



# Great [Wood] News

## Autumn Term 9

### School Contact Details



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### Diary Dates

22nd November	-	Flu Vaccinations - All Children <b>**NEW DATE**</b>
23rd November	-	Poppy Party
24th November	-	Baby & Children's Table Top Sale, 10am-12pm
25th November	-	Y5/6 Swimming Gala, am
27th November	-	Y5/6 Football @ St George's Park
29th November	-	Christmas Craft Afternoon - Year 3,4,5&6 - Parents Welcome
	-	Tean Christmas Lights Switch on
1st December	-	PTFA Christmas Shopping Trip - Meadowhall, Sheffield
2nd December	-	Non Uniform Day - Chocolate Donations
4th December	-	PTFA Christmas Bingo, 6pm - All Welcome
5th December	-	Royal British Legion Lunch & Nativity Performance
6th December	-	Nativity Performance, 2pm - All Welcome
9th December	-	Nativity Performance, 5.30pm - All Welcome
10th December	-	Festival of Christmas Music @ Victoria Hall
11th December	-	Reception/KS1 Visit to The National Forest Adventure Farm
12th December	-	Christmas Lunch
13th December	-	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
	-	Christmas Extravaganza
15th December	-	Churches Together Festival Of Carols
16th December	-	KS2 Visit to The New Vic Theatre - The Prince & The Pauper
19th December	-	Christmas Breakfast
	-	PTFA Christmas Disco, 6-7.30pm
20th December	-	Christmas Church Service
	-	School Closes for Christmas Holidays
7th January	-	School Re-opens for Spring Term
16th January	-	Year 4 & 5 Bikeability
17th January	-	Year 5 Bikeability



### KS2 Christmas Craft Afternoon

On Friday 29th November we will be holding a Christmas Craft afternoon for our KS2 families . There will be a range of craft activities to take part in during the afternoon and an opportunity to make a lantern to carry to the Christmas Light Switch on in Tean. We welcome families to come and join us at 2pm, please let the school office know if you will be attending.

**PTFA Christmas Shopping Trip**

Once again, this year our wonderful PTFA have organised a Christmas shopping trip. This year we are going to Meadowhall Shopping Centre in Sheffield, on Sunday 1st 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 9.00am and will leave Meadowhall at 5.30pm for the return journey. Tickets are priced at just £12 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!



At this time of year, it's important to **Be Bright and Be Seen** when you are out and about near roads.

**BE BRIGHT** – wear fluorescent or brightly coloured clothing when walking to and from school – it shows up well in daylight and at dusk.

**REFLECTIVE** – When it's dark outside, wear reflective clothing to be seen in car headlights. Reflective vests, sashes or wristbands work well.

**IMPROVE** – improve your visibility with accessories, clip on reflectors, armbands and stickers added to your coat or bag are a great way to improve your visibility.

**GREEN CROSS CODE** – always choose routes and crossing places that are well lit and remember to use the Green Cross Code.

**HEADLIGHTS** – if you like to cycle, it's the law to have clean and working headlights on your bike at night (white at the front, red at the back) as well as a rear reflector. It's good to fit spoke reflectors too.

**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 12th 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 from home on that day and not have a Christmas dinner, please complete and return the reply slip to school, before Tuesday 3rd December.** Our kitchen will ONLY be providing Christmas lunch on this day.

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 £2.30 to be paid in advance.

**Christmas Dinner**

My child \_\_\_\_\_ (name) will **NOT** require a school Christmas Dinner on Thursday 12th December and I will be providing sandwiches on that day.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_



## Pudsey comes to Great Wood!

Great Wood raised money on Friday 15th 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 there was a raffle to win a Pudsey Bear.

Our school family managed to raise a staggering total of **£353.00! 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!

## Busy, Busy!

You may have already noticed that this term is an extremely busy one! We have lots of events taking place, including numerous outings for our children. All of these outings require permission slips, which have been/will be sent home accordingly. There is a great deal of organisation involved in providing these activities for our children and it would help immensely, if you could ensure that all slips and monies due are returned to school promptly. This will prevent staff having to chase slips, or children having to miss activities. Please can you also fill in all sections of the return slips. Thank you for your assistance with this matter and for helping to make a smooth running, fun-filled term, with the help of our dedicated staff.



## Applications for Reception September 2020

The closing date for applications for this year's reception class, in September, is fast approaching. If you, or anyone you know has a child who is due to start school in September, please be aware that the closing date for all applications is **January 15th 2020**. All applications must be done online at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions) and by following the links to 'Apply online'.

Please be aware that having your child's name in the school book DOES NOT mean you automatically have a place and an online application has to be made.

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



## 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](http://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.

## Give Love In A Box This Christmas



Thank you for your tremendous support with our T4U box appeal. Filled shoe boxes have now been collected and are on their way to make a difference. Thank you, your support has been amazing!



## KS2 prince And The Pauper

On Monday 16th December Key Stage 2 children will be going to see this year's Performance 'Prince & The Pauper' at the New Vic Theatre. Please can any outstanding permission slips be returned to school as soon as possible.



## National Forest Adventure Farm

On Wednesday 11th December children in Reception, Year 1 & 2 will be visiting the National Forest Adventure Farm's North Pole Experience. Please can all children who has not already done so, please return their permission slips, as soon as possible. Thank you!



## 2019 Christmas Activities

### Tea Christmas Lights Switch on

On Friday 29th November our Great Wood choir will be representing our school at the traditional Tea Christmas Lights switch on. We hope you will be able to join us for the festivities.



### Christmas Bingo

Our PTFA Christmas Bingo will be held on Wednesday 4th 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!

### 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!



### 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 6th December and 5.30pm on Monday 9th December.



### 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 Tuesday 10th December. This is a wonderful Christmas event combining the Staffordshire Youth Orchestra and massed schools choirs.



### Reception & Key Stage 1 Visit to National Forest Adventure Farm

Wednesday 11th December will see our excited early years and key stage 1 children enjoy lots of festive adventures and a visit to Santa at National Forest Adventure Farm!



### 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 12th 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!



### Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

Wear a Woolly for Save the Children on Friday 13th December.

### Christmas Extravaganza & Visit from a Special Someone!

Friday 13th December, more details to follow.



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

### Churches Together Festival Of Carols

Our fabulous choir will be taking part in the Churches Together, Festival of Christmas carols at Great Wood Hall on Sunday 15th December, 2.30pm.



### Key Stage 2 Visit to The New Vic Theatre

On Monday 16th December our key stage 2 children will be attending this year's Christmas performance of Prince and The Pauper at The New Vic Theatre.



### Christmas Breakfast

Children are invited to come and join us for a hot Christmas Breakfast and a Christmas film, on Thursday 19th December from 8.30am, £1 per child. Please wear your Christmas jumper, or outfit.



### Christmas Disco

Our PTFA sparkly and festive Christmas disco will be held on Thursday 19th December, 6-7.30pm.



### 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 20th December. The service starts at 2pm and everyone is welcome.

