



Great [Wood] News

Autumn Term 1



School Contact Details



Telephone: 01538 702355 option 4
Email: office@greatwood.staffs.sch.uk

Arbor: School Messaging
Website: 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

Tuesday 10th September	-	Academy Photography - Individuals/Siblings
Wednesday 11th September	-	Painsley Catholic College Prospective Parents Evening, 6pm
Wednesday 18th September	-	Meet The Teacher - More details to follow
Tuesday 24th September	-	Non Uniform Day - Cake Donations
Thursday 26th September	-	The Cheadle Academy Prospective Parents Evening, 7pm
Friday 27th September	-	MacMillan Coffee Afternoon - All Welcome
Friday 4th October	-	Harvest - More details to follow
Thursday 24th October	-	PTFA Spooky Disco, 6-7.30pm
Friday 25th October	-	School Closes for Half term
Monday 4th November	-	Inset Day - School Closed to Pupils
Tuesday 5th November	-	School Re-Opens
Monday 11th November	-	Anti Bullying Week, Odd Socks Day
Friday 15th November	-	BBC Children In Need
Saturday 30th November	-	Tean Christmas Lights Switch On
Tuesday 3rd December	-	R/1 & Y2/3 Christmas Trip - Exciting Announcement Coming!
Thursday 5th December	-	Elf Day
Friday 6th December	-	KS2 Christmas Trip - The New Vic Theatre, The Three Musketeers
Sunday 8th December	-	Churches Together Annual Festival Of Carols
Tuesday 10th December	-	Festival Of Christmas Music @ Victoria Hall
Wednesday 11th December	-	Nativity Performance, 5.30pm
Thursday 12th December	-	Nativity Performance, 5.30pm
Monday 16th December	-	PTFA Christmas Bingo
Wednesday 18th December	-	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 19th December	-	PTFA Christmas Disco
Friday 20th December	-	Christmas Breakfast
	-	School Closes for Christmas



Year 5/6 Class Swimming

Years 5 and 6 class will start swimming on Monday 9th September 2024. 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.





We would like to send a very warm welcome to the children and families, who are joining us for the first time - welcome, Mila, Lewis, Ivy, Freddie, Humphrey, Fredrick, Yvie, Jessy, Rakesh, Phoebe, Adaline, Freddie and Elijah in Reception, Thea and Isla joining our Year 1 class, Harling joining year 2 and Zachary, Henry and Isla in year 4. We look forward to getting to know you all during our exciting Autumn Term.

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 Tuesday 10th 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 10th September. **Please ensure all children are wearing full school uniform.**

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



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 2024**. 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 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.



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.

TMPF – Term Dates 2024/2025

Autumn Term 2024

Inset Day for staff (schools closed): Monday 2nd September

Term starts for pupils: Tuesday 3rd September

Half Term: Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November

Inset Day for staff (schools closed): Monday 4th November

Term ends: Friday 20th December

Christmas Holiday: Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January

Spring Term 2025

Inset Day for staff (schools closed): Monday 6th January

Term starts for pupils: Tuesday 7th January

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

Inset Day for staff (schools closed): Monday 24th February

Term ends: Friday 11th April

Easter Holiday: Monday 14th April – Friday 25th April

Summer Term 2025

Term starts for pupils: Monday 28th April

May Day: Monday 5th May

Half Term: Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May

Term ends: Friday 18th July

Inset Day for staff (schools closed): Monday 21st July.

Summer Holiday: Tuesday 22nd July – Friday 29th August



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 & Wednesday



As we commence a new school year we wish to remind you **not** to book holidays in school time. We cannot authorise these and you risk receiving a penalty notice from the Local Authority if your child does not attend school.

Starting School in September 2025?

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.



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.sch.uk if you need any help.



Break Sales

Our Cook Laura, 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	35p	Milkshake	75p	Toast & Jam	40p
Pancake	45p	Crumpet	35p		

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



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

every mind matters

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

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 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
MONDAY	Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Veg of the Day Vanilla Shortbread (Ve)	Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Veg of the Day Chocolate Shortbread (Ve)	Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Veg of the Day Sultana Shortbread (Ve)
TUESDAY	Pork or Chicken Sausages with Mash & Gravy Veg of the Day Apple Sponge (V)	Cottage Pie Veg of the Day Carrot Cake (V)	Chicken & Vegetable Pie with Mash Veg of the Day Pineapple Upside Down Cake (V)
WEDNESDAY	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy Veg of the Day Jelly (Ve)	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy Veg of the Day Jelly (Ve)	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy Veg of the Day Jelly (Ve)
THURSDAY	Beef Lasagne Veg of the Day Sultana Flapjack (Ve)	Chicken Korma with Rice Veg of the Day Apple Flapjack (Ve)	Penne with Beef Bolognese Veg of the Day Flapjack (Ve)
FRIDAY	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Veg of the Day Vanilla Ice Cream with Banana (V)	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Veg of the Day Vanilla Ice Cream with Banana (V)	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Veg of the Day Vanilla Ice Cream with Banana (V)
	2/9/24, 23/9/24, 14/10/24, 4/11/24, 25/11/24, 16/12/24, 6/1/25, 27/1/25	9/9/24, 30/9/24, 21/10/24, 11/11/24, 2/12/24, 23/12/24, 13/1/25, 3/2/25	16/9/24, 7/10/24, 28/10/24, 18/11/24, 9/12/24, 30/12/24, 20/1/25, 10/2/25
Choice of Classic Tomato Pasta, Filled Jacket Potatoes & Sandwiches also available daily along with freshly baked bread, salad, fresh fruit, yoghurts, jelly and fresh drinking water.			

V - Vegetarian Ve - Vegan

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 Tuesday lunchtimes. Children who are interested in joining, can join rehearsals on Tuesdays.



Sickness

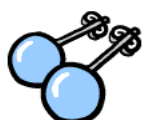
May we remind you that as advised by the Health Protection Agency, all children must be kept away from school for 48 hours, after their last episode of sickness, or diarrhoea.



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.



FROM PRAM TO PRIMARY SCHOOL



Scan the QR code for more information

6 Weeks course starting @
Cheadle Firestation
11th September 2024
9:30am - 11:30am

Would you like to feel more confident in your parenting? Would you like to learn more about your child's behaviours and their emotional development? Then Pram to Primary might be the course for you!

We offer free courses for parents of 0-11 year olds with both face-to-face and virtual options available.

To register your interest, please contact:
Groupwork@staffordshire.gov.uk



SIMPLY PLAY!



Scan the QR code for more information

10 Weeks Course Starting
@Beresford Primary Leek
12th September 12:30-2pm

Would you like to learn more about your child's development? Would you like to find new ways of supporting them through play? Then Simply Play might be the course for you!

We offer free courses for parents of 0-4 year olds in a stay and play format, so you can enjoy quality time with your little one alongside learning.

To register your interest, please contact:
Groupwork@staffordshire.gov.uk



Cheadle Academy Open Evening



26th September 2024 – 6PM – 8PM