



Great [Wood] News

Autumn Term 1



School Contact Details



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

Text: 441538542001
Website: www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

We would like to welcome all of our Great Wood family to the start of a very different school year. The term 'unprecedented times' has become prevalent over the last few months, but has never been more true, than it is now.

A lot of planning and logistical trialling has gone on, during the summer holidays, to ensure that guidelines are met and that safety is maintained. Naturally, this has entailed some areas of trial and error, as we fully re-opened. We would like to thank you for your patience and forbearance, as we have started this term.

The team are working tirelessly to provide our Great Wood children with a safe and happy environment, in which to begin, or continue, their educational journeys.

We have loved having our children and families back and have been delighted by all the happy smiling faces.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to the best term, that it can possibly be.

Diary Dates

- 11th September - Academy Photography - Individuals
- 16th September - Virtual Prospective Parents Evening Painsley Catholic College
- 25th September - Macmillan Cancer Support - Non Uniform Day
- 23rd October - School Closes for Half term



We would like to send a very warm welcome to the children and families, who are joining us for the first time - welcome, Dakota, Joseph, Lewis, Jenson, Grace, Archie, Ava, Archie, Joni, George, Logan, Theodore, Sophie, Esme, Taylen, Ethan, Emily-Maria, Martha, Jacob, Alfie, Jacob, George, Oliver, Angelica and Isabelle in Reception. Also, to Zack and Harvey joining our school family. 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 Wednesday, across the school. Our children will be enjoying Spanish and learning to speak to each other in a foreign language.

Mr Chapman will continue to deliver our music lessons, each Friday, where our children will experience a variety of musical lessons and be fine tuning their humming due to the singing restriction. Mr Chapman will also be leading our WCET (Whole Class Ensemble Teaching) music, with our Year 3 class.

Please be reminded children are required to wear PE kit on PE days.

- R/1 Tuesday & Wednesday
- 1/2 Wednesday & Thursday
- 3 Monday & Thursday
- 4/5 Wednesday & Thursday
- 6 Wednesday & Friday



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.

Important Notice

As we commence a new school year we wish to remind your **not** to book holidays in school time. We cannot authorise these absences and you may be fined by Staffordshire Local Authority.

Coronavirus/Covid-19

Below is the latest NHS list of possible Covid-19/ coronavirus symptoms... remember that you only need to display **one or more**:

High temperature (feel hot to touch on the chest or back);

A new, continuous cough (coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours – if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual);

A loss of, or change to your sense of smell or taste – you've noticed that you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal,

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of the symptoms.

If your child does have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible;

Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay home until you get your result.

If you are worried about your symptoms, or are unsure about what to do, please use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service (<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>). If your child is under 5 years old, please call 111 straight away.

Self-isolating

You'll usually need to self-isolate for 14 days if:

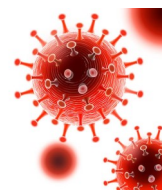
Someone you live with, or in your support bubble has symptoms or tested positive;

You've been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace.

If your child has undertaken a test, please do not return to school until the results are known and shared with us.

Although this may seem a little frustrating, it is essential that we follow this, as it is to protect our children, your families, our staff and our families. As you know, For further (regularly updated) information on the virus, please visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

COVID-19
CORONA VIRUS
NOVEL CORONAVIRUS



Information/Reminders

- Please ensure that your child's name is on their uniform, ties, PE kit, bags, water bottles etc.
- **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. (Applies to year 3-6 only).
- Please help us to keep our children safe, by parking considerately 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. Urgent messages may be left on the answerphone.
- 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. Thank you.

Many thanks for your help and support with all of the above.

IMPF – Term Dates 2020/21

Autumn Term 2020

Inset Day for staff (schools closed): Tuesday 1st September

Term starts for pupils: Wednesday 2nd September

Half Term: Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October

Term ends: Friday 18th December

Christmas Holiday: Monday 21st December – Friday 1st January

Spring Term 2021

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

Term starts for pupils: Tuesday 5th January

Half Term: Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February

Term ends: Thursday 1st April

Easter Holiday: Friday 2nd April – Friday 16th April

Summer Term 2021

Term starts for pupils: Monday 19th April

May Day: Monday 3rd May

Half Term: Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June

Term ends: Friday 16th July

INSET Days for staff (schools closed): Monday 19th July

INSET Days for staff (schools closed): Tuesday 20th July

INSET Days for staff (schools closed): Wednesday 21st July

Summer Holiday: Monday 19th July – Tuesday 31st August



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 2020**. 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.



2020/21 School Captains

We are delighted to announce our new school captains;



Blue

Captain Jacob Doig
Vice-Captain Megan Brindley



Yellow

Captain Sydney Brindley
Vice-Captain Amy Buckley



Green

Captain Harry Foxall
Vice-Captain Ernie Bromley



Red

Captain Molly Cooper
Vice-Captain Nyree Perrins

Huge congratulations to you all - we are very proud of you and hope you enjoy representing the school.



Macmillan

Unfortunately we are unable to hold our usual Macmillan Coffee afternoon this year.

However, we would really like to support Macmillan and provide an event for the children to enjoy. Therefore, on Friday 25th September we will be having a school **own clothes day**. To wear their own clothes, children are asked to bring in a £2 donation for Macmillan, however, all donations will be gratefully received! In return children will be able to enjoy a biscuit and juice during the afternoon.

All funds raised go to Macmillan Cancer Support.

We hope that you will be able to support this extremely worthwhile cause in a different way than usual.

Thank you, in advance, for your help and support.



Academy Photographs

Academy will once again be in school on Friday 11th September, to take individual photos of our wonderful children. Please ensure all children are wearing the correct uniform.

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



JOIN RUGBYTOTS

Following on from the success of our Summer term, we are delighted that our fun and energetic classes are returning in the autumn.

All of our classes will conform to current Government Guidance. Rugbytots classes give your child the perfect opportunity to develop their social and physical skills in a fun, safe environment.

Call **0345 313 0414** or email mattb@rugbytots.co.uk to book a **FREE TASTER**



rugbytots.co.uk

The world's favourite rugby play programme

Break Sales

From Monday 14th September our wonderful Lesley and Jan in the kitchen will be able to provide break sales for children in years 1-6 each morning. Prices are as follows:

Toast	20p
Oatcake	60p
Milkshake	60p



******All** snack 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 and food order for the week. Unfortunately no loose money will be accepted.

School Text Number

Thank you to all who continue to use our text messaging service. This is checked regularly during the day for any messages, please note the school text number is **441538542001**.

However, if your message is urgent, or close to the end of the school day please contact the school office on 01538 702355 option 4, thank you.



School Meals

From Monday 14th September, Lesley and Jan will be providing a hot lunch every day. There will not be any 'just sandwiches' days after this week. Please see the menu below to see which meals are available each day.



w/c 07/09/20

Monday:	Pizza
Tuesday:	Sandwich Bags
Wednesday:	Gammon Roast Dinner
Thursday:	Sandwich Bags
Friday:	Chicken Bites or Fish Fingers & Chips

w/c 14/09/20

Monday:	Pizza
Tuesday:	Sausage & Mash
Wednesday:	Turkey Roast Dinner
Thursday:	Pasta Bolognaise
Friday:	Fish Fingers & Chips

Lunches for children in years 3 to 6 are priced at £2.30per day.

School Swimming

Unfortunately due to the current situation, school swimming provision will not take place this academic year.



Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed during these difficult times - FREE school meals are available for some families, which meet specific criteria. The online checking service is a faster way of applying for free school meals, which 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.

Please contact us at office@greatwood.staffs.sc.uk if you qualify and we will be able to help with food equivalent to a packed lunch at school.



**SAFE
SCHOOL
ZONE**

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.

Year 3 Class Dojo's

As you may be aware our year 3 class are earning dojo points. These can be earned for good behaviour, work, attitude and kindness. However, dojo points can also be removed for inappropriate behaviour. There will be a prize each week for the child with the most Dojo's and a prize for the winners at the end of each half term.



Merit Trophy's



This week we will see the return of our merit trophy's being issued during Friday's Class Assemblies. These are awarded for anything from excellent work, to fantastic manners, or doing something exceptional. Trophies need to be returned to school by Monday the following week, to enable us to quarantine and sanitise ready for the next winner to take them home. It is very disappointing for the children if they do not get to take the trophy home, because it's not been returned. Thank you.



Please can all parents/ carers be reminded that dogs are **NOT ALLOWED** on school grounds. Thank you for your co-operation.



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 variety of resources. We open at 7.30am, until the start of the school day and from 3.00pm until 6pm in the evenings. The rates are charged at £2 per 30minutes. We still have spaces available, so why not come and join us. For further details, please contact Jean, or Gina on  07398634160. We hope to see you there, enjoying the fun!

Stay
& play!