



Great [Wood] News

Autumn Term 9



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Diary Dates

Wednesday 20th December	- Christmas Lunch
Thursday 21st December	- PTFA Christmas Disco, 6-7.30pm
Friday 22nd December	- Christmas Breakfast
	- Christmas Carol Concert, 1.45pm in Christ Church - All Welcome
	- 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 5 Bikeability



Swimming

Our Year 4/5 class will start swimming on **Monday** 15th January 2024.

The children will leave for their lesson on Monday afternoons, so pupils will need to have their swimming kit with them.

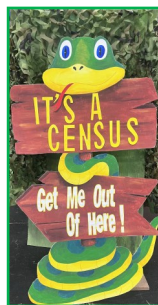
Please note girls will need to wear a one piece costume and boys are not allowed to wear baggy shorts.



Nativity Performances

A superb 'Well Done' to all our Nativity performers. They put on terrific performances and we hope you all enjoyed it as much as we did. Many thanks to all the helpers, who helped to make the costumes, props and helped children learn their lines!

Your generous donations raised £277.54, which will help towards the props and staging for next year's Nativity. We would like to extend a huge thank you to all of you!



2023 Christmas Activities

Christmas Lunch & Christmas Outfit



Ho,ho, ho! Laura and Jan are already busily preparing 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!

Please note that all children in reception need to be accompanied by an adult.

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 from 9am. 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. Our fabulous PTFA will be covering the cost of this, for all children to enjoy our festive breakfast.

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 22nd December. The service starts at 1.45pm and everyone is welcome.



Our Amazing PTFA!

As always at this time of year, our PTFA have been very busy organising events to raise money for all those extras, for our Great Wood children. We have had our Christmas Fair and of course our famous Christmas Bingo! These events raised a lot of money for our children.

The funds raised pay for the coaches for our Christmas trips and outings, keeping the costs down for our parents and carers, they paid for all of our children's gifts from Santa and this year our PTFA is also funding our Christmas Breakfast, as a treat for our fabulous children. These events take a lot of hard work and organisation and we would like to thank our PTFA members for all the effort and dedication, that they put into each of them.

Congratulations to all our hard working PTFA and a massive thank you!

Our next meeting is Wednesday 17th January 2024, 6.30pm - All Welcome



Soccer school holiday sessions near you!

Sessions are running throughout Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire.

Make sure to scan the QR code to find your nearest venue and get more information on tickets and upcoming events.

Try the web link:
<https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/stokecityfc/>

Courses will run every school holiday for children between the ages 3 to 15 years old.

Courses include:
Mini Potters (3-5 yrs)
Outfield (6-12 yrs)
Girls only (6-15 yrs)
Goalkeeping (6-15 yrs)



**Be the STAR
you always wanted to be...**

Or the Shepherd... Or the Wise Man...
or the Angel...

School Children all over the country regularly join in with the spontaneous acting an Open the Book story brings into their school. This Christmas, we again invite children and grown-ups of all ages to join us at Christ Church, as we retell the Nativity story with you as our cast.

Come dressed as the character you would like to be, we have parts for all who want to join in, and some spare costumes too! Audience members are also warmly welcomed.

**POP-UP Nativity Story
Starring YOU!**

**Christmas Eve at 4pm
Christ Church, Tean
on the corner of Vicarage Road and Hollington Road
car parking at ST10 4LE - Church Hall
Pop - Up Nativity from the Open the Book stories
All welcome**

You are warmly invited to join us for our
Family Christingle Service at
Wellspring Methodist Church, Tean
Sunday 24th December
At 4pm
Come and hang a star on our
Christmas Tree In Memory of a loved one

BBC 500 Words

Our Great Wood children were encouraged to enter the BBC 500 words competition. They had to write a story of no more than 500 words. We are delighted to announce that Hope McCormack, Y6, has been selected out of thousands of entries to the next stage of the competition. This is an amazing achievement and we wish Hope every success in the next stage of the competition.



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.



Reminder: school re-opens to pupils on
Tuesday 9th January 2024.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The Great Wood Team would like to wish all of our families and children, a very Merry Christmas and an extremely Happy New Year! We have had a hectic and busy half term, but it has been brilliant! We would like to send our thanks to all of you that have helped and supported Great Wood, at our many events this year. We would also like to send a special thank you to our fabulous PTFA, who tirelessly fund raise for our children, supplying all those little (and sometimes very big) extras for Great Wood.

We hope you all have a fantastic and peaceful Christmas and enjoy the break.

