

Family Update

14th October 2022



Updates

At the start of this week we had no idea how interesting it would become. Monday was our staff Inset Day where staff updated their skills in Mandatory Refresher courses on Moving & Handling and PROACT SCIP® UK Behaviour Support strategies and we also began our school development 'Sprint' activities to move things forwards in school at a good pace. Tuesday we gave the LA Reviewing Officer for Residential Provision a thorough tour of school and Sleepover Club and she had the opportunity to meet lots of our children so gaining a deeper understanding of some of their complex needs and an insight into the support needs of families. If you still wish to comment on this LA review please email comments and questions to: educationprovisionreview@staffordshire.gov.uk

In addition on Tuesday we had the unannounced arrival of the annual residential 3-day Ofsted Inspection. Thank you to all those who returned comments to the inspectors, we were overwhelmed by the positive messages they contained. The inspection went very well and when the report is published, we will share the outcome with you and post it in the press as part of our [SOS Campaign](#).

Thank you to those who joined us in the hall to support our Harvest Assembly and for all your Harvest donations, students ensured that these were safely delivered to the Lichfield Foodbank for people who need a helping hand to feed their families at this time.

Staffordshire LA is also conducting a review of all of their Strategy for Special Provision. If you are a parent/carer of a child with SEND, you may want to [sign up to our 'Special Educational Needs and Disabilities – Parent Update'](#) so you can keep up to date with the LA's progress and all their latest news. We wish you a wonderful, restful weekend and look forward to seeing you next week. Your Leadership Team

Parents Recommend

"I'd like to recommend the Pumpkin Woods at Garden King. It's a small trail all set up for Halloween. It's pushchair/wheelchair friendly, however I'd recommend to go on a dry day. The trail is free of charge, no need to pre-book. All pumpkins are £3.00 each if you wish to purchase any. We visited today and it was great fun! The garden centre is lovely to have a look around too. There are plenty of car parking spaces."

Please see page 4 for more details.

Key Dates

Tuesday 18th Oct - 10am welcome to Ex-staff Coffee Morning

Thursday 20th Oct - Halloween Monster Mash

Monday 24th - Friday 28th Oct - Half-Term

Monday 31st Oct - Pupils return to school

Monday 14th - Friday 18th November - Anti-bullying Week

Friday 2nd December 9:30 - 11:00 - Explorers Department Christmas Craft Workshop for parents and carers.



Contact us

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Headteacher: Mel Newbury

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Kim Thomas

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mel Newbury & Helen Bowers

Sleepover Club Highlights



The pupils have been kept busy this week showing the Ofsted Inspectors what they get up to in their Sleepover Club.



Sleepover Club Highlights



The pupils in Sleepover Club this week have also been developing their money skills, recognising coins and their values.

Others have been able to enhance their maths skills by working out how much change they should be given when buying priced items with specific coins.



What we have been up to...



Macmillan Coffee Morning Donations

Thank you to all parents, carers and friends who came to our Macmillan Coffee mornings. We hope you had a great time and enjoyed the opportunity to meet class teams and other parents.

A big thank you for all your generous donations!

Total raised: £208.12



Parent Recommends - Pumpkin Woods



Pumpkin Woods

Garden King Garden Centre,
Park Road, Newhall,
Swadlincote, Derbyshire,
DE11 0TX

1st - 31st October 2022

Tactile Communication Webinar

Please see message below from Deafblind International who are hosting an upcoming webinar on Tactile Communication.

“On **17th November at 1pm**, Deafblind International are hosting an online family workshop entitled **Tactile communication and the use of different hand positions** which is aimed at families who have children who have difficulties with communication and/or sensory difficulties who may benefit from tactile communication. Topics covered in the webinar include:

- Active and passive touch
- Talking and listening hands
- Communicating hands - the different hand positions
- Scaffolding the communication
- Talking- and activity space

During the webinar there will be practical activities trying out the different hand positions. Therefore, we suggest that you attend the webinar together in pairs and bring an orange, a banana or a candy bar wrapped in paper.”

Register in advance for this webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register>



Deafblind
International **DbI**