



Great [Wood] News

Autumn Term 7



School Contact Details



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

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

Diary Dates

Tuesday 21st November	-	Non Uniform Day, Tombola Donations
Wednesday 22nd November	-	Stoke City 7's Assembly
Thursday 23rd November	-	Flu Vaccinations
Saturday 25th November	-	Christmas Fair, 11am-1.30pm - All Welcome
Monday 27th November	-	National Child Measuring Programme
Thursday 30th November	-	PTFA Christmas Bingo, 6.30pm - All Welcome
Friday 1st December	-	Tean Festival of Lights <i>*Please note date change*</i>
Friday 8th December	-	Elf Day
Sunday 10th December	-	Churches Together Annual Festival Of Carols, 2.30pm
Monday 11th December	-	R/1 & Y2/3 Christmas Trip - SnowDome Tamworth
Tuesday 12th December	-	Festival Of Christmas Music @ Victoria Hall
Thursday 14th December	-	KS2 Christmas Trip - The New Vic Theatre, The Nutcracker
Friday 15th December	-	Christmas Jumper Day
	-	Nativity Performance, 4.00pm <i>*Please note date change*</i>
Monday 18th December	-	Nativity Performance, 5.30pm <i>*Please note date change*</i>
Wednesday 20th December	-	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 21st December	-	PTFA Christmas Disco, 6-7.30pm
Friday 22nd December	-	Christmas Breakfast
	-	School Closes For Christmas
Monday 8th January	-	Inset Day - School Closed to Pupils
Tuesday 9th January	-	School Opens For Spring Term
Wednesday 17th January	-	Year 4 and Year 5 Bikeability
	-	PTFA Meeting, 6.30pm - All Welcome
Thursday 18th January	-	Year 4 and Year 5 Bikeability



Non Uniform Day

for our Christmas Extravaganza

Tuesday 21st November

To wear own clothes on Tuesday 21st November, please bring in a donation to go on the tombola (bottles are good but full ones are best!)

Toiletry sets, toys, homeware, chocolates are also welcome.

Enjoy wearing your own clothes and thank you for your continued support!



Teddies

We are collecting teddies for Christmas Fair!

If you have any clean and not too tatty teddies, we would be very grateful for them, for our amazing name the Teddy Stall. So if you have teddies in need of a new home, please bring them into school, asap and we will find them a new loving home!



The colder weather is now upon us and in conjunction with our Health and Safety team, we would like to share some winter safety tips/rules with you.

- * If children are riding a scooter or bike to school, it is recommended they wear a helmet and have reflectors on their scooter/bike (due to the darker nights and icy weather). Can you please ensure that these recommendations are met for the safety of your child.
- * When it is icy, please use the gritted paths around school.
- * Please ensure that your child has a warm coat, hat and gloves for outdoor playtimes and lunchtimes.
- * All children will need a named Great Wood tracksuit, (available from Something Special, Cheadle), for their PE lessons, as in dry weather PE lessons will continue to be outside.



Thank you for your co-operation in these matters and for your help in keeping our Great Wood children, healthy, warm and safe.

Applications for Reception September 2024

The application process for Reception Class 2024 are now open.

If you, or anyone you know has a child, who is due to start school in September, please be aware that the application process is available.

All applications must be done online at 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 the school office, who will be happy to help.



We would like to extend a huge thank you to all our Great Wood families, for your fantastic support for our children in Need day on Friday.

Our children enjoyed dressing in Pudsey colours, eating Pudsey biscuits and buying goodies from our toy stall. We managed to raise £292.09 which is amazing! Thank you so much for all your brilliant support, for this extremely important cause.

Christmas Dinner



Ho,ho, ho! Our new cook Laura and Jan are busily planning our school Christmas Dinner, which we are looking forward to enjoying on Wednesday 20th 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 Thursday 7th 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 £2.60 **to be paid in advance via Arbor**.



Flu Vaccinations



All children have been offered a flu vaccine as part of the school's vaccination programme. The vaccine is designed to protect children against flu, which can be an unpleasant illness. By having the vaccination, children are also less likely to pass the virus on to friends and family.

Electronic consent forms have been issued and need completing by **10am Wednesday 22nd November**.

Christmas Bingo

Out PTFA Christmas Bingo will be held on Thursday 30th November. 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! We hope that you will be able to come and join us with this Christmas celebration.





Christmas Comes To Great Wood

On Saturday 25th November we will be holding this years Christmas Fair The fair will be between 11.00am and 1.30pm and we are hoping it will mark the start of the Christmas season for our Great Wood Family.

There will be lots of stalls from external sellers (there are still stalls available, should you want one) and lots of Great Wood stalls, as is our tradition.

We hope that you will be able to help us and also that you will join us on the day. The funds raised by the Christmas fair, help to provide all those extras for our Great Wood children.

Thank you in advance.

If you can help us for a short time on the day, please let us know.



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.



**Be Bright
Be Seen**



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.

2023 Christmas Activities



Christmas Fayre

Our Christmas Fayre will be held on Saturday 25th November.

There will be lots of stalls, games and prizes to be won. Why not come and join us.

Christmas Bingo

Our PTFA Christmas Bingo will be held on Thursday 30th November. Doors will open at 6.00pm and 'Eyes Down' will be at 6.30pm. There will be copious amounts of chocolate to be won, tea, coffee and mince pies to enjoy and of course our fantastic Christmas raffle.



Tean Christmas Lights Switch on



On Friday 1st December our Great Wood choir will be representing our school at the traditional Tean Christmas Lights switch on. We hope you will be able to join us for the festivities.

Elf Day

On Friday 8th December we are asking children (and staff) to join us for a day of Elftastic fun. So get out your red and green clothes, your pointy ears, your elf hat and maybe even your curly shoes!



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 10th December, 2.30pm.

SnowDome

On Monday 11th December our Reception and KS1 Children will be visiting SnowDome, Tamworth. Children will enjoy lots of snowy adventures and a visit to Santa, wrap up warm and don't forget your wellies!



Festival of Christmas Music



Our choir are taking a part in the Festival of Music on Tuesday 12th December.

This is a wonderful Christmas event combining the Staffordshire Youth Orchestra and massed schools choirs.

Key Stage 2 Visit to The New Vic Theatre

On Thursday 14th December our key stage 2 children will be attending this year's Christmas performance of The Nutcracker, at The New Vic Theatre.



Christmas Jumper Day

Wear a Woolly on Friday 15th December.

Reception & Key Stage 1 Nativities

Our Reception and KS1 children are bringing 'Its a Census, Get me out of here!' to our stage this year. Rehearsals have been in full swing to perfect our Nativity. We are looking forward to seeing our younger children performing on stage.



Christmas Lunch & Christmas Outfit

Ho,ho, ho! Laura and Jan are already busily planning our school Christmas Lunch, which we are all looking forward to enjoying on Wednesday 20th 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 Disco 2023

Our disco will be held on Thursday 21st December from 6pm-7.30pm. Children are asked to bring their own water bottle, which we will fill with juice for them.



As a special treat our fabulous PTFA have decided to hold our annual Christmas disco for free for all children this year. We look forward to seeing everyone there for a Christmas boogie!

Christmas Breakfast & Visit from a Special Someone!



Children are invited to come and join us for a hot Christmas Breakfast and a Christmas film, on Friday 22nd December. Please wear your Christmas jumper, or outfit. This year children will be enjoying this special breakfast in the hall, watching a festive film and Santa will be visiting, with sacks full of presents for our amazing children. All children will receive a present. There will be no charge for this event.