



# Werrington Primary School



**Newsletter**  
3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021.



## Remembrance

We will be selling poppies and other poppy related items in school to support the Royal British Legion's poppy appeal. Prices for items will range from 20p for a paper poppy to £2 for a 'slap band' or larger plastic poppy. There are lots of different items available.

If your child wishes to purchase an item, please send money in to school from Thursday of this week where they will be able to purchase poppies from our Year 6 pupils who will be visiting all of the classes.



## Children in Need

We will be hosting a Children in Need Non-Uniform Day on **Friday 19th November** – Contributions/Donations towards this charity event should be made by payment via ParentPay.

## Reception Class 2022/23

If your child is ready to start in our Reception class in September 2022, you will need to apply for a place – **even if your child currently is in our Nursery.**

## Absence

If your child is absent for any reason, please leave a message on the school answer-machine (01782 980010 option 1). We do have to keep a record of absence reasons so please do give a reason for absence – If you don't, our office do have to call you back to ask.

## Packed Lunch

We've had a couple of incidents where a child has choked on a grape. If you send your child to school with a packed lunch which includes grapes, please do consider cutting them in half.

## Bonfire Night Safety Message

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Bonfire night and sparkler safety advice for this weekend.

*'We don't want anyone to get hurt this year so we are asking people not to light bonfires or set off fireworks in their own gardens or back yards.'*

*These fires can and do get out of hand very quickly and can spread to nearby property, sheds, hedges etc so please think about this before lighting any fires outside.*

Please visit Staffordshire Fire and Rescues website for advice on Bonfire night and sparkler safety advice.

<https://www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk/your-safety/safety-at-home/bonfire-night-safety/>

## School Gates

We are experiencing some technical problems with the opening and closing timings of our electric gates at the moment – Please bear with us as we work to get these problems resolved.

## One Way System

Please do follow our one way system when moving around the school grounds.

## Uniform

Please make sure your child is wearing the correct uniform and footwear to school each day. Please note that the 'hoodie' is PE kit only and not a part of our daily uniform.

Whenever possible we will be continuing to have outdoor break times – The weather is getting colder (and wetter) so **please make sure that your child comes to school in a warm, waterproof coat.**



## Parentpay

We are aware that there have been a few issues with parents being to access Parentpay. We have been assured that these have now been resolved. Please do make sure that you pre-order your child's meal using the Parentpay app to ensure that they get the meal that they want.

## Term dates

Our term dates for 2021/22 can be found below – Please note that 4<sup>th</sup> January is now an INSET day and that Summer term finishes at 1:30pm on WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

## Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed you may now qualify for free school meals. Parents can check eligibility via this link:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Overview.aspx>

Following the link will tell you if you are eligible and it will also alert the school. Please note that this is different from Universal Free Meals which all Infant children receive.

### Safeguarding

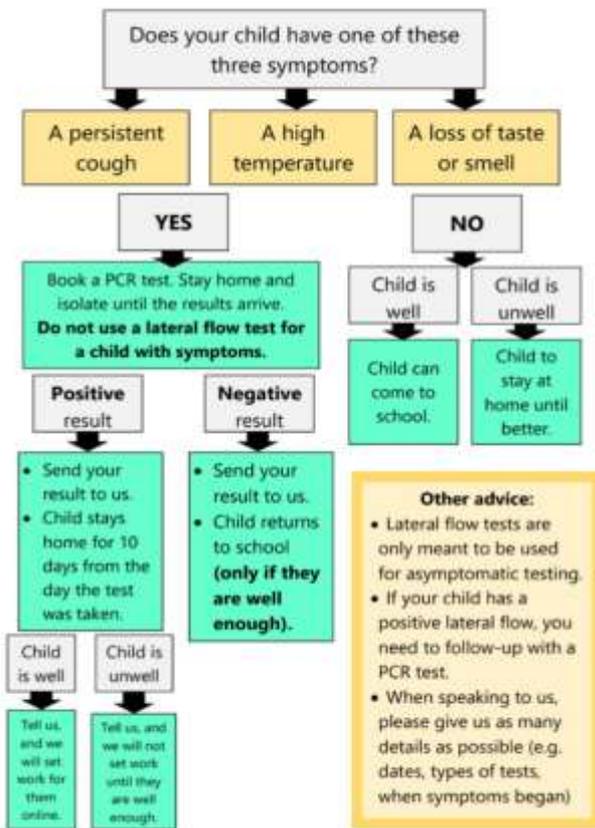
For your information: every school must have a designated lead and deputy designated lead officer for safeguarding issues.

Mr. McLauchlan is our designated safeguarding leader and Mrs. Prince and Mrs. Bolton are the deputy designated safeguarding leaders.

If you believe that a child is at risk of significant harm or is in need, then please do come to talk to us.

If you feel that you can't do this, then please phone either Staffordshire County Council First Response Team on 0300 111 8007 or Stoke on Trent Children and Young People's Services on 01782 235100. If you feel that a child is in immediate risk of harm, phone 999.

### Covid Checklist



### Vacancy

We are recruiting for an apprentice caretaker – If you know of anyone who would be interested in this opportunity, please signpost them to our website.

<http://www.werringtonprimary.org.uk/2021/0>

### Werrington Connects

Our next Werrington Connects meeting takes place at 2:30 on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November. It's a great opportunity to contribute to our school improvement ideas, volunteer to support school events and/or to meet other parents.

### Message from Staffordshire Police

Dear Parents/Carers

Following our last letter regarding County Lines which we sent in May we wanted to get back in touch to remind you that you can still help.

County Lines is the term used to describe the networks of gangs and organised criminals who export illegal drugs into other areas of the country, often smaller areas, using dedicated mobile phone lines known as 'deal lines.'

They exploit children and vulnerable people to move and store drugs and money. Often, they do this using blackmail, intimidation and violence.

Staffordshire Police are working alongside our partners as part of a County Lines operation which has two aims – to arrest members of organised crime gangs who target young and vulnerable people, but also to identify young people who are at risk of criminality and to help divert them away from criminal exploitation.

We are asking education establishments and parents to help identify young people who are at risk of criminality, so they can be given help.

There are several signs to look out for that may indicate someone is involved in county lines:

- repeatedly going missing from school or home and being found in other areas
- having money, new clothes or electronic devices and they can't explain how they paid for them
- getting high numbers of texts or phone calls, being secretive about who they're speaking to
- decline in school or work performance
- significant changes in emotional or physical well-being

We have produced a podcast which discusses the issue of County Lines and how support networks including parents and carers can help to protect children from exploitation.

To listen to the podcast (episode 6) visit: <https://thebeatpodcast.buzzsprout.com/>

No one school in Staffordshire is more or less affected by these problems. We know that the overwhelming majority of young people will never be affected by this issue but a conversation with your child will help us collectively make a difference. It is critical that young people know that there is help available if they are involved in County Lines activity and that they can get support from home, school and agencies who work with young people

You can find more information in the enclosed leaflet and on our website here: <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/countyines>

Thank you for your support in this matter.

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## Term dates 2021/22

	Pupil's Year	Staff Year
<b>Autumn 2021.</b>		
School Opens	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September
School Closes	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October
School Opens	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November
School Closes	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>Spring 2022.</b>		
School Opens	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January
School Closes	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February
School Opens	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February
School Closes	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>Summer 2022.</b>		
School Opens	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April
<b><i>School Closed - May Day Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May</i></b>		
School Closes	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May
School Opens	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June
School Closes	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July

### Inset days:

- **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September**
- **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**
- **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January**
- **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February**
- **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June**

*Autumn Term 2022 starts Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September for staff and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September for pupils.*