

# FRIDAY NEWSLETTER



*'Hand in hand, we love,  
learn and achieve'*

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## Friday 16th July 2021



After all the turbulence of the last year, let us not forget that we walk in the light of the Lord.

**Walking in the light - Ephesians 5:8-13** "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light."



*"I am always doing what I cannot do yet, in order to learn how to do it" Vincent Van Gogh*

### DIARY DATES

2021	LATEST ITEMS SHOWN IN RED
16.07.21	LAST DAY OF TERM & MRS GETHIN'S LAST DAY
19.07.21/ 20.07.21/ 21.07.21	INSET DAY—SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN
01.09.21	INSET DAY—SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN
01.09.21	STANDON BOWERS 2ND DEPOSIT DUE
02.09.21	TERM STARTS—ALL CHILDREN BACK IN SCHOOL
27.09.21	ACADEMY PHOTOS—WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS
01.10.21	STANDON BOWERS FINAL DEPOSIT DUE
22.10.21	INSET DAY
25.10.21	HALF TERM WEEK
01.11.21	INSET DAY
02.11.21	SCHOOL RE-OPENS TO CHILDREN

### HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
	Afeni, Minnie	
Green Star ★	Bronze Star ★	Silver Star ★
Bronze Cup 🏆	Silver Cup 🏆	Gold Cup 🏆
Bronze Medal 🏅	Silver medal 🏅	Gold medal 🏅

### OF THE WEEK

Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
Etta—Etta has grown hugely in confidence which now sees her trying hard to apply her skills independently. This week Etta has been writing sentences independently—Well done Etta!	Noah -For his cheerful and positive attitude to his learning. Noah is always keen and enthusiastic to learn something new.	Izzy T—For her mature and empathetic contributions she shared with the class during a discussion based around the negative response to

### OF THE TERM

Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
Finn H—This term Finn has worked incredibly hard to apply his skills into all of his independent tasks. His resilience to keep trying is really paying off. Fantastic Finn!	Bella—For a fantastic term; you consistently show exceptional learning skills. You always listen carefully, are eager to contribute to lessons and then produce work that you should be extremely proud of. We are lucky to have you in Class 2.	Gweny—For always being hard working and determined as well as showing kindness to all others. Well done Gweny we are really proud of you.

W/C	SCHOOL CLUBS



## OF THE YEAR

Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
<p><b>Ellie</b>—Ellie has had a wonderful year. She has grown incredibly in confidence and has pushed herself to apply her skills more independently. Ellie is such a kind and thoughtful member of the class who is always keen to help others. We are so proud of you Ellie!</p>	<p><b>Martha</b>—For the most amazing year of learning. Martha you have consistently showing outstanding motivation and engagement in everything we have done this year. You are an excellent role model for others to follow. We are so proud to be part of your learning journey.</p>	<p><b>Joel</b>—being a good all rounder. Joel shows determination and hard work in lessons. He is a good friend to all others and brings joy to class 3. Well done Joel– we are really proud of you!</p>

## FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
<p><b>Peace</b>—Alice—For learning peacefully and calmly</p> <p><b>Gentleness</b>— Harrison—For being a kind and gentle classmate to everyone in class 1</p> <p><b>Goodness</b>— Finn J—His beautiful smile every morning and oozing with positivity and kindness towards others</p>	<p><b>Love</b>— Mason—Always being thoughtful and caring to his family and friends</p> <p><b>Patience</b>—Charlotte A—Always working calmly and patiently , checking through her completed work</p> <p><b>Kindness</b>— Poppy-Eve—Always showing kindness towards others and thinking of her friends and classmates</p>	<p><b>Joy</b>—Freddie—For always bringing joy and laughter to class 3</p> <p><b>Faithfulness</b>—Julian—For being an active and thoughtful participant during worship and a member of the worship team</p> <p><b>Self-Control</b>— Austin—Showing self-control daily determination to achieve his personal best</p>

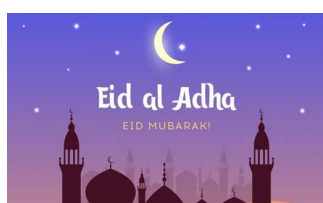
## THIS WEEK IN FOCUS

What a fantastic final week. What a blessing to see such vibrancy and community in our final week, it has been wonderful.

Children have continued to enjoy forest school sessions right until this last week, how lucky we are to have such provision! It has been an amazing year with two fantastic sites, dedication from Mrs Spencer and wonderful volunteers to make this happen.

Our final celebration worships were wonderful seeing our the week, term and year awards, our fruits of the spirit and our special awards, all listed in this weeks' newsletter. Well done to our amazing achievers.

We were pleased to have Wendy's blessing to present our newest award, the Rev. Les Faithfulness and Joy award this year. This will be a legacy award which is presented each year and we are blessed to have worked with, to have been supported and loved by, such a wonderful man who has touched all of our lives.



We wish all of our Islamic families Eid-Al-Adha. There are two key Eid's (Celebration Festivals) in Islam: Eid-ul-Fitr, which signifies the completion of the Holy Month of Ramadan; and **Eid-ul-Adha**, the greater Eid, which follows the completion of the annual Hajj pilgrimage, at the time of **Qurbani** (sacrifice).





Our Year 6s had a fantastic evening of games, water dodgeball and pizza – oh and doughnut eating! They had a lot of fun and forged yet more memories.

Our leavers services were so delightful. It was wonderful to see our families, in a safe manner, join us for such a wonderful occasion under the sunshine! Our children had a lot of fun, memories and reflections and we are really proud. It was hard to send them off and we wish them every success for their futures.

I was so grateful for my final, special service on Friday.

Whilst I am a larger than life character and often have a lot to say, I don't do well being in the spotlight in this way - I know that's hard to believe and, I am humbled and grateful to everyone for their kindness in organising such an occasion and I have so many memories to take with me. Thank you so much.

I am so grateful for your beautiful words, card and gifts and I hope that I didn't miss anyone in my messages of thanks (or that notes got lost in bags), so I send my gratitude for your generosity and kindness. Additionally, our staff all say personal thank you to families for their kind cards and gifts and I extend their thanks also. With much gratitude and appreciation.

Look at the beautiful Forest Family representation the staff had painted for me - all by our own talented Mrs Sally Ward. It's so perfect! Look out for all the features of our gorgeous schools. She also does made to order, bespoke cards, paintings and even sells Christmas cards- have a look on: Facebook: @designsbysallyanne Instagram: Sallyanne.designs



And so to finish. I'm not going to say a lot about me and I have just got a couple of messages to give.

I'm not going to tell you how sad I am to be leaving or how emotional and painful, but also how joyful and uplifting each final thing has been, you know that.

I'm not going to tell you that I wasn't looking for a job and that I found out about this opportunity quite by accident but, it was a prospect that I couldn't let pass me by and is what I call a God job. I am peaceful about this decision. I know it is right and, I know our Forest Family is in good hands and will continue to grow and develop and go from strength to strength. I know everyone will be more than ok and, I know that I will enjoy the next steps although I am emotional to leave and that I leave part of my heart behind.

What I am going to say is about you, our Trust, Governors, community, families, staff and most importantly, our children.

I am grateful to Mr. Donoghue for his integrity and leadership and to the Trust - what a phenomenal partnership which has connected so many and will help the Forest Family go from strength to strength.

I am grateful to our Governors and their commitment and hard work behind the scenes with lots of tricky things for our staff, children and families, for their unwavering support and appropriate challenge.

Staff, I could be here for days outlining how lucky I am and how lucky the Forest Family is to have such dedicated staff who work so hard for the best of each individual child. You bring professionalism, research, drive and passion to our teaching and learning community. I have been blessed and know that you will all continue to move our developments forward and, I hope you have enjoyed reading my little messages to each of you, I am so grateful for such a wonderful team, one I have been blessed to work with.



I am grateful to our communities for connecting with us and allowing us to be a central part of each village's events and developments and for their great engagement and communication with us.

I am grateful to our families for your unwavering support and, when there are difficulties, for treating us with respect and talking through issues, for your partnership and help.

how to be resilient, to pick ourselves up when we fall down, or to keep going when we fail, how to persevere with things which are tricky.



And so, to our children.

Whilst our mission is to teach all of the national curriculum subjects and, I believe we do this exceptionally well with creativity, passion and drive, I think some of the most important lessons that we have instilled in our children are those of how to live.

Of:

how to be a good friend,

how to manage conflict,

how to be tolerant and loving towards people who are different or people in difficulty,



It's so important that we have taught you about respect which starts with respecting yourself and respect for others.

Learning is a lifelong journey and I'd like to think that most of our children leave our Family with the desire to learn, to continue to pick up a book to read another chapter or to login to learn something new, to join a club, to find an interest and to get involved, to be community minded and to help. Do something different, new and daring. I saw this quote recently at an exhibition and it spoke to me - it's about our lifelong journey and the character development of perseverance. "I am always doing what I cannot do yet, in order to learn how to do it - *Vincent Van Gogh*

Thank you for making me smile each and every day, for grounding me, reminding me of my priorities and for teaching us so much, so much more than you will ever know. You are awesome young people with the world at your feet, dreams to dream, wishes to fulfil. Dream and wish big.

The lesson of love, which is a key fruit of the spirit and which runs through the very veins of The Forest Family is so important, if you don't love yourself you cannot love others.



What others think if you is none of your business, just be the best human being you can, live an exciting, fulfilled life doing whatever you are destined to do and be kind.

You have nothing to prove to anyone but yourself and, if you have faith, your God.

You are worthy.

You are good enough.

Believe in yourself and the fact that you can achieve your dreams and make a difference.

So, I finish with my love and gratitude to each and every person who has shaped me on my Forest Family journey and enabled me to achieve my dreams, to lead two beautiful, successful, rural, church schools and I hand them over now into good hands to keep them safe and successful. Thank you.

The final event blog is attached and is as up to date as it can be, I hope you enjoy!

Have a wonderful, happy and safe summer and Ralph and I will pop back to see you in the autumn. Lots of love.

Mrs Charlene Gethin and Ralph.



## USEFUL INFORMATION

### SUMMER READING CHALLENGES

As always, we would like to encourage you to keep reading with your children over the summer holidays. It can be a great time to go to the library and explore new books, to build reading dens in the garden and to share stories linked to places you can visit too. To help with recommendations of books to read there are some reading challenges set up by 'A New Chapter Books'. These are arranged to be at a level suitable for each year group (including our Year 6s going on to Year 7) and are super books, chosen to engage and excite, but also chosen to represent all the differences in our communities and society. Books in school are chosen to encompass this and it is great that this company are helping us to engage parents in reading a range of themed books too. Lists will be shared on Dojo for you to access.

I hope you enjoy whatever you read over the summer, but if you manage to keep a track of books read - like the ones shared here I would love you to share them with me in September.

Many thanks, and happy reading. Mrs. Wells

### HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

A little reminder that holidays during term time will not be authorised and may be subject to the issuing of a fixed penalty notice (fine).

Parents are also advised not to book holidays abroad that would mean pupils isolating during term time on their return to the UK. In these instances such absences may also be unauthorised and subject to the issuing of a fixed penalty notice (fine).

### PE KITS—SEPTEMBER 2021

We would like to give you advance notice about PE days in September. By children coming to school in PE kits, we have certainly saved time for curriculum learning by not having to change. Therefore, in September we would like to continue with this, but please can the children wear the school PE uniform, thank you. Please check the [school uniform policy](#) on the website and children should wear this with a school jumper or cardigan on the top. Whilst we have been flexible during this difficult year, we would like to make sure that uniform is adhered to in the forthcoming academic year. Many thanks for your support with this.

### PARENT PAY

As we approach the end of the academic year please can we ask all families to check their ParentPay accounts to settle any balances that are outstanding—thank you in advance.

### SUMMER CLUB

We are pleased to notify you that all the dates across the summer can go ahead. (Some are not viable but are outweighed by the other days and the additional bookings, so thank you).

Awesome Acorns Summer Club

 WEEK 1 20 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> July Sports Week	 WEEK 2 29 <sup>th</sup> July Art Week	 WEEK 3 2 <sup>nd</sup> / 5 <sup>th</sup> / 6 <sup>th</sup> August Nature Week
 WEEK 4 10 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> August Science Week	 WEEK 5 19 <sup>th</sup> August Cooking Week	 WEEK 6 26 <sup>th</sup> August Party Week

Mrs. Slater, Miss Farmley, and Mrs. Philipps are undertaking the provision with backups with Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Storer!

Parents can now add additional bookings should they choose now we know we can go ahead.

Our new name is 'Awesome Acorns' and we look forward to seeing some of you at our 'Awesome Acorns' Summer club. We have planned lots of exciting activities for you. Places are still available. For further information or to book your child in our summer club please e-mail Mrs Slater [j.slater@asr.jtmat.co.uk](mailto:j.slater@asr.jtmat.co.uk)

Thank you

Mrs Slater and the Awesome Acorns team.

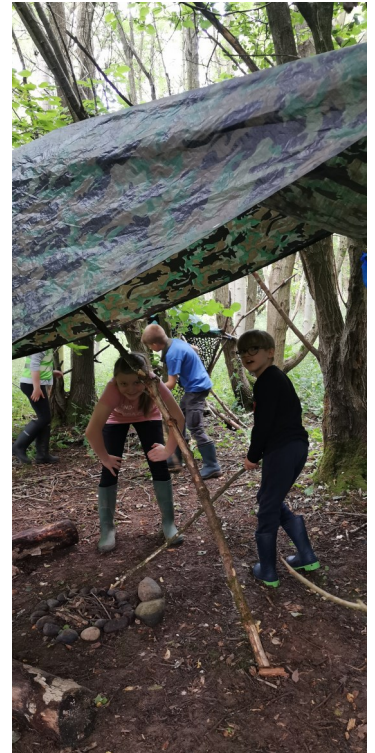
## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

	<b>Needwood</b> Our school colour is bottle green
<b>Uniform</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• White blouse/shirt or white polo shirt,</li><li>• Bottle green sweatshirt with school logo <b>or</b> Bottle green jumper or cardigan,</li><li>• Grey or black trousers / shorts / skirt / pinafore or green checked gingham dress for Summer, <i>Skirt/dresses must be no shorter than 1 inch above the knee.</i></li><li>• White, grey or black socks,</li><li>• Plain tights may be worn - opaque tights are preferred (green / black / grey),</li><li>• Shoes should be low, black flat-heeled for safety and fasten securely. Shoes should always be full (no sandals). Velcro or magnetic fastenings are preferable to laces for younger children.</li></ul>
<b>PE / games / swimming Kit</b>  <b>All PE kits should be free from any brand logo or name</b>	<b>Indoor:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• White T-shirt,</li><li>• Bottle green shorts,</li><li>• change of socks,</li></ul> <b>Outdoor:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• white T-shirt/polo shirt,</li><li>• black shorts,</li><li>• trainers,</li><li>• Black Tracksuits may be worn at appropriate times.</li></ul> <b>KS2 Swimming</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Swimming trunks or one-piece costume should be worn,</li><li>• Swimming caps will be worn by all children,</li><li>• Items should be in a <b>named</b> waterproof bag.</li></ul>





Unfortunately our year 6s have had to miss some activities this year but not their end of year Forest School. What fun they had and some fabulous dens made. All stayed dry too!!



Our last session with the Year 2's was also wonderful—with some more brilliant dens built!





The **Hub**  
at St Mary's

**SUMMER SUNDAY**  
Sundays from 25th July - 29th Aug

**Summer Holidays at The Hub**

Here at The Hub we are very excited to be hosting a whole summer's worth of **FREE** events on Sundays, with a little something for Everyone!

Whether you like Jazz, adore Theatre, love Dance, enjoy Arts & Crafts or have always wanted to go to a family friendly Cabaret, **Summer Sundaes** have you covered!

And if all of that wasn't enough to get your attention, we're also hosting our very own Roald Dahl Week with fun activities, photo ops, and lots of scrumdiddlyumptious treats!

For more information visit [www.TheHubStMarys.co.uk](http://www.TheHubStMarys.co.uk)

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram for all the latest updates! @thehubatstmarys

**ROALD DAHL WEEK**  
24th - 28th Aug 2021

Join us as we celebrate the opening of our Roald Dahl exhibition at The Hub at St Mary's.

The Hub Coffee Shop will have scrumdiddlyumptious treats, craft packs & colouring sheets for all your little children.

Lichfield Library will have some of our favourite books on display & we'll all have a scrumdiddlyumptious time.

**Hub**  
at St Mary's

**HANBURY PLAYGROUND AND COMMON**

**Help build up our plans**

WE WANT TO CREATE FUN AREAS FOR CHILDREN AT THE PLAYGROUND AND A NATURE WALK AT THE COMMON

**PLEDGES OF HELP AND MONEY GRATEFULLY RECEIVED 😊**

JUDE HARRISON 07799408398 [Judewelly@btinternet.com](mailto:Judewelly@btinternet.com)

**MINI ATHLETICS**

**SUPERSTAR HOLIDAY CAMP**

**The Mini Athletics Superstar Holiday Camp**

- 4 day holiday camp (3 hours each day)
- Parent attendance not needed
- Ages 4-8
- Fantastic daily themes...from exploring the jungle to blasting off in space
- Mini Athletics awesome games, arts and crafts
- Superstar personal best certificates and medals

We cannot wait to welcome your child to THE SUPERSTAR HOLIDAY CAMP

For more details contact us on:  
[sburrow@miniathletics.com](mailto:sburrow@miniathletics.com) / 07968 818313

[www.miniathletics.com](http://www.miniathletics.com)

THE READING AGENCY PRESENTS

**WILD WORLD HEROES**

**HELP YOUR CHILD DEVELOP A LOVE OF STORIES WITH THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE**

**SIGN UP FOR THE CHALLENGE FROM JULY 10TH 2021 AT YOUR LOCAL STAFFORDSHIRE LIBRARY.**

WORLDWIDE  
WORKING TOGETHER TO INSPIRE YOUNG READERS TO STAND UP FOR OUR PLANET

THE READING AGENCY

YOUR LIBRARY

Staffordshire County Council

**COMING SOON**

**FREE**

**Holiday Activities and Food**

for children and young people aged 5-16 who get free school meals\*

\*Eligible children and young people will get a letter from school to register

Registration opens 5th July 2021  
[staffordshire.gov.uk/holidayactivities](http://staffordshire.gov.uk/holidayactivities)

Department for Education

Staffordshire County Council

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD

## Parish News



*Disclaimer: We are proud to have a newsletter which shares information with you for our parish, village, WI, social club, Rascals and our local communities. We do try to vet all items which go into school bags and unless you are notified, are not paid to provide this information. We do not necessarily endorse and we cannot be held responsible for the validity or content of external information.*

School information can be provided in different languages, large print, simple text only or Braille.