spaghetti)

Tins of Soup

Tins of Fruit

Treats - Chocolate, Sweets & Savoury Snacks



The food will be taken to the Food Bank at the end of each month, Thank you

**For more ways to help, please visit their Facebook page:
Cheadle and District Foodbank**

Our Eco Council Have Been Busy!

The children on our Eco Council have been down to the village to plant crab apple and hazelnut trees at our Well Meadow Gardens, next to the village car park and river. The trees have been planted as part of a national tree planting campaign, to sustain our trees and woodlands. Our children were invited to take part by councillor Stephanie Akerman. They had a brilliant time giving back to our community and helping the environment. Well done, Great Wood Eco Council!



WORLD of WEDGWOOD

On Tuesday 11th February our KS1 and reception children enjoyed an exciting trip to the World of Wedgwood. The children enjoyed a guided tour of the museum, where they learnt about Josiah Wedgwood and his family and how the Wedgwood pottery came about. Then they experienced a trip around the factory itself. They saw expert craftsmen painting with pure gold on plates worth £12,000 each. Finally, the children painted their own designer pot, to bring home to keep. They all had an amazing time and were very creative.



Safer Internet Day

On February 11th the pupils in year 5/6 learned about Safer Internet Day. It focused on making the Internet a safe place to be, to represent yourself without fear and to recognise positives in using the Internet correctly. The message this year was about being free to express yourself with the message "Free to be...". Pupils came up with words to describe how they saw the possibility of expressing themselves on the Internet.

