



Great [Wood] News

Autumn Term 6



School Contact Details



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Arbor: School Messaging
Website: www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk

Diary Dates

- 1st December - KS2 Visit To Harry Potter World
- 3rd December - Alzheimer's Elf Day
- 7th December - Nativity Performance, 5.30pm
- 8th December - Nativity Performance, 5pm
- 9th December - Nativity Performance, 4.30pm
- 10th December - Dougie Mac Christmas Jumper Day
- Christmas Activities
- Visit From A Special Someone!
- 13th December - PTFA Christmas Bingo
- 15th December - Reception/KS1 Visit to The National Forest Adventure Farm
- 16th December - Christmas Lunch
- PTFA Christmas Disco
- 17th December - Christmas Breakfast
- School Closes For Christmas
- 5th January - School Re-opens For Spring Term
- 6th January - Year 4 Bikeability
- 7th January - Year 5 Bikeability
- 28th January - PTFA Quiz Night



To support Children in Need on 19th November, our children and staff dressed up for Pudsey. They all came to school wearing spots, bright colours, or Pudsey clothes for a donation to Children In Need. Our amazing kitchen staff baked Pudsey biscuits for our Great Wood family to enjoy. We also sold Pudsey merchandise to raise funds for the charity. Thank you all for your fantastic support!

Health & Safety During Bad Weather

As we experience icy and/or snowy conditions, may we please remind you to only walk on 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 our website as soon as possible, www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk.



We are unable to let children into school before 8.45am. 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.

Gifts for Lily Gertrude

This year, we hope to send 25 Christmas Gifts from the People of Tean, to the residents of Lily Gertrude Shelter for homeless people.

Please join us on 20th December, in the Church Hall on Vicarage Road, ST10 4LE, to wrap a present and include a card for the recipient. Drop in any time between 3pm & 7pm.

Warm drinks and mince pies will be waiting for our volunteer present-wrapping elves.

Can you donate a Gift for a resident at Lily Gertrude?

Drop a gift into one of our collection boxes in the reception area of **Great Wood Community Primary School** – during school hours, or at the back of **Christ Church** on Hollington Road – open most days during the week. **By 17th December 2021.**

We need:

- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Shower gel
- Flannels, wash mitts
- Deodorant
- Lip balm (think winter protection for gents)
- Hand cream to protect against the elements
- Tissues, wipes or similar
- Hand sanitiser
- Socks
- Gloves
- Hats
- Scarves
- Chocolate bars
- Snack food – high energy, not refrigerated
- A Christmas card from you!

Please write a non-identifiable card from you, eg. "Bob from Tean". If the card is from a child, only include the 1st name and age "George age 6" - no locations. Please do not seal the envelope.

If we are unable to hold the drop in present wrapping due to restrictions being imposed on social gatherings, the event organisers will wrap the gifts – so please do include your card in the collection box. The gifts will be delivered to Lily Gertrude Shelter by 24th December, any extra gifts will be distributed to other shelters for the homeless managed by Concrete in Stoke on Trent.

Elf Day!

Great Wood will be taking part in Elf Day, on Friday 3rd December. This special day is to support the Alzheimer's society. We are asking our children (and staff) to put on their best elf costume and to donate £1 to the charity. So get out your red and green clothes, your pointy ears, your elf hat and maybe even your curly shoes! Then join us in having an elftastic time, while supporting this extremely worthy and important cause. Thank you.



2021 Christmas Activities with a twist

Elf Day

On Friday 3rd December we are asking children (and staff) to join us for a day of Elftastic fun, in support of Alzheimer's society. So get out your red and green clothes, your pointy ears, your elf hat and maybe even your curly shoes! Donations of £1 to this very worthwhile charity would be appreciated.



Reception & Key Stage 1 Nativities

Our Reception and KS1 children are bringing 'Prickly Hay' to our stage this year. Rehearsals have been in full swing to perfect our Nativity. In the interests of safety we are having three performances, instead of the usual two, to enable social distancing and promote the safety of our Great Wood Family. We are looking forward to seeing our younger children performing on stage. Please only arrive for the performance you have been allocated tickets to.



Festival of Christmas Music

This year, our choir pupils are taking a part in the Festival of Christmas Music, virtually! This is a wonderful Christmas event combining the Staffordshire Youth Orchestra and massed schools choirs.



Dougie Mac Christmas Jumper Day

Wear a Woolly for Dougie Mac on Friday 10th December, for a silver coin donation for Save the Children.



donation

Christmas Fayre & Visit from a Special Someone!

Due to the need to keep our Great Wood family safe, as things have become a little uncertain again, we have modified our Christmas fayre. We have decided not to run our Christmas fayre in the usual way again this year.

The inability to govern numbers and footfall has made it untenable at this time. However, all is not lost, that special person will still visit Great Wood on 10th December with gifts for all our children. We will also be holding a lucky dip stall (50p per child) - with a prize every time and big prizes to be won if a lucky ticket is found. For the grown ups as well as our children, we will still be having our fantastic Tombola stall. We will have the stall outside under our Great Wood gazebo, (5 goes for £1) with lots of fabulous prizes to be won.

We appreciate that this is not our usual format, but we are endeavouring to provide the best we can, for our Great Wood family and still bring Christmas spirit to Great Wood. We will of course, still be wearing our Christmas jumpers.



National Forest Adventure Farm

On 15th December our Reception and KS1 Children will be visiting the National Forest Adventure Farm. They will be visiting Santa and his workshop and taking part in Christmas activities during the day - wrap up warm and don't forget your wellies!



Christmas Bingo is Back!

We are delighted to be holding our Christmas Chocolate Bingo again this year. To monitor numbers, entry will be via ticket - booked in advance (more details to follow). There will be copious amounts of chocolate to be won, mulled wine and mince pies to enjoy and of course our fantastic Christmas raffle.



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 16th December. We also invite our children to wear their 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 Breakfast

Children are invited to come and join us for a hot Christmas Breakfast and a Christmas film, on Friday 17th December. Please wear your Christmas jumper, or outfit. This year children will be enjoying this special breakfast in the hall and watching a festive film.



Christmas Disco 2021!

This year we will be bringing back our famous Christmas disco. Our disco will be held on Thursday 16th December from 6pm-7.30pm. Children will receive a raffle ticket, as much juice as they can drink and the opportunity for a Christmas bogey. The cost is £2 per child. Christmas light up wands will be available at an extra cost of £1.50.



Christmas Dinner



Ho,ho, ho! Katie and Jan are busily planning our school Christmas Dinner, which we are looking forward to enjoying on Thursday 16th 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 email office@greatwood.staffs.sch.uk, before Wednesday 1st December.** Our kitchen will ONLY be providing Christmas lunch on this day.



If your child receives the Universal Infant Free School Meals, of Income based 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 via Arbor.**

Bugs!



We have a couple of bugs going around school at the moment, to help stop these spreading please can you refrain from sending your child back to school until 48hours after any episode of sickness. Thank you for your help.

Please can we remind you that children's Meal, Break & Wrap Around accounts should be paid for in advance, NOT in arrears. Please check regularly and top up accordingly. Thank you.

