

The Chancel

CHIRPER

#512



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Follow our socials



@Chancel Primary



@ChancelPrimarySchool
(NEW)



COMING SOON

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

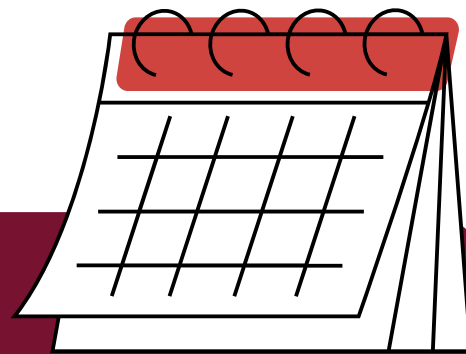
Walking Home From After School Clubs

As the evenings are now darker, we kindly remind parents that all children must continue to be collected from after school clubs and should not walk home independently.

This will remain in place until next half term, when Year 5 and Year 6 children will be permitted to walk home from after school clubs. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our children safe.



Dates For Your Diary



JANUARY

Thursday 12th - Parent Council Meeting (2pm)

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 10th - Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 10th - Valentine's Discos (KS1 3.30-4.45pm / KS2 5.00-6.15pm)

Saturday 17th - Chinese New Year

MARCH

Wednesday 4th - Holi Festival

Thursday 5th - World Book Day

Friday 6th - Progress Reports Home @3.30pm

w/c Monday 9th - Science Week

w/c Monday 9th - Year 6 at Standon Bowers

Thursday 12th - Year 3 Trip to Botanical Gardens

Monday 16th - Parents' Evening

Tuesday 17th - Parents' Evening

Wednesday 18th - Friday 20th - Year 5 to Laches Wood

Thursday 19th - SEND Parent Consultations – (9.30 – 3.30pm)

Friday 20th - Red Nose Day

Monday 23rd - KS2 Easter Egg Competition entries in

Tuesday 24th - KS2 Easter Egg Competition judged

Tuesday 24th - Easter Bonnet Parade @ 2.30pm

Wednesday 25th - Year 4 trip to Wroxeter

Thursday 26th - Rocksteady Concert @ 2.30pm

Friday 27th - Easter Service - St Augustine's @ 10am



**WHAT'S
NEW?**



Year 5 OEC Meeting & Year 6 OEC/SATs Meeting

We would like to invite parents and carers to attend one of two information meetings taking place at school on Wednesday 11th February at 5:00pm.

Year 5 Parents Meeting

This meeting will provide information about the upcoming Outdoor Education Centre (OEC) visit to Laches Wood.

Year 6 Parents/Carers Meeting

This meeting will cover details of the OEC visit to Standon Bowers and will also include important information about the Year 6 SATs.

All of the content that will be discussed in these meetings has already been shared with the children in school. We kindly ask that children do not attend the meetings with parents or carers, as this will help ensure there is enough space and allow parents/carers the opportunity to ask questions freely.

We hope you can join us and look forward to seeing you there.



KS2 Tuck Reminder

A reminder that our Key Stage 2 Tuck Shop has reopened after Christmas and is now running every day. Children can enjoy a warm snack or a healthy treat during break time, all at pocket-friendly prices. The menu is simple, delicious, and a great option for a mid-morning boost.

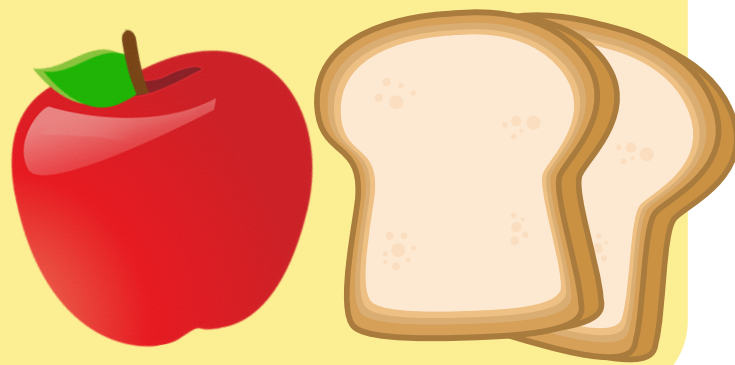
Here's what's on offer:

Hash Brown – 50p

Toast – 30p

Milkshake – 70p

Piece of Fruit – 50p



Thank you for supporting our school tuck shop!

Changes to Lunch and BASC Prices

We would like to let parents and carers know about some upcoming changes to the cost of school lunches and our Before and After School Club (BASC) sessions.

Over the past few months, we have been reviewing the prices charged by other local schools, as well as the rising cost of food. After careful consideration, we have made the decision to adjust our prices from 1st April 2026.

School Lunches - To ensure we can continue providing nutritious, high-quality meals, the price of a school lunch will increase to £2.75 per meal.

As part of our review, we compared our prices with nearby schools:

- Hob Hill: £3.00
- Chase View: £2.76
- The Croft: £3.20
- St Joseph's: £2.70

We have aimed to keep our new price as affordable as possible while still covering increased costs.

Before and After School Club (BASC) - The rise in food and running costs has also affected our BASC provision. To continue offering a safe, welcoming environment for children before and after school, the fees will be updated as follows from 1st April 2026:

Morning session: £6.00

Half session (3:30–4:45pm): £6.00

Full session (3:30–5:45pm): £8.00

We remain committed to providing high-quality care and activities for all children who attend BASC.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.



Good To Be Green

This term, we have introduced Good to Be Green, a positive behaviour strategy used widely in primary schools to help children understand expectations, make good choices and take responsibility for their behaviour. The approach is simple, visual and supportive, and focuses on encouraging children to make the right choices while giving them opportunities to reflect and improve.

How It Works

All children begin the day on green, which represents good behaviour and positive learning choices. Our aim is always for children to stay on green by showing respect, kindness and focus in the classroom.

If a child makes a poor choice, staff will use a stepped approach to support them in improving their behaviour:

● **Stop and Think** - A 'stop and think' is a gentle reminder to help children refocus and correct low-level behaviours before they escalate. This stage encourages children to pause, reflect and make a better choice.

● **Warning** - If a child continues to show the same behaviours after a stop and think, they may receive a warning. This signals that they need to change their behaviour to avoid further consequences. Children are still supported at this stage and reminded of expectations. A warning dojo will be given to alert parents/carers.

● **Consequence Card** - A consequence card is used if warning behaviours continue or if a more serious behaviour occurs. Consequences are age-appropriate and focus on reflection, repairing harm and learning from choices. A dojo will be removed.

★ **Good to Be Gold** - Each day, teachers will choose one child from their class to receive a Good to Be Gold card for demonstrating positive behaviour and attitudes. The child will then visit Mrs Palmer to collect a Good to Be Gold sticker to celebrate their achievement. They will also be awarded with 5 dojos.

A Fresh Start

Importantly, every child starts each day with a fresh start on green. This helps children understand that mistakes are learning opportunities and that positive choices are always encouraged.

We look forward to working closely with parents and carers to ensure this approach supports our shared goal: a calm, safe and respectful learning environment where every child can thrive. If you have any questions about Good to Be Green, please don't hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.

IT'S GOOD TO BE GREEN!

STOP 'n' Think!	Warning Card	Consequence Card
• Chatting, • Whispering, • Calling out answers, • Fidgeting with equipment, • Swinging on chairs, rocking, • Tapping pens, • Not focusing on the task, • Being deliberately slow, • Dropping things on the floor, • Small squabbles during group work.	• Repetition of stop and think behaviours, • Making inappropriate comments, • Getting up out of seat, • Ignoring instructions, • Unkind words.	• Repetition of warning behaviours, • Refusing to follow directions, • Being defiant, • Answering back, • Using unkind hands, • Destroying equipment, • Using bad language, • Using language against protected characteristics.

GOOD TO BE GOLD

x1 Good To Be Gold card issued per class per day!



Trips



Year 4

Wroxeter Roman City

As part of their exciting History topic, Year 4 will be visiting Wroxeter Roman City on Wednesday 25th March 2026. This trip will provide pupils with a fantastic opportunity to bring their learning to life as they explore one of the most significant Roman sites in Britain. The cost of the visit is £21, payable via ParentPay.



During the spring term, the children will be studying “The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain.” The trip will support their understanding of: Julius Caesar’s attempted invasions in 55–54 BC; The Roman Empire by AD 42 and the strength of its army; The successful invasion by Claudius and subsequent Roman conquest; The building and purpose of Hadrian’s Wall; British resistance to Roman rule.

This visit promises to be an engaging and memorable part of the children’s learning. We are looking forward to a fantastic day of discovery at Wroxeter!

Year 1

Trentham Gardens

Year One will be visiting Trentham Gardens on Thursday 23rd April 2026, taking part in a variety of Natural Art activities. The children will be experimenting with different shapes, patterns, colours, and textures in nature which will support their topic of understanding seasonal changes. The children will also be able to take part in a barefoot walk, explore a hide and speak maze, discover beautiful wildlife and may even be able to catch a sight of Trentham’s own family of beavers.

The cost of this visit is £24.00 per child. Children will be required to wear full school uniform and waterproof coat.

All children will be provided with a packed lunch from school.



Trips



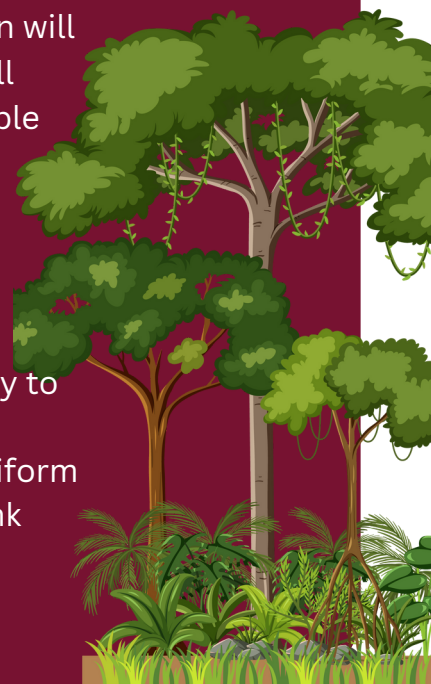
Year 3

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Year 3 will be visiting the Birmingham Botanical Gardens on **Thursday 12th March 2026** as part of their topic work on The Rainforest. During the visit, the children will have the opportunity to take part in a guided workshop where they will learn more about the different layers of the rainforest and the incredible plants and animals that live there. They will be able to explore the tropical glasshouses, discovering a wide variety of exotic plants first-hand, and see how the rainforest environment is recreated.

As part of the day, children will also enjoy walking through the beautiful gardens and having the chance to spot a range of unusual and interesting species. This will be a valuable and exciting opportunity to support their classroom learning with real-life experiences.

The cost of the trip is £29.00. Children will need to wear full school uniform with suitable footwear and a waterproof coat. A packed lunch and drink will be required, which children should bring with them from home.



More trips coming soon...



Residentials



Year 5 - Laches Wood

We are excited to announce that Year 5 children will have the chance to take part in a residential visit to Laches Wood from **Wednesday 18th March to Friday 20th March 2026**. The trip will include a variety of fun and challenging activities, as well as all meals. Parents will need to arrange transport for their child to and from Laches Wood.

A deposit of £50.00 was required by **Thursday 23rd October 2025** to secure your child's place.

The full payment of £167.00 must be made by **Monday 9th March 2026**. (Children who are entitled to Free School Meals will receive a subsidy; the school office will contact those families directly.)

If your child does not intend to go, please inform the school office by **23rd October 2025**. After this date, parents will be charged the full amount.

We are looking forward to a memorable trip and hope as many Year 5 children as possible can join us.

Year 6 - Standon Bowers

We are delighted to announce that our Year 6 children will have the opportunity to take part in a residential visit to Standon Bowers from **Monday 9th March to Friday 13th March 2026**.

This exciting trip will include a wide range of activities and all meals. Transport will be provided by the school.

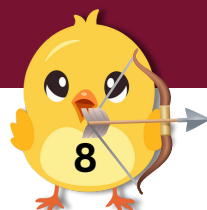
A deposit of £50.00 was required by **Thursday 23rd October 2025** to secure your child's place. Payments can be made via ParentPay, starting from as little as £5.00 upwards.

The full payment must be received by **Friday 27th February 2026**.

The total cost of the trip is £280.00 (subsidised for children eligible for Free School Meals).

If your child does not intend to go, please inform the school office by **23rd October 2025**.

This promises to be a fantastic experience for our Year 6 pupils, and we hope all children will be able to take part.



Awards

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, due to the school closure on Friday 9th January caused by snowy weather, we were unable to present our usual Star of the Week, Learning Warrior, attendance figures and team points on that day.

When we returned to school on Monday, we were pleased to award the Star of the Week and Learning Warrior certificates to the children who had earned them. To ensure everyone's achievements are recognised, this week's newsletter includes both last week's awards and this week's awards.

We are very proud of all the children for their continued hard work and positive attitudes, and we look forward to returning to our normal awards routine from now on.



AWARDS (Last Week)



Stars



Warriors



Reception

Amelia & Alex

Ellis

Year 1

Leo F & Evie

Alfie

Year 2

Aari & Gabriel

Arthur

Year 3

Reggie & Dolton

Theia

Year 4

Scarlett J & Reggie

Leighton

Year 5

Hallie & Isla

Harrison

Year 6

Wyatt & Bobby

Lawson





AWARDS



Stars



Warriors



Reception

Indie & Jaxon

Oliver

Year 1

Erin & Leo H

Bella

Year 2

Jaxon & Oriah

Eliza

Year 3

Esme & Paisley

Darcey-May

Year 4

Libby & Scarlett W

Marnie

Year 5

Henry & Arlo

Julian

Year 6

Henry & Nancy

Amber

Arrive On Time At Ten To Nine
Make Every Minute Count



1st

Robins

2nd

Toucans

3rd

Chaffinches

4th

Kingfishers

5th

Owls

6th

Eagles

7th

Kestrels

190

School days in each academic year

184

Days of education

181

Days of education

171

Days of education

152

Days of education

0 days absence

100%
attendance

6 days absence

97%
attendance

9 days absence

95%
attendance

19 days absence

90%
attendance

38 days absence

80%
attendance

Shugborough

510

Trent

WINNER

515

Augustine

497

Wolseley

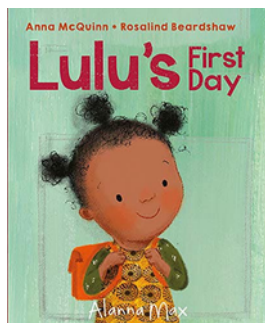
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Recommended Reads - EYFS & KS1

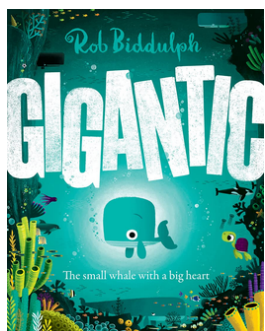
Nursery



Lulu's First Day by Alanna Max

Everyone's favourite reading role model is back! Book-loving Lulu is excited to start pre-school. It will be like storytime at the library, but she will stay by herself. Everyone gets up super early to make sure they are ready. There's so much to do at pre-school: Lulu makes a new friend, reads, plays dresses up and builds and sings. In no time at all, Mummy is back to collect her. Lulu's First Day is the perfect picture book to prepare the little ones for the pre-school experience.

Reception

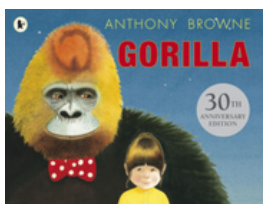


Gigantic by Rob Biddulph

Meet Gigantic, the smallest blue whale in the Atlantic. Dwarfed by the other whales, Gigantic keeps to himself, making new friends and perfecting his somersaults and flips in the bay.

But one day when Gigantic's brother, Titan, gets stuck on the sand, it's down to Gigantic and his smallest sea creature friends to save the day. Can they show it's possible to be tiny and tough?

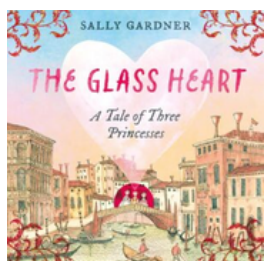
Year 1



Gorilla by Anthony Browne

Hannah loves gorillas but has never seen one. Her father's too busy to take her to the zoo – or for anything else come to that. For her birthday, Hannah asks her father for a gorilla – but is disappointed when she discovers that the gorilla she's got is just a toy one. But then something extraordinary happens ... the toy turns into a real gorilla, who puts on her father's hat and coat and takes her off for a magical visit to the zoo...

Year 2



The Glass Heart by Sally Gardner

An enchanting fairy tale about three princesses with hearts made of glass, written and illustrated by Costa and Carnegie winning Sally Gardner. In a faraway, magical kingdom of palaces built on water and secret gardens, there once lived three princesses whose hearts were made of glass. The first princess's heart was broken. The second's got cracked and could not be mended. But the third princess was lucky and her heart stayed whole. This is the story of those three princesses; a tale of kindness, courage and happiness for everyone whose heart has ever been touched.



Recommended Reads - KS2

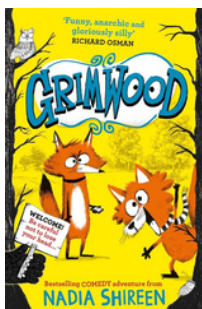
Year 3



The Corinthian Girl by Christina Balit

The Corinthian girl has no name...abandoned as a baby, she is now a slave in Athens. But her Master is a famous Olympic champion. He spots the amazing athletic talent of the Corinthian girl, and realises she could be a star at the Games in Olympia. From dawn till dusk she trains – running, jumping, throwing the javelin and the discus. One year later she is at the great Olympic stadium for the race of her life. Can the Corinthian girl win the crown and find a name and a home at last?

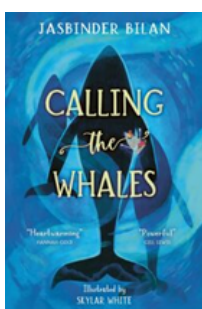
Year 4



Grimwood by Nadia Shireen

Fox cub siblings Ted and Nancy are on the run from Princess Buttons, the scariest street cat in the Big City. They flee for Grimwood, expecting to find refuge in the peaceful countryside. Instead, they are met with thieving eagles, dramatic ducks, riotous rabbits and a whole host of unusual characters. Grimwood is . . . weird. But when Princess Buttons tracks them down, Nancy and Ted and the animals of Grimwood must unite in a mind-bending race against time . .

Year 5



Calling The Whales by Skylah White

After rowing out to an island near their seaside home, Tulsi and Satchen discover a whale that has been trapped in a fishing net. Determined to try to free the poor creature, they repeatedly dive down into the freezing sea to cut the netting, but eventually, exhausted and with a storm rolling in, they have to admit defeat. As they head for home to seek help, their boat capsizes in the storm and they're left clinging to it, dangerously adrift. Just as they think all is lost, help arrives from an unexpected source ...

Year 6



People Like Stars by Patrice Lawrence

Multi-award-winning Patrice Lawrence's first contemporary middle grade novel is a page-turning mystery and exploration of fractured families, long-buried secrets and the power of friendship, told with warmth and compassion. Three 13-year-old strangers are connected by one big secret. Nervous Ayrton was stolen away from his mum as a baby. He was returned safely, but now Mum won't let him out of her sight. Curious Stanley has a Forbidden Grandmother. His mum won't even talk about her. Homeless Sen has finally found a place to live, but she'll be out on the street if she upsets her secretive landlady. What happens when their paths cross...?





Safeguarding



Our most important role at Chancel is keeping the children safe and protecting them from potential harm. Safeguarding the children is everyone's responsibility and is best achieved through working in partnership as a school community.

The safeguarding staff at Chancel are:

- *Mrs Palmer - Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)*
- *Mrs Watson and Mr Newton- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs)*
- *Mr Sparkes- Safeguarding Governor*
-

If you are worried about a child's well-being or believe they may be at risk of harm, you should report this concern to school, either by personal visit, email or telephone. You can also contact:

- *Staffordshire Families Integrated Front Door (SFIFD) - 0300 111 8007*
- *Staffordshire Police - 101 or 999*

If you are contacted by staff about a safeguarding concern, please do not be offended. We are sure you would rather we take every precaution to ensure the children's safety. We are also here to support you, should you have any concerns or difficulties.

Sepsis Awareness

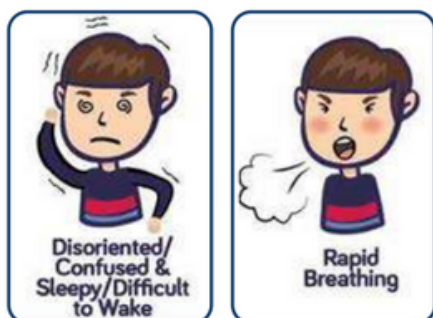
Children in Staffordshire have suffered a sudden death related to infections and sepsis.

Sepsis is a life threatening condition



What are the early signs and symptoms of sepsis?

- Flu-like illness, chest infection
- Fever (high temperature) or very low temperature, or seizures
- Not eating, drinking, sucking poorly, or vomiting
- Fast or slow heart rate
- Pale or discoloured skin
- Fast breathing or trouble breathing
- Weakness, irritability, drowsiness, and harder to wake than normal
- Has a fit or convulsion
- Localised muscle tenderness, severe muscle aches



What should I do if these symptoms develop:

- Contact your GP or seek medical advice immediately



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY

Children and young people use the internet every day to learn, play, and connect, but the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with the risks, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

1 START EARLY CONVERSATIONS

Begin talking about online behaviour from the moment children start using devices. Use age-appropriate language and revisit topics regularly, making it clear they can speak to you about anything that upsets or confuses them. Keeping these chats open helps build trust, so children are more likely to come to you when needed.

2 PROMOTE SAFER SHARING

Children can overshare without understanding the risks. Remind them that photos, locations, or messages can be copied or shared beyond their intended audience. Explain how even private messages or group chats can be saved and/or misused. Talk about what is appropriate to post, message, and who it's safe to share with.

3 ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE

Many apps and games are designed to keep users engaged through rewards, likes, or constant updates. These features can make it hard for children to switch off. Talk openly about how these systems work and help children recognise when it's time to take a break. Building in tech-free routines supports a healthier balance and awareness of their screen time.

4 CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERNS

When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and care, rather than with alarm. Keeping your reaction measured helps them feel safe and supported. This doesn't mean ignoring serious issues; it means showing that you're there to help. When children trust that they can speak openly, they're more likely to feel supported through unpleasant online experiences, and to ask for help in future.

5 STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT

With emerging technologies like AI moving and changing so quickly, it's important to stay updated on how children are using new platforms, apps and games. Ask them to show you what they use and let them take the lead as you explore together. This opens up valuable conversations and helps you stay ahead of emerging risks and trends.

6 TEACH CRITICAL THINKING

Talk to children about how to recognise unreliable information or scams online. With AI-generated videos, photos, and stories becoming harder to spot, help children question what they see and encourage them to look for evidence, check sources, and ask questions. These skills will help them avoid risks, make smart choices, and develop healthy habits for the future.

7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Involve children in conversations about device usage so they feel included. Agree on digital rules such as screen-time limits, age-appropriate apps, and no devices in bedrooms overnight. Use parental controls to block or filter harmful content and explain that rules are there to protect and support them, not to spoil their fun.

8 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children often copy the behaviour of adults around them. Show them what balanced, respectful, and mindful use of technology looks like, such as avoiding scrolling during family time and speaking kindly in messages. If you expect certain behaviour from them online, make sure your own habits reflect the same standards.

9 EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Show children how to use privacy tools on apps, games, and websites. Teach them to use strong passwords, block or report others in response to problems, and avoid sharing personal details. Explore settings together so they feel confident and in control, and explain that these features are there to help them stay safe online.

10 KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Familiarise yourself with tools and organisations that support online safety. The National College offers online safety guides and webinars which provide tips on staying safe. Websites like Report Harmful Content and CEOP can be used to report when something goes wrong. Show children how to report or block users, and where to go if they feel unsafe. Make sure they know that asking for help is always the right thing to do, and be prepared to support them.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday®

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SEND & inclusion

Any questions or concerns regarding Special Educational Needs or Disabilities?
Please speak to our SENDCo, Miss Miller, or drop-in to see Mrs Palmer on Friday mornings
between 9.15-9.45am.



WEEKLY SOFT PLAY!

At: The Play Shed,
Newport Rd, Stafford ST16
2EX (at the end of the
Tesco Extra car park.

Every Wednesday in term
time 5-6pm
£2 contribution per child,
siblings welcome.



Many autistic children love soft play but it can be an overwhelming experience during usual opening hours. This is a session exclusive to NAS Stafford and closed to members of the public. You don't have to book, you can just come along. Suitable for children up to 13.

An opportunity to meet other families, create connections and forge friendships!

email: stafforddistrict.branch@nas.org.uk for more details.



Menu

Week 3

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Option	Tuna pasta bake with garlic bread, peas and sweetcorn	Meatball pizza served with wedges, seasonal vegetables or salad	Roast chicken served with roast potatoes, fresh seasonal vegetables and gravy	Mild chicken curry served with rice and naan bread	Chicken nuggets and chips served with chips and beans or peas
Vegetarian Option	Macaroni pasta with garlic bread, peas and sweetcorn	Margherita pizza served with sliced potatoes and salad or vegetables	Quorn roast served with roast potatoes, fresh vegetables and gravy	Mild Quorn curry with rice and naan bread	Cheese and bean wrap served with chips and beans or peas
Pudding	Vanilla shortbread and Fresh Fruit	Lemon sponge with custard	Strawberry angel delight	Brownie and oranges	Crispy cookie

Available Daily

Jacket Potato with fillings: tuna, cheese or baked beans. Sandwich or bap with fillings: ham, tuna or cheese
Fresh bread, salad, fruit, milk & yoghurt



Positive Global Citizen

What is a positive global citizen?

A positive global citizen is someone who actively contributes to making the world a better, more equitable, and sustainable place, recognising their role within the global community. This means being aware of global issues, respecting cultural differences, and taking responsible actions that benefit people and the planet.

Key qualities of a positive global citizen:

- **Awareness:** Understands global issues like poverty, climate change, human rights, and inequality.
- **Empathy and Respect:** Appreciates diverse cultures, beliefs, and perspectives.
- **Responsibility:** Recognises how personal choices (e.g., consumption, travel, communication) impact others globally.
- **Action-Oriented:** Engages in activities that support positive change—volunteering, ethical consumerism, advocacy, or education.
- **Collaboration:** Works with others, across borders and cultures, to solve shared problems.
- **Sustainability-Minded:** Supports practices and policies that protect the environment and promote long-term well-being for all.

Examples of positive global citizenship:

- Donating to or volunteering with organisations addressing global issues.
- Reducing carbon footprint and supporting sustainable brands.
- Speaking out against injustice or discrimination.
- Learning about and celebrating cultures different from your own.



Michelle Obama

Michelle Obama is a role model known around the world for her kindness, confidence, and leadership. She grew up in the United States and worked hard at school, later becoming a lawyer and a leader in her community. When she became the First Lady of the United States, she used her role to help children and families.

Michelle encouraged young people to stay healthy, be active, and believe in themselves. She also supported education and inspired children to aim high, no matter where they come from. Through her speeches and books, she shares messages about kindness, resilience, and doing your best.

Today, Michelle Obama continues to support young leaders and communities around the world. She reminds us that with confidence, empathy, and hard work, everyone can make a positive difference.



Meet The Teaching Team



Mrs Allerton



Miss Jones



Mrs Wakelam



Miss Miller



Mr Newton



Mr Wincup



Mr Leese



Mrs Watson



Mrs Gamble



CONTACT US



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