

FLORENCE FOCUS



A Message from Mrs Clewlow

As we come to the end of our second full academic year at Florence, and the first in our state-of-the-art building, I would like to thank all of our students, families and staff for the support and strong sense of community that continue to make our academy such a special place to be.

This final half term has been filled with opportunities for our students. From trips and competitions to workshops and sporting events, it has been wonderful to see students embracing new experiences and representing Florence with pride and ambition.

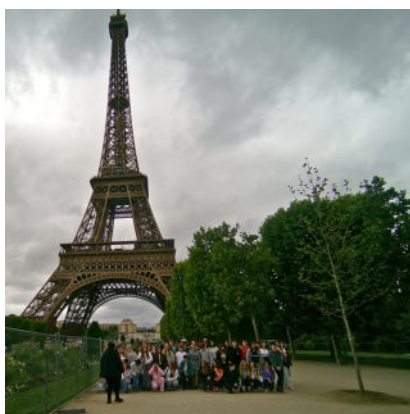
We have also celebrated some important milestones. Our first Commendation Evening gave us the opportunity to recognise the many contributions and achievements of our students, whilst our Year 6 Transition Day saw us welcome the newest members of our Florence family ahead of September.

The final weeks have also brought plenty of sunshine! Students and staff have shown impressive resilience through the heatwaves, with water bottles and any available patch of shade becoming increasingly valuable. The World Cup has provided another regular topic of conversation and plenty of debate between students and staff across the academy.

As I reflect on the year, I am incredibly proud of how far we have come. Our new building has provided a fantastic setting, but it is the pride, ambition, care and excellence shown by our students, staff and community that continue to define Florence.

Thank you for your continued support. I hope all of our students and families enjoy a safe, restful and well-deserved Summer break.





Year 8 Visit to Paris

Exploring famous landmarks, experiencing a new culture and making unforgettable memories together.

Many of our Year 8 students enjoyed an unforgettable trip to Paris, packed with new experiences, famous landmarks and plenty of opportunities to make memories together.

The adventure began with a coach journey and a trip through the Channel Tunnel before students arrived in the French capital. During their visit, they took in some of Paris' most famous sights, including the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre, experiencing landmarks they had previously only seen in pictures and on screen.

A river cruise offered another view of the city and gave students the opportunity to see more of Paris from the water. The trip was rounded off with a full day at Disneyland Paris, where students enjoyed the attractions, rides and atmosphere of the park.

Throughout the visit, students represented Florence brilliantly and embraced every part of the experience with enthusiasm. For many, this was an opportunity to travel abroad with friends, experience a different city and build confidence beyond the classroom.



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Nottingham Open

Students experienced elite tennis firsthand, building on the skills and knowledge developed through their Tennis Leaders elective.



Students visited the Nottingham Open this half term, enjoying the opportunity to experience professional tennis firsthand and watch elite players compete on court.

The visit linked closely to our Tennis Leaders elective, where students have been completing the LTA Tennis Leaders course. Through the programme, students have been developing their confidence, communication and leadership skills, whilst learning more about how to support and lead tennis activities for others.



Watching a professional tournament in action gave students the opportunity to see the sport at the highest level and build on the knowledge they have developed throughout their elective. Students experienced the atmosphere of a major tennis event and observed the skill, focus and determination demonstrated by professional players.

It was a fantastic opportunity to bring their learning to life beyond the Academy and inspire our students as they continue to develop as young tennis leaders.



Father's Day Breakfast

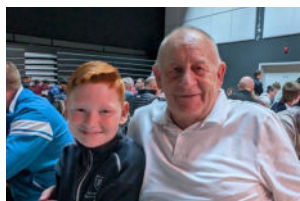
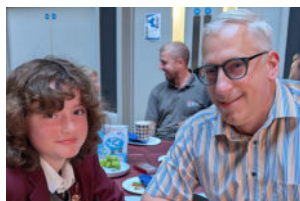
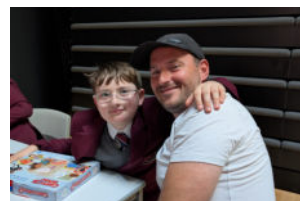
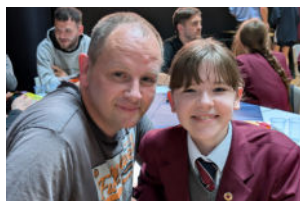
Welcoming the marvellous males who support our students for a morning of food, conversation and community.

We were delighted to welcome the marvellous males who support our students into Florence for our Father's Day Breakfast.

Dads, grandads and other important male role models joined students for breakfast at the Academy, providing an opportunity to spend time together and enjoy the Florence community. It was fantastic to see so many families joining us and our dining space filled with conversation, laughter and plenty of breakfast!

Strong relationships with families remain an important part of life at Florence, and events like this give us the opportunity to welcome those who play such an important role in supporting our students every day.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped to make the morning such an enjoyable one. We look forward to continuing to create opportunities that bring our students, families and wider Academy community together.



Silverstone STEM visit

Students explored the science and technology behind Formula 1 and discovered the wide range of STEM careers driving the sport forward.



Year 8 students enjoyed an exciting STEM visit to Silverstone this half term, exploring the science, technology and innovation behind one of the world's most exciting sports.

During their visit, students explored the Silverstone Museum and discovered more about the history and development of motorsport. They also learned about the wide range of STEM careers that contribute to Formula 1, looking beyond the drivers to consider the engineers, technicians and other specialists working behind the scenes.

The visit gave students the opportunity to see how the knowledge and skills developed through STEM subjects can be applied within a fast-paced and innovative industry. Of course, a particular highlight was the chance to put their own racing skills to the test in the Formula 1 simulator!



Public Speaking

Students found their voice and spoke with confidence, representing Florence in two public speaking competitions.



Our students have taken to the stage in two public speaking events, representing Florence at the Co-op Academies Trust Public Speaking Competition and SASCAL Youth Speaks 2026.

Across both events, students spoke thoughtfully and confidently on a range of topics, demonstrating the ability to communicate their ideas clearly and engage an audience. We were incredibly proud to see them representing Florence with Pride, Ambition, Care and Excellence throughout.

Oracy is an important part of life at Florence. We want every student to develop the confidence to find their voice, express their ideas and listen thoughtfully to the views of others. Opportunities such as these allow students to put these skills into practice beyond the classroom and challenge themselves in a new environment.



Maths Olympics

Year 7 students put their problem-solving, reasoning and teamwork skills to the test in a Trust-wide mathematics challenge.



Four Year 7 students represented Florence at the Co-op Academies Trust Maths Olympics this half term, competing alongside students from academies across the Trust.

Throughout the event, students took part in a range of mathematical challenges designed to test their problem-solving, reasoning and teamwork skills. They approached each activity with determination, thinking carefully, sharing ideas and working together to tackle unfamiliar problems.

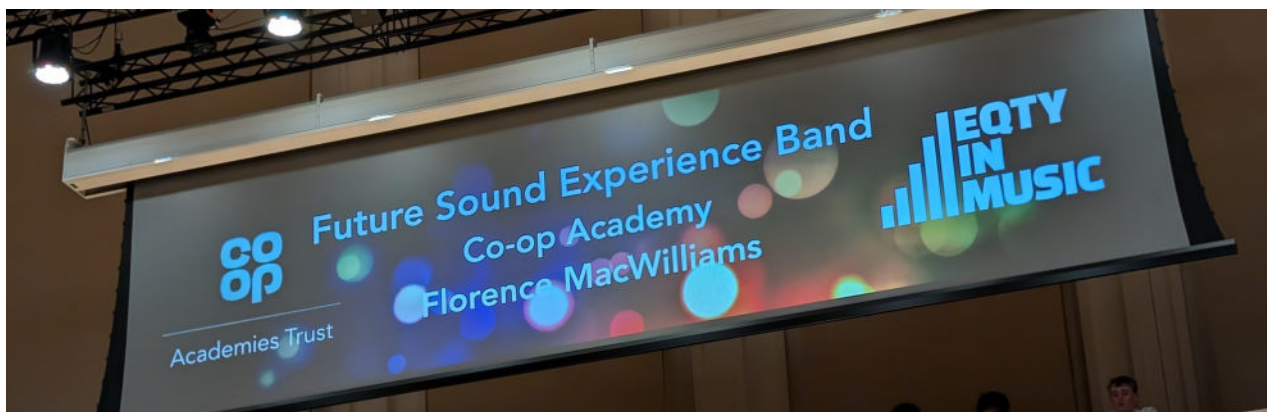
Our students represented Florence brilliantly throughout the competition and were highly commended by Maths leaders from across the Trust for their approach, conduct and mathematical thinking.

We are incredibly proud of the ambition and resilience shown by all four students. The Maths Olympics provided a fantastic opportunity to challenge themselves, apply their learning in a different setting and demonstrate that mathematics is about much more than simply finding the right answer.



Future Sounds Workshops

Students discovered new pathways through music before taking their own performance to the stage in Manchester.



Throughout the year, students have enjoyed assemblies and workshops delivered by the Future Sounds team, giving every student the opportunity to engage with music and discover the wide range of pathways and careers available within the industry.

Following these workshops, a group of students worked together to create their own original piece of music. Supported by sign language as part of the performance, students developed their ideas, rehearsed together and prepared to take their work beyond Florence.

The group then had the fantastic opportunity to perform at the Co-op Academies Trust Young Musician of the Year event at Stoller Hall in Manchester. Taking to the stage in such an impressive venue was a brilliant experience, and our students performed superbly.

We were incredibly proud of the confidence, creativity and teamwork shown by the group. Their performance was a fantastic example of students embracing new opportunities and having the ambition to share their talents with others.



Commendation Evening

Celebrating the achievements of our students and the daily actions that lead to success.



We have been incredibly proud to host our first Commendation Evening, bringing together students, families and staff to celebrate the achievements of our young people.

The evening recognised success across a wide range of areas, celebrating students who have demonstrated our PACE values, excelled within their subjects and made a positive contribution to life at Florence. It was a special opportunity to recognise the daily attention to detail, determination and hard work that lead to great overall achievement.



We were also delighted to welcome Dr Talan Skeels-Piggins as our guest speaker. His remarkable story and powerful message provided plenty of inspiration for everyone in the room, encouraging our students to approach challenges with resilience and ambition.

Congratulations to all of our award winners. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved and grateful to the families and staff who continue to support them throughout their Florence journey. Our first Commendation Evening was a fantastic celebration of our community and one we look forward to building on in the years ahead.



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Congratulations to all of the student's that were nominated for commendation. A full list of award winners can be found below:

Subject Awards:

Harriette P | English Year 7
Connie M | English Year 8
Elliott R | Maths Year 7
Hollie F | Maths Year 8
Anika N | Science Year 7
Ruby N | Science Year 8
Rebecca B | French Year 7
Jack D | French Year 8
Abdul-Wasse B A | Computer Science Year 7
Liam B | Computer Science Year 8
Ceceylia-Rose U | History Year 7
Aahil J | History Year 8
Phoebe J | Geography Year 7
Jayden W | Geography Year 8
Daanish S | Religious Studies Year 7
Muminah H | Religious Studies Year 8
Lilly Mai M-P | Music Year 7
Jacob M | Music Year 8
Macaylah H | PE Year 7
Jasmine B | PE Year 8
Sandra S | Guided Reading Year 7
Oliver E | Guided Reading Year 8
Ollie L | Design and Technology Year 7
Laylah S | Design and Technology Year 8
Jacob M | Art Year 7
Aydin A | Art Year 8

Community Achievement Award:

Kadie T (Year 7) & Alecia T (Year 8)

PACE Awards:

Lincoln W | Pride Year 7
Abby-Jaye E | Pride Year 8
Rosalie W | Ambition Year 7
Jack Deakin | Ambition Year 8
Poppy M | Care Year 7
Paige S | Care Year 8
Logan R | Excellence Year 7
Daisy Locker | Excellence Year 8

Merit Awards:

Evan P (Year 7)
Leah C-T (Year 8)

Elective Awards:

Harvey B (Year 7)
Tommy H (Year 8)

Headteacher's Commendation:

Evan P (Year 7)
Elsie H (Year 7)
Harry S (Year 8)
Samantha R (Year 8)

Summer Celebration Day

Fun in the sun following a fantastic year at Florence, with a day packed full of activities and celebration!

We ended the academic year in style with our Summer Celebration Day, giving students the opportunity to enjoy a day of activities and celebrate everything they have achieved this year.

Students selected from three different strands of activities, with something available for everyone. From go-karts, combat dodgeball and football to creative workshops, s'mores, cinema and karaoke, the Academy was filled with plenty of energy, laughter and excitement throughout the day.

The afternoon brought students together to enjoy time outside before watching a student football match and spending time with their Homerooms. A special thank you is given to Jacob L, Bailey F, Theo L and William W-E for organising the football match. They have spent lots of time over the half term preparing for the event and their commitment and ambition truly delivered on the day! It was fantastic to see students enjoying time with their friends and staff and making the most of the final days of the academic year.



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Fun in the sun following a fantastic year at Florence, with a day packed full of activities and celebration!



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Community Matters

Working with local partners to create new opportunities for our students and strengthen our wider community.

Mrs Bell, our Academy Community Pioneer, has continued to work alongside local organisations, residents and community partners to strengthen Florence's links across Meir and create new opportunities for our students.

We have begun discussions with the Friends of Weston Woods about potential partnership projects that could support our students while making a positive contribution to the local environment. We are also exploring links with the Armed Forces Cadet Services, with the aim of providing structured opportunities through which students can develop confidence, discipline and leadership skills.

Our students have also played an active role in the Meir North Pride in Place programme by completing surveys and sharing their views about the local area. Florence hosted two community workshops as part of this work, bringing residents and local stakeholders together to discuss their aspirations for Meir North and how future funding could make the greatest difference.

Through our partnership with Kellogg's Football Camps, several Florence students have also received fully funded places at upcoming Stoke City FC football camps. This will give them the opportunity to stay active, develop their skills and enjoy a positive experience during the summer break.

We are grateful to all of the organisations and individuals working alongside Florence. These partnerships help us extend opportunities beyond the Academy and ensure that our students are active and valued members of their local community.

Summer Holiday Activities

Free summer activities are available through Stoke-on-Trent's Holiday Activities and Food programme for eligible children receiving free school meals. For more information, please visit:

<https://eequ.org/stokeontrenthafwiththehubfoundation>



Community Elective Coffee Morning

Students were proud to welcome their families to Florence for a morning of games and refreshments.

Families were welcomed to Florence for a relaxed morning of games, conversation and refreshments, all organised and hosted by students from our Community Elective. The event gave students the opportunity to develop their confidence, teamwork

and hospitality skills while creating an enjoyable experience for others. It was a lovely way to bring members of our Florence community together and celebrate the contribution our students make beyond the classroom.



Student Leadership

Students were proud to welcome their families to Florence for a morning of games and refreshments.

Every lunchtime, Jayden W and Leah C-T take on the important responsibility of being Family Dining Leaders. As part of this role, they support other students, help to serve meals and take responsibility for ensuring that our dining space is left clean, organised and ready for the rest of the day.

Jayden and Leah have consistently gone above and beyond what is expected of them. They have formed a close and dependable team with Miss Bettany, working together each day to help Family Dining run smoothly and to make sure that students are supported throughout lunchtime.

Their reliability, maturity and willingness to help have made a real difference to the daily life of the Academy. Every member of our Florence family benefits from the care and commitment they show, and their contribution is recognised and appreciated by both students and staff.

In recognition of everything they do, Miss Bettany was proud to present Jayden and Leah with a small token of appreciation. Their actions are a brilliant example of our PACE values in practice and demonstrate the positive impact that students can have on their wider Academy community.



Family Dining

Introducing our new catering partner and a refreshed Family Dining experience for the year ahead



July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Caterlink in partnership with The Coop Academies

We are very proud and privileged to be appointed as the catering provider at your child's school from the 1st September 2026.

Caterlink is a leading provider of contract catering to the education sector throughout the UK.

We pride ourselves on innovation and commitment to finding imaginative new ways to enhance every student's dining experience, by making school food tasty and appealing.

You could say that food fuels the brain. Eating a well-balanced diet helps with physical fitness and general good health, both in body and mind. A well-balanced diet means getting the right nutrients your body needs to be in tip top condition – protein helps with repair and growth, carbohydrates and healthy fats provide you with energy, water replaces lost fluids and fibre, and the right vitamins support healthy body maintenance. By getting students into the habit of eating healthily, we can avoid the risk of serious health problems for the future.

There's also a great deal of importance placed on the vital role we play in educating young people on good nutrition and healthy lifestyles and additional education programmes we deliver through our "added benefits" activities such as Smoothie bike, bread making, healthy eating assemblies to name a few.

We continue to actively work closely with The Trust and our onsite catering manager who are fully committed in making the changes necessary to deliver a great catering service for each student.

We will be investing in the schools by refreshing the front of house service areas with new equipment, new signage, where we will continue to deliver our healthy and balanced menus to ensure students continue to enjoy the dining experience. Seasonal and nutritionally balanced healthy menus will change twice annually offering variety along with new dishes to stimulate inquisitive minds and encourage students to try new foods.

At the heart of our offer is freshly prepared, great-tasting and attractively presented food that's fully nutritionally analysed by our in-house nutritional team. We put the highest possible emphasis on healthy, balanced, nutritionally compliant school meals that provide excellent value for money,

Our food offer works by combining dining concepts that are vibrant and diverse in terms of our menu offer. Our menus include dishes from all over the world, including Italy; Spanish; American; Chinese, to name a few. We do, however, understand that it is important to maintain traditional British dishes as well as incorporating dishes from ethnic backgrounds on our menus.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the time in reading this update letter, for your continued support and I look forward to hearing the positive feedback from students over the coming months.

Kind Regards

Alison Martin

Operations Director

Uniform Update

Introducing our new catering partner and a refreshed Family Dining experience for the year ahead

Headteacher: Mrs E. Clewlow

Co-op Academy Florence MacWilliams,
Weston Road, Meir,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST3 6AP

01782 444 650



Co-op Academy
Florence MacWilliams

Dear Parents and Carers,

We're pleased to share an important update about uniforms. New national legislation, introduced through the *Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill*, requires schools to reduce branded items and lower costs. We fully support this, and wanted to let you know as soon as possible that changes are coming to our uniforms which will be in place by September 2026. In this new policy we are reducing branded items across our Trust, and your new uniform will be as follows:

Our New Uniform



Academy Uniform

Burgundy Academy Logo Blazer
Grey V-Neck Jumper (unbranded)
School Tie
Traditional white shirt with a collar
Plain grey tailored trousers
Plain black smart shoes

PE Uniform

Academy Logo Navy PE T-shirt
Academy Logo Navy & Burgundy PE Multi-Top
Plain black tracksuit bottoms
or plain black football shorts
Trainers

What does this mean for you?

Any items no longer in the new uniform policy do not need to be replaced before September 2026 if your child wears them out or outgrows them in this time. We expect all children to adhere to the new policy from September 2026.

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Web: florence.coopacademies.co.uk
Email: florence@coopacademies.co.uk

Co-op Academies Trust
Registered office: 1 Angel Square, Manchester, M60 0AG
Reg. No. 7747126, Registered in England and Wales.

Uniform Update

Introducing our new catering partner and a refreshed Family Dining experience for the year ahead

As part of Co-op Academies Trust, we are working together to have a single supplier across all schools, this supplier will hopefully be in place by September 2027. The goal of this project is to further reduce costs for our families. We will be in touch with details when we have them.

Trousers

We are introducing a single school uniform for all students in our Secondary Schools. This means that all students will wear trousers at school. This has been informed by research showing that traditional, uniform options, particularly skirts and dresses, can limit pupils' comfort, confidence, and participation in school life (Dr Mairead Ryan, 2024; Dr Alice Porter, 2025). More practical options, such as trousers, support active learning and are better suited to the full range of school activities, including practical subjects like science, construction, and engineering, as well as everyday movement around the school.

We are also mindful that items such as pinafores and tights can increase costs for families due to frequent replacement (The Children's Society, 2023). As a trust committed to equality and inclusion, we believe a more flexible uniform could help ensure all students feel comfortable and able to fully engage in school life. We value your feedback and invite you to share your views in the upcoming Edurio survey.

Please ensure your child is wearing plain gray tailored trousers from September 2026, sports or stretch fabric will not be acceptable for any child under the new uniform policy. Find further details on your academy website.

Specific guidance will be on your academy's website by the Easter Holidays.

Many Thanks

Co-op Academies Trust

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Key Dates and Events

A look ahead at important events, experiences and opportunities taking place at Florence.

July

- 17th: Last day for students

August

- Academy closed to students
- 12th: Solar Eclipse

September

- 1st - 4th Staff INSET
- 7th: All students return

October

- 16th: Last day for students
- 19th - 30th: Half Term Holiday

Noticeboard

- A reminder that any students travelling to or from the academy by bike must be wearing a suitable helmet. Any student without a helmet will not be able to take their bike home at the end of the day to ensure that they get home safely. Parents will be contacted to collect the student's bike.
- Following a student assembly and updated guidance from Safer Roads, we are no longer able to allow e-scooters on site from September.
- Throughout this half term, students have been based in the spaces where they will learn from in September. This has given them time to become familiar with their new surroundings, routines and expectations before the summer break. We hope this will support a smooth and confident return to Florence in September. If your child has any worries or concerns about the transition, please contact the Academy Office so that we can offer support.

Key Dates and Events

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Eclipses in August 2026

When is it happening?

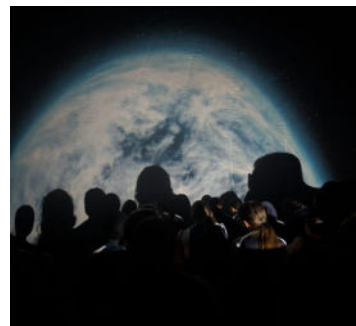
- During the summer holidays we will be treated in Stoke-on-Trent (and across the UK) to two celestial spectacles in quick succession. Put these dates in your diary:
 - A partial solar eclipse on Wednesday 12 August, between 6:14 and 8:04 pm
 - A partial lunar eclipse on Friday 28 August, between 2:20 and 6:20 am
- As all of our Year 7 (now Year 8) students will be able to tell you, eclipses occur when the Earth, moon and sun line up.
- During the solar eclipse on 12 August, the moon's orbit will take it in front of the sun, blocking out up to 90% of the Sun. Note that the 10% of the sun still visible is enough to damage anyone's eyes - DO NOT LOOK AT THE SUN without proper protection (see below).
- A lunar eclipse is when there is a full moon, and the moon's orbit takes it through the shadow of the Earth, making it go from a full moon to a thin crescent, close to the time the moon sets. You do not need any eye protection to observe this - but you will have to be up very early in the morning, and be able to see the moon close to the western horizon.
- Of course, we can't control the weather, and if it is cloudy on one or both days, sadly we won't be able to see anything - so we will all just have to keep all our fingers crossed for clear skies!
- The good news is, unusually, we have partial solar eclipses three years in a row - there is another in August 2027, and then a third in January 2028. But neither of them will see the sun being covered anywhere near as much as it will be on 12 August.

How to watch the solar eclipse

- The Royal Astronomical Society has published [this detailed guide](#) to solar eclipses and how to view them, or you can read on!
- There is no safe way to look directly at the sun, except with ISO 12312-2 standard [solar viewing glasses](#) - which block over 99.99% of the sunlight's energy. Because they block out so much light, when wearing these, everything except the sun looks entirely black!
- The other way to observe the sun is to [project an image of it](#). There are two ways:
- The easiest is to make a small hole (e.g. with a pin) in a piece of card (or better still, in a piece of kitchen foil taped over a larger hole in a piece of card). If you hold this so that it casts a shadow on the ground, and move it up and down, you should be able to project a clear image of the sun on the ground. You can even hold a kitchen colander over the ground and see hundreds of tiny projections of the sun!
- If you are lucky enough to own a pair of binoculars or telescope, you can hold it pointing at the sun, and point the eyepiece at the ground or a piece of paper, and you should be able to project a clear image of the sun. Never look through binoculars or a telescope at the sun, even wearing solar viewing glasses, as you can cause serious damage to your eyes).

Further information

- This article from the [BBC Sky At Night magazine](#).
- Detail of the [solar eclipse](#) on the TimeAndDate website.
- Detail of the [lunar eclipse](#) on the TimeAndDate website.
- A [video explaining solar eclipses](#) from the Planetary Society.
- A [video from the European Space Agency](#) (ESA) about this summer's solar eclipse.
- [Dark Clear Skies](#) - a website selling solar glasses (Mr Preston recommends [these](#)).



Celebrating our Students

A look ahead at important events, experiences and opportunities taking place in our local community



We're so proud of Rita in Year 8 who was excited to share with us that she'd had the opportunity to dance in the ballroom at Blackpool Tower with her dance troupe. Rita has been a keen dancer for many years now and we have no doubts that she'll be on Strictly in years to come.

Connie has demonstrated our value of care, completing the 10 mile Moonlight Walk in support of the Douglas MacMillan hospice. Connie completed the walk alongside her mum and we're so proud of her achievement. Well done, Connie!



Bobby in Year 7 spent time during the Spring half term helping in his local community and supporting Florence students to start their school day with breakfast at school. It is a lovely example of Bobby showing real care for those in his community. Well done, Bobby!

Celebrating our Students

A look ahead at important events, experiences and opportunities taking place in our local community



A huge congratulations to William Ward-Evans on being named Werrington Wanderers U13 Green's Manager's Player of the Season for the second year running. An impressive achievement and well-deserved recognition of his continued commitment to the team.

We are incredibly proud of Kaydence in Year 7 for raising money and taking part in the Race for Life. Her determination to complete the event whilst supporting such an important cause was great to hear about at school.



Olivia in Year 7 has been proudly representing Staffordshire through her cricket. It is brilliant to see her commitment to the sport being rewarded with the opportunity to compete at county level. Well done, Olivia!

Celebrating our Students

A look ahead at important events, experiences and opportunities taking place in our local community



Mia and Poppy in Year 7 have had an incredibly busy year with TP's Dance, performing at events across the region and taking part in a number of shows and competitions. A particular highlight was achieving first place with their team after having just six weeks to prepare for the competition. From Blackpool Ballroom to community events including the Pig Parade and Moonlight Walk, their dedication to dance is clear. Both girls commit hours to lessons and weekend rehearsals and should be very proud of everything they have achieved this year.

Phoebe in Year 7 took to the stage at Stoke Rep Theatre in July, performing a contemporary dance in Fired Up. Performing across four days is a brilliant achievement and reflects the time, confidence and dedication Phoebe has put into her dancing. Well done, Phoebe!



Zidane in Year 7 has continued his triumphs for Wedgewood Cricket Club, achieving an elusive hat trick ball for bowling three consecutive wickets. Zidane takes part in our cricket elective each week, using our cricket nets with support and coaching from a local cricket club. Superb, Zidane!

Celebrating our Students

A look ahead at important events, experiences and opportunities taking place in our local community



Congratulations to King for playing a major role in supporting his team to victory as winners of the Staffordshire junior football league 25/26. King's team has also won the Filey 2026 tournament with his team, New Florence U12.



Key Dates and Events

A look ahead at important events, experiences and opportunities taking place in our local community.

Summer holidays – Parents guide to help keep children safe online

School's out for summer!

It's always best to be prepared

During the summer holidays, without the distraction of school, internet usage for many young people can increase all the way up to September. This guide is designed to help parents with a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games. Please click on each image below for more information.



A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming



A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school if you would like to attend a parents internet safety workshop or have any concerns.

Schools please [contact us](#) if you would like a SKIPS Safety Net session delivered to your parent groups or staff.

Skips Educational

Web: www.skipssafetynet.org
Email: info@skips.com
Tel: +44 121 227 1941

142 Newton Road
Great Barr
Birmingham B43 6BT

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Developed in partnership with



Skips

Keeping children safe online

www.skipssafetynet.org

Key Dates and Events

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Keeping children safe online

When Something Goes Wrong Online – A Simple Action Plan for Parents

1. Stay Calm First

If your child tells you something worrying:

- Thank them for telling you
- Avoid blaming or panicking
- Reassure them: "We'll deal with this together."

2. Keep the Evidence

- Take screenshots (include usernames and dates)
- Save messages
- Keep profile links

3. Use Official Reporting Routes

Grooming or exploitation – CEOP: www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre
 Illegal images – Internet Watch Foundation: www.iwf.org.uk/report
 Nude images shared (under 18s) – Report Remove: www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/report-remove
 If in immediate danger, call 999.

4. If You Feel Overwhelmed – Use Structured Support

You can use free ChatGPT to help structure next steps.  ChatGPT
 Free access: <https://chat.openai.com> Example prompts:

- My child received inappropriate messages. What steps should I take in the UK?
- How do I report online grooming?
- What should I say to my child after cyberbullying?

Important: ChatGPT is a support tool and does NOT replace official reporting or police action.

5. Ongoing Protection at Home

- Keep regular, calm conversations
- Review privacy settings together
- Monitor gaming contacts
- Encourage early disclosure

Children will make mistakes online, just as they do offline.
 Trust and communication protect them more than punishment.




scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online



Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipssed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with







www.skipssafetynet.org

Key Dates and Events

A look ahead at important events, experiences and opportunities taking place in our local community.

Where to find us?

Abbey Hulton Best Start Family Hub
 Abbots Road,
 Abbey Hulton, ST2 8DU
 Tel. 01782 237100

Bentilee Best Start Family Hub
 Dawlish Drive,
 Bentilee, ST2 0HW
 Tel. 01782 233670

Best Start Family Hub @ Hanley Market
 Potteries Shopping Centre,
 Basement, Hanley, ST1 1PP
 Tel. 01782 237100

Best Start Family Hub @ Tunstall Town Hall
 142 High Street,
 Tunstall, ST6 5TP
 Tel. 01782 232977

Blurton Best Start Family Hub
 Finstock Avenue,
 Blurton, ST3 3JU
 Tel. 01782 231815

Chell Heath Best Start Family Hub
 Bishops Road,
 Chell Heath, ST6 6QW
 Tel. 01782 232977

Normacot Best Start Family Hub
 Buccleuch Road,
 Normacot, ST3 4RF
 Tel. 01782 237500

Shelton Best Start Family Hub
 College Road,
 Shelton, ST4 2DQ
 Tel. 01782 237100

Best Start Family Hub @ Longton Market
 Stall 33, Transport Lane,
 Longton, ST3 2HW
 Tel. 01782 237500

Term-time groups this summer

Play and Stay
 Birth to 5 years
Mondays, 9.30am until 11am
 Monday 20 July until Monday 17 August 2026
 Blurton Best Start Family Hub

Babbling Babies
 Birth to six months
Mondays, 1pm until 2.30pm
 Monday 20 July until Monday 17 August 2026
 Chell Heath Best Start Family Hub

Wednesdays, 2.15pm until 3.15pm
 Wednesday 22 July until Wednesday 19 August 2026
 Normacot Best Start Family Hub

Thursdays, 1pm until 2.30pm
 Thursday 23 July until Thursday 20 August 2026
 Bentilee Best Start Family Hub

Sensory Stars
 Birth to six months
Tuesdays, 10am until 11.30am
 Tuesday 28 July 2026 until Tuesday 18 August 2026
 Best Start Family Hub @ Hanley Market

Fun Fridays
 Birth to five years
Fridays, 1pm until 2.30pm
 Friday 31 July and Friday 21 August 2026
 Abbey Hulton Best Start Family Hub

Check out Facebook for the latest updates.

Summer of Fun 2026

Slings on Start FAMILY HUB

Come along for some FREE summer fun for children aged 0 to 12 years old. No booking required!

Get helpful information and join in with craft, games, sensory play and fun activities.

Logos: PEGIS, thrive at five, BEST START IN LIFE, UK Government, Slings on Start

Week 1

Monday 20 July until Sunday 26 July 2026

Elmer
 Monday 20 July, 1pm until 3pm
 Best Start Family Hub @ Hanley Market
 Wednesday 22 July, 1pm until 3pm
 Bentilee Best Start Family Hub
 Thursday 23 July, 10am until 12pm
 Blurton Best Start Family Hub
 Friday 24 July, 10am until 12pm
 Tunstall Salvation Army, Dunning Street, Tunstall, ST6 5AP

One Big YMCA Day
 Friday 24 July, 11am until 3pm
 YMCA North Staffordshire, Harding Road, Hanley, ST1 3AE

LIFT Youth Festival
 Sunday 26 July, 1pm until 4pm
 Northwood Stadium, Keele Road, ST6 6PB

Week 4

Monday 10 August until Friday 14 August 2026

That's not my mermaid
 Monday 10 August, 1pm until 3pm
 Best Start Family Hub @ Tunstall Town Hall
 Thursday 13 August, 10am until 12pm
 Blurton Best Start Family Hub

PEGIS in the Park
 Friday 14 August, 10am until 1pm
 Longton Park, Trentham Road, Dresden, ST3 4AZ

Tales in the Park
 Tuesday 11 August, 11am until 3pm
 Longton Park, Trentham Road, Dresden, ST3 4AZ
 Friday 14 August, 11am until 3pm
 Burllem Park, Moorland Road, Burllem, ST6 1EA

Strengthening Communities
 Friday 14 August, 1pm until 4pm
 Whitfield Valley Green, Barks Drive, ST6 8EZ

Week 2

Monday 27 July until Friday 31 July 2026

Shark in the park
 Monday 27 July, 1pm until 3pm
 Shelton Best Start Family Hub
 Tuesday 28 July, 10am until 12pm
 Normacot Best Start Family Hub

Tales in the Park
 Tuesday 28 July, 11am until 3pm
 Tunstall Park, Victoria Park Road, Tunstall, ST6 6EE
 Friday 31 July, 11am until 3pm
 Hanley Park, Cleveland Road, Hanley, ST1 4DX

PEGIS in the Park
 Wednesday 27 July, 10am until 1pm
 Hanley Park, Cleveland Road, Hanley, ST1 4DX

Week 5

Monday 17 August until Friday 21 August 2026

We're going on a bear hunt
 Tuesday 18 August, 1pm until 3pm
 Best Start Family Hub @ Hanley Market
 Wednesday 19 August, 10am until 12pm
 Chell Heath Best Start Family Hub
 Thursday 20 August, 1pm until 3pm
 Bentilee Best Start Family Hub

PEGIS in the Park
 Monday 17 August, 10am until 1pm
 Hanley Park, Cleveland Road, Hanley, ST1 4DX

Strengthening Communities
 Wednesday 19 August, 1pm until 4pm
 Jammies Paving Pool Green Space, Abbey Road, Abbey Hulton, ST2 8BD
 Friday 21 August, 1pm until 4pm
 Burllem Park, Moorland Road, Burllem, ST6 1EA

Week 3

Monday 3 August until Friday 7 August 2026

Oi Frog
 Thursday 6 August, 10am until 12pm
 Chell Heath Best Start Family Hub
 Friday 7 August, 1pm until 4pm
 Abbey Hulton Best Start Family Hub

PEGIS in the Park
 Monday 3 August, 10am until 1pm
 Central Forest Park, Chell Street, Sneyd Green, ST1 6BB

Tales in the Park
 Tuesday 4 August - 11am until 3pm
 Yeoman Street Park, Yeoman Street, Stoke, ST4 5RQ
 Friday 7 August - 11am - 3pm
 Fenton Park, Victoria Road, Fenton, ST4 2HQ

Week 6

Monday 24 August until Friday 28 August 2026

Bella goes to school
 Monday 24 August, 9.30am until 11.30am
 Abbey Hulton Best Start Family Hub
 Monday 24 August, 1pm until 3pm
 Chell Heath Best Start Family Hub
 Tuesday 25 August, 10am until 12pm
 Best Start Family Hub @ Hanley Market
 Wednesday 26 August, 10am until 12pm
 Normacot Best Start Family Hub
 Thursday 27 August, 10am until 12pm
 Bentilee Best Start Family Hub
 Friday 28 August, 10am until 12pm
 Tunstall Salvation Army, Dunning Street, Tunstall, ST6 5AP
 Friday 28 August, 1pm until 3pm
 Blurton Best Start Family Hub

SCHOOL

Key Dates and Events

A look ahead at important events, experiences and opportunities taking place in our local community.

SUMMER OF INCLUSION 2026

Accessible activities for children and young people with SEND



SCAN TO VIEW ACTIVITIES

localoffer.stoke.gov.uk

Activities are regularly updated – check back throughout the summer.

Have an inclusive activity to share?

✉ localoffer@stoke.gov.uk



SEND
STOKE-ON-TRENT



Key Dates and Events

A look ahead at important events, experiences and opportunities taking place in our local community.

Tales in the Park



A free day out for all the family!

Go all in this summer at our storytelling festivals across Stoke. With activities including storytellers, crafts, bouncy castles, circus skills and a free book for every child!

Join us from 11am – 3pm at:

- **Tuesday 28 July** in Tunstall Park
- **Friday 31 July** in Hanley Park
- **Tuesday 4 August** in Yeaman Street Rec
- **Friday 7 August** in Fenton Park
- **Tuesday 11 August** in Longton Park
- **Friday 14 August** in Burslem Park



In partnership with

 **HarperCollins Publishers**



Find out more: literacytrust.org.uk/stoke • fb.com/StokeLiteracyTrust

The National Literacy Trust is a registered charity no. 1116260 (England and Wales) and SC042944 (Scotland).

Key Dates and Events

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Child Death Prevention Newsletter



This newsletter is designed to raise awareness of the work of the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) and to bring news on our ongoing campaigns.

Summer Safety

Tragically, there have been deaths of children from Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent as a result of.....

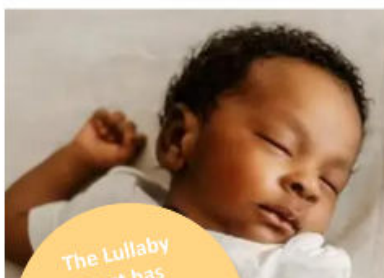
Drowning

Young people can be drawn to open water - weirs, quarries and canals are not safe places to 'hang out', swim or play. **Don't take risks around water.**

Watch children when they are in or around water, without being distracted.



For water safety advice go to RLSS.org



The Lullaby Trust has information on 'safer sleep on holiday'

Unsafe sleeping environments

Follow safer sleep guidance **for every sleep**, both daytime naps and overnight. Maintain safe sleep routines when on holiday, staying with friends or family. Plan sleeping arrangements in advance. **Consider where your baby will be sleeping** and if you need to take a travel cot.

Road traffic collisions

Check and follow local driving laws when travelling abroad. **Children should be properly restrained in appropriate car seats** while travelling in a vehicle. Many airlines allow child car seats to be transported free of charge or when abroad there are usually car seat hire options. Take extra care when walking near roads, particularly in unfamiliar areas where traffic patterns and road rules may be different from those in the UK.



The AA has essential driving advice in Europe on their website, and for information on car seats go to issuu.com

Key Dates and Events

A look ahead at important events, experiences and opportunities taking place in our local community.

Avoiding
serious
injury

Sun safety

Babies and children are particularly vulnerable to sunburn. Avoid direct sun exposure between 11:00 and 15:00. Use SPF50 sunscreen with 4-star UVA protection. Reapply sunscreen every 2 hours and after swimming. For additional protection add loose-fitting clothing, sun hats and sunglasses. Go to britishskinfoundation.org.uk and sunscreens-and-sun-safety on the NHS site for further information.



Food safety advice

Germs can grow quickly on food if it is not kept refrigerated. Use ice blocks to keep food cool when travelling. Store raw and cooked foods separately, and ensure meat is cooked thoroughly and is hot all the way through before eating. Tap water in the UK is safe to drink. Follow local guidance when drinking water abroad.

Encourage young children to sit down while eating to help them chew and swallow food properly during picnics.

Visit GOV.UK for further advice on food safety in a heatwave.

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Carbon monoxide cannot be seen, smelled, heard, or tasted. It is produced when fuels burn incompletely. Poor ventilation can allow dangerous levels to build up. Carbon monoxide poisoning can be fatal. Extra care is needed in caravans, motorhomes, and tents, especially when using campfires, camping stoves, or BBQs. A carbon monoxide alarm/monitor should be provided or taken when travelling. For further information go to www.safertravelling.org.uk/campaign-carbon-monoxide.

Contact The Child Death Overview Panel for Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent
cdop@staffordshire.police.uk for further information.