

Watermill School

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have enjoyed welcoming everyone back for the Autumn term.

Pupils have engaged well in our new curriculum. This term's theme has been Food Glorious Food and we have celebrated the theme by learning about food groups, trying different foods, growing food, making snacks and cakes and holding tea parties.

Throughout the curriculum we have had many opportunities to focus on:

- Communication skills
- Independence and self-help skills
- Travel training skills
- Physical activity and well-being

We have extended our specialist curriculum with our sensory circuits room, cardio drumming, go karts and trikes, use of the new soft play and sensory rooms, swimming, liquid listening and forest school. This has encouraged pupils to access more areas of the school, have fun, take part in team activities and develop their physical skills.

I hope you have a lovely half term and look forward to welcoming our pupils back on Tuesday 4th November.

Best Wishes Jen Lomas – Headteacher.

Parking at the Rear of the Site: Please could parents who have allocated parking at the rear of the site arrive after 2pm to park. We keep the back gates closed until 2pm to provide safe curriculum space. Unfortunately, if you arrive before 2pm it blocks the rear driveway and means that minibuses and potentially emergency vehicles struggle to access the rear of the site.



Dates for your diary

Friday 24th October 2025

School closes at 2.30pm for half term.

Tuesday 4th November 2025

School opens at 8.30am for pupils.



If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please contact school on 01782 883737



THANK YOU! For all your harvest donations.

The harvest donations were taken by Class MM to St Saviours foodbank in Sprinkbank Road Chell, where they were gladly received by Chris and Linda. Class MM helped to tidy the donations away into the pantry. Linda spoke to the class explaining how the foodbank works and when it is open. Class MM have asked if they can go to volunteer and this is currently being sorted.

Liquid Listening Training

This half term 8 members of staff have been trained in delivering 'liquid listening-musical hydrotherapy'. This means pupils will now be able to benefit from musical hydrotherapy sessions in school. These sessions are an innovative therapy combining listening to sound inside the water alongside aquatic body therapy techniques to relax body and mind, inspire movement, stretching, vocalisation and stillness, enhance well-being and develop an appreciation of sound and music.

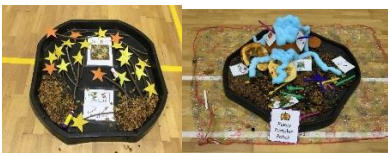
This amazing resource will also help to provide children with sound awareness and environmental engagement all whilst in the hydrotherapy pool through an underwater sound system.



We are extremely happy to have the opportunity to work with a fully qualified and experienced dog therapist, Adam Dunn, from 'dogsmindsmatter'; whom for the previous six years has been together with his eight dogs providing social and emotional learning and social skills training to pupils in schools and colleges throughout the Staffordshire area. The work that he provides with his dogs can be applied to all four domains of personal growth and development including physical, speech and communication, cognitive and psychosocial.

Adam will be coming in each Wednesday, to provide tailored 1:1 support for selected pupils across the school, whom we feel would benefit from his sessions with the dogs, and many other pupils who come to say hello on his walks through the school with his different dogs.

Already, Adam and his dogs (Greta is with Adam in the picture) are welcomed by both staff and pupils throughout the school and he has said visiting us at Watermill is, 'the highlight of his week.'



Autumn Sensory Day We had an amazing time during our Autumn Sensory morning. Pupils explored a range of sensory and messy play activities, including leaf barefoot walking, making magic wands using sticks, leaf hedgehogs, decorating biscuits, pumpkin exploration, finger tree painting and many more. Great fun was had by all and there was lots of smiles and laughter shown by pupils and staff alike. We look forward to our Winter themed sensory morning in January.