



# PICKNALLS PAGES



We have so much to celebrate since our last newsletter was published! Here are some of the things that have made us [#ProudtobePicknalls](#)

## Sporting Successes

We have a long history of sporting success at Picknalls and this year is proving to be no different.

Congratulations to our Year 3 Netball team, who came 3rd in the recent CADDSA tournament and the Year 3 and 4 Swimming team who came back with no less than three overall winning trophies from the CADDSA swimming gala. Well done to you all and thanks to Mrs Jordi and Mr Cope for all their time taking children to these sporting opportunities.



## Award Assembly



We hold an award assembly every half term to celebrate our children's achievements out of school. If your child would like to be acknowledged please remind them to tell their class teacher so we can ensure they are recognised. The next assembly will be on Monday 27th March.

## Tree Planting

We love to hear from our former pupils after they have left us. So, it was lovely that two of them returned to plant a commemorative oak tree and talk to pupils about their educational journey. Freya Barkas and Libby Hodge returned as [JCB apprentices](#) during Children's Mental Health Week with a sapling which was grown at JCB's farm estate in Wootton. We look forward to seeing how our current acorns grow into mighty oaks.



## Star Foundation

Thank you for continuing to use the [Star Foundation](#) recycling bank to get rid of your unwanted items. We were recently presented with a cheque for £502.64!

You can place in there clothing, shoes, bags, belts, videos, books, bedding all of which will be recycled and not put into the landfill.

We will let you know what the members of the School Council and Well-being Champions decide to use the funds for.



## Inside this edition:

[Sporting Success](#)  
[Award Assembly](#)  
[Tree Planting](#)  
[Star Foundation](#)  
[Standon Bowers](#)  
[Record Breaker](#)  
[World Book Day](#)  
[STEM Activity Days](#)  
[Ofsted Music Inspection](#)  
[Gold Tree Award](#)  
[English Leaders](#)  
[Picknalls in the Press](#)  
[Attendance](#)  
[Parking](#)  
[Childcare Survey](#)  
[Sorry You're Leaving](#)  
[Stramshall Scout Beavers](#)  
[Lost Property](#)  
[Household Support Fund](#)  
[Safeguarding](#)  
[Reading Books](#)  
[Red Nose Day](#)  
[Easter](#)  
[Parent Governor Vacancy](#)  
[Job Vacancy](#)  
[Wildcats Girls Football](#)  
[Uttoxeter Cricket Club](#)  
[Uttoxeter Stagecoach](#)  
[Mini Me Mindfulness](#)  
[School Meal Price Increase](#)  
[Teacher's Strikes](#)  
[Cost of Living Support](#)  
[Contact Us](#)  
[Future Dates](#)

## Year 4 at Standon Bowers

Year 4 enjoyed 2 fun-filled days at [Standon Bowers](#) in February. Activities included archery, climbing, orienteering, problem solving, blindfold trail, fire lighting and bridge building. Everyone really enjoyed their outdoor adventure days. Thank you to the Year 4 staff.

## Record Breaker!

Congratulations to Miss Derry who recently [became a World Record Breaker!](#) She took part in [BBC Radio Derby's](#) attempt to break the record for the most people simultaneously crocheting previously set at 604 in Australia in 2017. On Friday 24th February Miss Derry joined 959 other crocheters in Derby Arena where smashed the record and were all declared as 'Officially Amazing'!



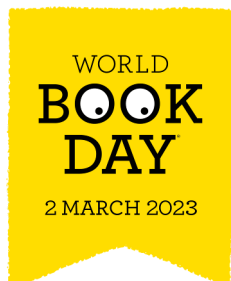
OFFICIALLY AMAZING



# Proud to be Picknalls continued

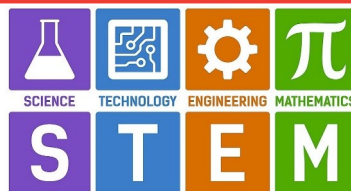
## World Book Day

Thursday 2nd March was [World Book Day](#) and saw Picknalls filled with all manner of characters including Aliens, Cowboys, Superheroes, Red Riding Hoods and more than one Wolf disguised as Grandma! We spent the day immersed in books and reading. Year 1 to 4 had an exciting afternoon with [M&M Theatre Productions](#) who performed 'The Hobbit' and then ran a workshop with Year 4. The week ended with a book swap, hot chocolate and biscuits! Needless to say the day was a huge success!



## STEM Activity Days

It feels like a very long time ago now but the first two days back to school in January were dedicated to Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths ([STEM](#)) activities. Our Chair of Governors, Paul Johnson, managed to persuade some of his engineering colleagues from [Rolls Royce, Derby](#). They had great fun with the children trying to sink and float their homemade submarines.



Mrs Cope visited Key Stage 2 from Oldfields Hall Middle School with some '[Magic Maths](#)'.

[Sublime Science](#) spent a day conducting a range of scientific experiments with every child in the school.

This was a great way to start 2023 at Picknalls with a big bang!

## Ofsted Music Inspection

You may remember that we were chosen as one in fifty national school to take part in a one-day [Ofsted music research inspection](#) on Thursday 9th February. We will have to wait a little while for the report to be published but the inspector told us he was extremely impressed with our approach to music provision. We are confident that when we receive the final report it will give us yet another reason to be #ProudtobePicknalls!



## Gold Tree Award

We have a diverse range of interests at Picknalls, so much so that we are very excited to share our latest Gold achievement in the [Woodland Trust's Green Tree Schools Awards!](#)



To earn this award we have been working hard to look after our local environment by planting trees and reducing our CO<sup>2</sup> emissions.

We are so lucky to have such a beautiful green space for our school and we are very keen to protect and enhance it for generations to come.

## English Leaders

Every teacher at Picknalls takes on a subject they are passionate about to develop and monitor the whole school's approach from Early Years to Year 4.

*English has a pre-eminent place in education and society and includes a massive range of skills which are essential to participating fully throughout life.* – [National Curriculum in England, English Programmes of Study, DfE, 2014](#)

We break down the subject into two key parts, reading and writing.

We are thrilled, therefore to announce the establishment of two English leaders.

Miss Adams is now overseeing all aspects of reading including phonics and Mrs Fenton is our new writing leader. They are both working well together and with other teaching staff to develop action plans to further enhance our English Curriculum.





# Picknalls in the Press

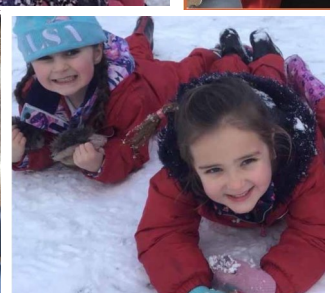
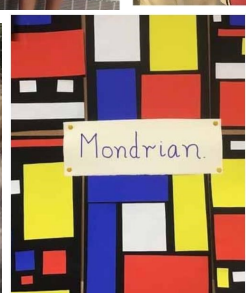
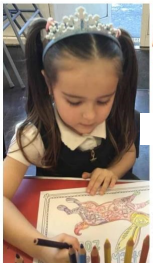
## PANCAKE FUN IN THE CLASSROOM

Sporting travels for pupils ART ATTACK IN THE CLASSROOM  
Wearing yellow to raise awareness

## GETTING CREATIVE WITH STICKS *Fun and learning in the snow*

Rabbit themed activities for Chinese New Year **Tree planting and mental health awareness**

## Bringing in the new year with a bang *Literature celebration in the classroom*





# Attendance

We mentioned in our last newsletter the impact persistent lateness has on children's attainment. Since September 2022 there have been **189 late marks** throughout the school and **100 medical appointments**. This roughly adds up to **18 hours** absence or **three days lost** education due to arriving late.

We know that there are many circumstances which cause occasional lateness but we are concerned when we notice a pattern of continual tardiness and our EWO (Educational Welfare Worker) may contact the family to offer help if they are having problems.

## ARRIVING LATE CAN CAUSE ANXIETY

Being late for school has many negative consequences:

- Gets the day off to a **bad start**
- Increases **stress** and **upset** for the child
- Can lead to the child **feeling embarrassed** and **singled out**
- **Affects** child's overall **confidence and self-esteem**
- **Disrupts** the **learning** of other class members
- Creates **bad habits** which could lead to **poor attendance**
- **Confusion for your child** as work or activities might have been started

Please help your child by making sure they arrive to school and on time and, where possible, try to arrange medical appointments out of school time.



# Parking

We have been made aware of a couple of incidents which have happened during drop off and pick up time on the [Uttoxeter Leisure Centre](#).

Some parents have been observed leaving their car engines running for several minutes at a time. While idling is a criminal offence on public roads the same doesn't apply to car parks but still results in same toxic air pollution. Approximately **11% of our pupils have some form of asthma or lung condition** and most of our younger children are also at the disadvantage of being closer to exhausts.

Despite continuing staggered drop off and pick ups the car park is still extremely busy and some drivers appear to be more patient than others. We were shocked to hear that one of our parents was backed into by someone who then ignored the collision and drove off.

We are very privileged to be able to use the car park for free between 8.20am-9.15am and 3.10pm-3.45pm but this relies on us maintaining a good relationship with Uttoxeter Leisure Centre.

## Keeping your engine running – the fact and fiction

Fiction - "Idling doesn't put out a lot of pollution"

**Fact - An idling engine can produce up to twice as many exhaust emissions as an engine in motion. An idling car can fill up to 150 balloons with harmful emissions every minute. Switching off your engine can go a long way to improving air quality.**

Fiction - "Leaving your car running is cheaper than turning it off and on again"

**Fact - It is cheaper to turn off your engine. Sitting in your car with your engine running could cost you more than you think. Between 5% and 8% of fuel use occurs while idling.**

Fiction - "It's better to be inside the car than out of it - it protects me from the fumes"

**Fact - The air quality inside the car can be up to twice as bad outside the car, and is even worse in Winter. Why not try walking or cycling on quieter routes?**

Fiction - "I need to keep the engine running to keep the heater on"

**Fact - If you park and keep the ignition on, rather than turning the car off completely, the heater should stay warm for up to 30 minutes.**

Fiction - "It's not illegal to idle"

**Fact - It is illegal. Leaving a vehicle's engine running unnecessarily while that vehicle is stationary on a public road could get you a fine of £20 or even £80 in air quality management areas.**

Fiction - "Idling doesn't damage people's health"

**Fact - Vehicles idling can put as much as twice as much pollutants as a car in motion. Reducing air pollution can help cut heart disease, reduce lung cancer and prevent asthma cases. Up to 160,000 deaths a year are related to poor air quality.**

Poor air quality affects everyone - especially children. Remember to switch off your engine!



# Childcare Survey

Staffordshire County Council is currently running a [parents survey](#) to find out families experiences of childcare in Staffordshire. If you would like to take part you have until 19th March.




# Sorry You're Leaving :(

We are very sad to have to say farewell to Mrs Price at the end of the Spring Term. She currently teaches Class 2 on Mondays and Tuesdays alongside Mrs N Jones but has been part of our Picknalls family for several years and has taught classes in every Key Stage and always with a smile! She will be missed but we wish her the very best for the future.



# Stramshall Beavers

**BEAVERS**  [Stramshall Beaver's](#) are looking for new recruits to join in the fun at [Stramshall Village Hall](#) on Wednesdays between 5.15pm-6.15pm.

This is open to all children aged between 6 - 8 years old.

Please send enquiries to [stramshallbeavers@outlook.com](mailto:stramshallbeavers@outlook.com)

# Welcome Back!



We are very happy to announce that this brings about the return of Mrs Owston who left a couple of years ago but has been with Picknalls for over a decade on and off. She will carry on from Mrs Price and teach for the first 2 days of the week in Year 1.

# Lost Property

We have recently re-introduced a lost property basket which you are welcome to check for any missing items by coming to the main entrance.

Please ensure that all your child's belongings are clearly named and check regularly for faded writing.



# Household Support Fund

We have, so far, successfully referred 7 families for help from the Local Authority. To qualify you must be a resident of Staffordshire living in a low-income household. This is particularly aimed at families who aren't eligible for other government support.

**HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND**



If successful, you will receive a voucher for the supermarket of your choice for £65 per household plus £20 per dependant. Please get in touch as soon as possible if you think you may be entitled to apply as the **scheme ends on 31st March.**

# Safeguarding

We have noticed one or two parents coming into the school cloakroom unsupervised at the end of the school day.

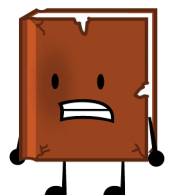
**Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility**



However innocent the reason this poses a safeguarding risk. If you have any queries or are looking for lost items please speak to your child's class teacher or visit the office.

# Reading Books

To support our new phonics programme and reading scheme we have recently purchased brand new books. Please be aware that if your child brings one home which is then damaged or lost you will be charged the full price for a replacement to ensure we can maintain our stock.

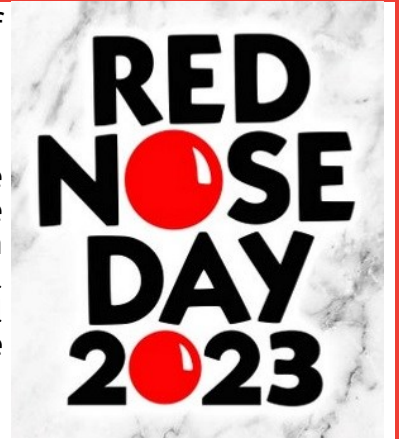


# Red Nose Day 2023

Picknalls is on a mission to have a day of fun and laughter in support of [Red Nose Day](#).

Friday 17th March 2023 – Wear Wacky.

This will be a non-uniform/wear something wacky day. Children are free to come with crazy hair/funny accessories if they wish. Please ensure they have clothes appropriate to the weather. If your child is in KS2 please also remember some will have swimming so it needs to be a practical outfit as well. We will be collecting donations which should be handed to the class teacher on the day. All money raised will be split 50/50 with Comic Relief and Picknalls First School.



Teachers are busy planning a day full of fun and laughter and to support this we would like each child to come to school with their favourite joke. Please could parents support children in writing this down if they struggle to remember it.

## Easter

Easter is fast approaching so we are beginning to make plans to celebrate. You will receive further information nearer the time but for now we thought you would like to know the following:

Friday 31st March will be 'Easter Activity Day' as well as the last day of term and we would love you to make an Easter Bonnet at home to bring in for our parade.

We would like to end the term with an Easter Egg Raffle, if you'd like to donate towards this please bring your eggs to the office and Mrs Tapp promises not to eat them before the end of term!

We will be selling raffle tickets on the gate and in classes during the last week of term. Thank you in advance for your support.



## Parent Governor Vacancy

From September we will have a Parent Governor vacancy and are looking for applicants to join our Governing body to help make strategic decisions about the future of the school. Candidates have until Friday 31st March to nominate themselves. Mrs Tapp may not be in school for two weeks from Monday 13th March as she has been called up for jury service but will be contactable either through the office or by email. If you would like to discuss this with her further you are will also be able to speak to her directly during the last week of term.



## Job Vacancy

We wish to appoint a Mealtime Supervisor with setting up for 5 hours per week (term time only) 1 hour per day starting Tuesday 18th April 2023.

For enquiries and application packs please contact the office or [download the application pack here](#)

Closing Date: Friday 24th March 2023 – 12 noon  
Shortlist date: Friday 24th March 2023 – pm  
Interview Date: Wednesday 29th March 2023 at 9.30am

All completed application forms to be returned to the School Office.



# Epilepsy Awareness

'Epilepsy is a serious neurological condition that can affect anyone at any age and from any walk of life. There are 600,000 people with epilepsy living in the UK, around one in every 100 people. Every day, 87 people are diagnosed.' [Epilepsy Action](#)

Miss Harris has first hand experience of how serious Epilepsy can be since her son began displaying signs of the condition.

The 26th March is [Purple Day](#), the international day for epilepsy, and Miss Harris is keen to raise funds to help much needed research into the condition so is busy, with help from Mrs A Jones, making purple ribbons which will be available, for a donation, from the school office from Monday 20th March onwards. Mrs Tapp is delighted to be wearing one already!

On Friday 24th March she will also be holding a Purple Cake Sale after school!

Over 600,000 people in the UK are living with epilepsy and 1 in 3 have seizures that cannot be controlled by current treatment options.

Thank you for your support.



**PURPLE DAY**  
MARCH 26

**epilepsy action**

## Fire Safety

Recently, there has been an increase in the number of house fires in Staffordshire and the Fire and Rescue Service have asked us to share the following safety notices with you

OFFICIAL

Community Safety Flash



### FIRE SAFETY IN YOUR HOME

Top tips for keeping you and your family safe



**Plugs**



Turn off appliance plugs when not in use

**Doors**



Do not leave a fire door open, do not prop it open and never disconnect an automatic closer

**Appliances**



Do not leave appliances running when no one is home or when you are asleep

**Smoking**



Do not smoke in bed and always put out cigarettes fully

**Smoke alarms**



Test your smoke alarms at least monthly and do not cover or remove

**BBQ**



If you have a balcony, do not have a BBQ on it

**Cooking**



Do not leave cooking unattended and do not leave children alone in the kitchen while cooking

**Belongings**



A tidy home with fewer belongings can reduce the risk of a fire spreading

**Candles**



Do not leave lit candles unattended and always put out fully

**Matches**



Store matches and lighters in a safe place, away from children

**Electrical**



Do not overload electrical sockets and switch them off when not in use

**Flammable**



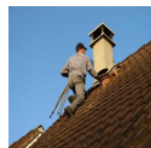
Do not store anything flammable, such as petrol, in your home

OFFICIAL

Community Safety Flash



Staffordshire Fire & Rescue attend many chimney fires each year which can be prevented by following the advice below



- Ensure you choose the correct size appliance for your room
- Have the chimney swept at the start of the heating season
- Clean the fire regularly



- Use good quality fuel
- If burning wood, ensure it is completely dried out
- Do not store logs directly next to stove to avoid ignition due to the heat surrounding the stove



- Use protective gloves to open the door
- Use a fire guard to protect flooring from hot embers and sparks
- Keep matches and lighters away from children
- Fit smoke and carbon monoxide detectors

For more information about chimney fire safety visit the website for the National Association of Chimney sweeps (<https://nacs.org.uk/>)

For more information on finding chimney sweeps, fuels and retailer visit [www.hetas.co.uk](http://www.hetas.co.uk)

Please give us a call and have a chat with your Community Safety Officers on 01785 898719 or email: - [esdpreventteam@staffordshirefire.gov.uk](mailto:esdpreventteam@staffordshirefire.gov.uk)

**In the event of an emergency – get out and stay out DIAL 999**



[www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk](http://www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk)



[www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk](http://www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk)



### UTTOKETER LEARNING TRUST

Registered Office Address:  
Uttoketer Learning Trust  
Thomas Alleyne High School  
Dove Bank, Uttoketer, Staffs  
ST14 8DU  
Company number: 10547353



[office@picknalls.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@picknalls.staffs.sch.uk)

[picknalls.staffs.sch.uk](http://picknalls.staffs.sch.uk) 01889 228700

We're Good with Outstanding features  
\*Pupils behave exceptionally well.\*  
Ofsted, Jan 2020



# School Meal Price Increase

As you will be aware, there has been a significant increase in costs associated with meal production - both in relation to food supplies and energy costs. Whilst we have worked with our current provider, Chartwells, to try to keep the costs as low as possible in relation to the cost of a school meal, we are now at a point where we need to review this. The cost of a school meal will **rise** from £2.55 to **£2.83**. This increase will take effect **from 1st April 2023**. The Government has continued to support the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) initiative and this means that all of the children, from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 can be provided with a school meal free of charge.

If your child is in Year 3 or Year 4 and you are in receipt of any of the following, you may also be eligible for free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, plus, from 19 April 2022, those with no recourse to public funds
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get) at the time of your application.

You can [apply for free school meals here](#).

If you have any questions or need support in making an application please contact the school office for confidential support.



## Booking Meals

It is **extremely important** that you remember to pre-book your child's lunches using ParentPay. During registration at the beginning of everyday two registers are taken, one for attendance and one for meals. These are then sent to the school office and Mrs Simon has to check through both of them every morning before she can let the kitchen staff know what they need to prepare.

A lot of time is wasted when a child's meal hasn't been pre-booked and if she has to deal with several cases every morning this causes a delay for the kitchen.

[Click here](#) for a guide to meal bookings and the menu selector.

Please help us by completing your child's meal selection the evening before at the latest.

Thank you.





# Clubs and Classes

## Happy Hours

Happy Hours are open during the Easter Holidays from Monday 3rd to Friday 14th April (excluding the Bank Holidays) and the INSET day on 17th April.



Go to their [Facebook page](#) for a timetable of activities and a link to their [Magic Booking portal](#).

## Progressive Sports Easter Holidays

The Active Camp will run over the holiday as follows:

- Easter Week 1 – Monday 3rd April – Thursday 6th April
- Easter week 2 Tuesday 11th April – Friday 14th April

Children can be dropped off at 8.30am with activities running between 9.30am-4.30pm and they offer a late pick up until 5.30pm. The camp is open to children aged 5-13 years. You will need to provide a packed lunch and drinks for throughout the day.

See [here](#) for more details and booking.

### Easter Fun!

Free #HolidayActivities and Food (HAF)!

Keep your children entertained over the Easter holidays with #HAF2023

There will be lots of different holiday clubs offering Easter themed activities.

Plus, the favourites including dodgeball, cooking, horse-riding, dance, football, swimming, bushcraft and lots more!! They'll get a chance to socialise, have fun and be fed a healthy meal!

FREE for eligible children aged 5-16 years in receipt of benefits related free school meals. Eligible children will get a code to register. Registration opens at 4pm on 17th March 2023.

Find out more on the [Staffordshire County Council](#) website

**Progressive Active Camps** Book your space! [CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

**PICKNALLS FIRST SCHOOL, UTTOXETER**

3RD - 6TH APRIL  
11TH - 14TH APRIL  
8.30am-5.30pm

For Ages **5-13** Years

Contact the office on: 01889 343120  
[www.progressive-sports.co.uk/south-staffordshire/holiday-courses/](http://www.progressive-sports.co.uk/south-staffordshire/holiday-courses/)

Progressive Active Camps Ofsted

# Weetabix Wildcats – Girls Football at Picknalls



Calling all Lion Cubs!

We have some exciting news!

Girls football is coming to Picknalls!

Free football training sessions open to 5-11 year olds on Fridays between 6.00pm-7.00pm starting on 31st March.

Scan this handy QR code to book your session now or [click here](#).



## All Stars Cricket



Uttoxeter Cricket Club is a friendly and welcoming club that offers opportunities to boys and girls aged 5 to 16 at any level of ability. Training takes place at the Jacks Lane ground, with parking on Silver Lane (ST14 8LL).

### All Stars Cricket

All Stars Cricket is a national programme for boys and girls currently in Reception up to Year 3. It is an introduction to cricket and for £40 your child will receive a personalised playing shirt, cap, cricket bat and ball, backpack and activity book. The programme itself is designed to last for 8 weeks, however they want to offer children as much cricket as they can and, as such, starting on Friday 14th April and running right the way through to mid-September. Please click the links below for the opportunity to train from either:

[5pm -6pm](#)

[6pm -7pm](#)

### Progression

Beyond All Stars, they offer a range of affordable memberships options including, for the first time this year their This Girl Can group, for girls who want to continue their cricket but don't want to play hardball. All junior training is on Friday evenings, with session start times dependent on ability.

### Junior Teams

They operate seven junior teams and arrange further friendly cricket for all age groups.

2 x Under 8's Kwik Cricket – Saturday mornings

3 x Under 11's Hardball Pairs – Monday evenings

1 x Under 13's Hardball Twenty20 – Sunday mornings





# Easter Holidays Clubs and Events

## Easter Workshop



Stagecoach Uttoxeter  
**Easter Holiday Workshop**

Join us for an action packed week of singing, dancing, acting and crafting as we work together to create a performance for family and friends to watch on the last day. Our workshops are a great way to have fun and meet new friends and all children are welcome regardless of experience. You do not have to be a Stagecoach student to join us - all that's required is lots of energy and enthusiasm!

**Monday 3rd - Thursday 6th April**

Age: 5-16 years  
 Time: 9am - 4pm  
 Performance: Thursday 6th April, 4pm  
 Cost: £110 (sibling £90)  
 Venue: Windsor Park Middle School, Springfield Road, Uttoxeter ST14 7JX

[www.stagecoach.co.uk/uttoxeter](http://www.stagecoach.co.uk/uttoxeter)  
 07702849564



## Easter Holiday Camp

**MiniMe Mindfulness**  
Mindset Coaching 4 Kids

**Camp days for children aged 5-11**

**4+ can do a half day**

**BOOK NOW**  
Places are limited

- GAMES
- STORIES
- MEDITATIONS

Tuesday 4th + Wednesday 5th April  
 Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th April  
 9-3.30 Extended day available

**Build Confidence**  
**Raise Self Awareness**  
**Recognise Emotions**  
**Understand Feelings**  
**Self Regulate Responses**  
**Reduce Stress/Anxiety**  
**Increase Inner Calm & Happiness**  
**Encourage Resilience & Communication**  
**Have FUN & Make Friends**




**BOOK ONLINE: [minime-mindfulness-staffs.class4kids.co.uk](http://minime-mindfulness-staffs.class4kids.co.uk) or**



## Lions Clubs International

### Uttoxeter Lions

At the heart of your community

### Uttoxeter Lions Easter Egg Hunt

The Uttoxeter Lions Easter Egg Hunt is back on 7th April 2023 ( Good Friday ) starting at 10-30am until 3pm at the Heath Community centre. It's free to enter and is open to all children under the age of 10 ( ish ) ...siblings will be welcome and who knows maybe the Parents may even get something too.....!!

All you need to do is come along, have some fun and along the way do a treasure Hunt for Easter Eggs, Its outdoors in the Community garden, and there will be refreshments available.



**Uttoxeter Heath**  
Community Centre

### Easter Holiday Camp 2023

	Tuesday 4th	Wednesday 5th	Tuesday 11th	Wednesday 12th
Super Power Morning	5 Senses - Play Smelling Eggs	Kindness	Affirmations	Body and Breath
Super Power afternoon	Breath work	5 Senses and Breath	Vision	Breath work
Activities	Craft activities - Breathing Buddy	Gratitude Easter Basket Mindful Easter 'Egg' Hunt	Self-portrait Affirmation treasure boxes	Decorate breath stones and surfboards

**Tuesday 4th + Wednesday 5th April**  
**Tuesday 11th + Wednesday 12th April**



**THE GASWORKS SUDBURY**

Heritage Fund

**8th April - The Gasworks Egg-stra Special Easter Hunt**



# Teacher's Union Strikes

Although Picknalls has, so far, not yet been affected by teacher union strikes I wanted to update you on the reasons that so many schools are taking the stance towards strike action.

As a Headteacher I am fully in support of school taking action due to two main reasons;

Firstly, teachers have been offered a **5%** pay award, **well below** the increase in **inflation** which is at a **40 year high** and predicted to rise even further to **13%** this year.

Teaching staff have **not received a sufficient pay increase since 2010** and have, effectively, **lost 23 per cent** in real terms. Schools are already struggling to recruit new teachers and leaders and if this trend continues it will result in a **predicted 31% reduction** in staff over the next 5 years.

Secondly, and arguably more importantly, the **5% pay offer is not funded by extra Government** funds therefore Picknalls is having to find **£55,000 from the school budget**.

Although many unions did not reach the required number of ballots to call their members to strike the first time they will be provided with a **second chance** very soon.

In the meantime they are **working closely** together to **ensure** the **government understands** the **direct impact** that salary retention and budget cuts are having on all our children and their **future education**.

Mrs Tapp  
Headteacher

**Nearly a third**  
of the teachers who  
qualified in the last  
decade have quit.

**PAY UP! SAVE OUR SCHOOLS** 

## Education is in crisis.

**Children are losing out because there aren't enough teachers.**

The Government missed its target for new secondary school teachers by 41 per cent this year.

The gaps between teachers needed and trainees recruited are alarming - the Government missed its physics target by 83 per cent, modern foreign languages by 66 per cent and computing by 70 per cent.

This means many children are taught by staff who are not qualified in the subject they are teaching.

One in eight maths lessons is taught by a teacher not qualified in the subject.

One in four teachers leaves the profession within three years of qualification - a third within five.

Nearly one third of teachers who qualified in the last decade have quit.

Special needs support assistants are leaving schools for jobs with higher pay, less hours and less stress.

A teacher who started working in 2010 and made normal progress up the pay scale has lost over £64,000 in real terms.

Teachers work more unpaid overtime than any other profession. Working weeks of 55-60 hours are commonplace.

Primary class sizes are the highest in Europe. And secondary class sizes the highest since records began.

This crisis will only get worse if nothing is done to pay teachers properly for the essential work they do.

If ministers really do care about children's education, they should make time to negotiate a settlement on a fully funded pay rise.

Teachers and support staff help build the nation's future and its most precious resource - our children.

We don't want to be on strike. We want to be in the classroom, doing what we do best - teaching your children.

But we can't stay silent any longer.

**Please support us.**

[payupsos.com](http://payupsos.com)







Scan this QR code to find out what you can do to support us.

**PAY UP! SAVE OUR SCHOOLS** 



# Useful Links

Here are some links we think you might find useful and a brief description of each:

	<p>SIMS Parent helps keep your children safe. In an emergency, up-to-date information helps schools meet their safeguarding obligations. Manage what information the school holds right from your phone. You will need an invitation from us to access this.</p>
	<p>We use ParentPay for the vast majority of payments made to school. You can also view the current menu and book your child's lunch. Read their <a href="#">FAQ's</a> here.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Ofsted Parent View</a> gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think of our school. The <a href="#">questionnaire</a> can be completed at any time.</p>
	<p>We have several social media accounts to help keep you up-to-date with what's going on in school.</p> <p>We love to see your photo's from home too!</p> <p>Email us on <a href="mailto:instagram@picknalls.co.uk">instagram@picknalls.co.uk</a></p>

# Contact Us

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[Instagram@picknalls.co.uk](https://www.instagram.com/picknalls.co.uk)

[www.picknalls.com](http://www.picknalls.com)

[Uttoxeter Learning Trust](#)

Happy Hours—[book your before and after school care:](#)

07518 383775

[Happy Hours Facebook page](#)



# Cost of Living Support

Here are some links to places and ideas we hope you'll find useful if you are struggling with the increasing cost of living.

 <p>An online directory service and a one-stop-shop for all things health, care and events in Staffordshire</p>	 <p>Support and advice available in the East Staffs borough</p>	 <p>A scheme run by SCC to help residents to heat their homes for less using energy efficient solutions</p>	 <p>South Staffs Water</p> <p>If your household income is less than £19,050 per year, you may qualify for a discount on your water charge</p>	 <p>Get free water saving devices to help lower your energy bills</p>
 <p>Facebook group for people living in Uttoxeter. A local warm place, warm clothes bank, food bank and more</p>	 <p>Facebook group with info, events and tips for East Staffs families</p>	 <p>Uttoxeter Renew Church Facebook group. Food bank, support network for people living in Uttoxeter</p>	 <p>The Globe Foundation</p> <p>Free 'Repair Room' - last Friday every month 1.30pm-4.30pm. You pay for materials, costs discussed upfront</p>	 <p>Star Burton Charity store sells furniture from £5-£200, home starter packs from £100 and can deliver for a charge</p>
 <p>Uttoxeter Leisure Centre offers 50% off their facilities for low income families</p>	 <p>One FREE swimming voucher per child per session, but you can apply as many times as you want</p>	 <p>Social tariffs are cheaper broadband and phone packages for people claiming Universal Credit, Pension Credit and some other benefits</p>	 <p>Staffordshire Live for all the cost of living support cash you can access in Staffordshire</p>	 <p>Money Saving Expert sign up for weekly money tips emails</p>

# Future Dates 13th March 2023

The following dates are the key events we have planned so far for this term. Every fortnight we will email you with an update of this list. Further dates can be found on the school website [home](#) and 'Calendar' pages. Please note - dates may be subject to change at short notice.

## March 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
13	14	15 Pm: Year 1 Parents workshop	16	17 <a href="#">Red Nose Day 2023</a>	18	19 <b>RED NOSE DAY</b>
20 Duck eggs arrive <a href="#">4.00-6.00pm-Indoor Canoeing-Robert Sutton*</a> Purple Epilepsy ribbons available from school office-donations	21	22 <a href="#">9.30-11.30am-Year 3/4-Swimming Gala*</a> <a href="#">10.00-12.00pm-Indoor Athletics final*</a> <a href="#">4.00-6.00pm-Football Tournament-Cheadle Primary*</a>	23	24 12.00pm: Lunchtime Supervisor Job Vacancy <a href="#">Closing Date</a> 3.20pm-Purple Cake Sale for Epilepsy Awareness	25	26
27 Easter Egg Raffle tickets on sale this week	28	29 2.40pm: Year 4-Ukulele performance to parents	30	31 Last day of term Easter Activity Day—including Bonnet Parade and Raffle draw		

## April 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
3 7.00am-6.00pm-Happy Hours Holiday Club 8.30am-5.30pm Progressive Sports Holiday Club	4 7.00am-6.00pm-Happy Hours Holiday Club 8.30am-5.30pm Progressive Sports Holiday Club	5 7.00am-6.00pm-Happy Hours Holiday Club 8.30am-5.30pm Progressive Sports Holiday Club	6 7.00am-6.00pm-Happy Hours Holiday Club 8.30am-5.30pm Progressive Sports Holiday Club	7 Good Friday	8	9
10 Bank Holiday Monday	3 7.00am-6.00pm-Happy Hours Holiday Club 8.30am-5.30pm Progressive Sports Holiday Club	4 7.00am-6.00pm-Happy Hours Holiday Club 8.30am-5.30pm Progressive Sports Holiday Club	5 7.00am-6.00pm-Happy Hours Holiday Club 8.30am-5.30pm Progressive Sports Holiday Club	6 7.00am-6.00pm-Happy Hours Holiday Club 8.30am-5.30pm Progressive Sports Holiday Club	15	16
17 INSET Day-No children in school 7.00am-6.00pm-Happy Hours Holiday Club	18 Summer Term 1 begins	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Arts Week	28	29	30

## May 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1 May Day Bank Holiday	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Coronation Bank Holiday	9 4.00pm-Year 4-Athletics at Rycroft	10 Year 4- Bikeability	11 Year 4- Bikeability	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Whole School Outdoor Learning Day	20	21
22	23 4.00pm-Year 4-8 a side Invasion Games-Windsor Park	24	25	26 Last day of half term	27	28
29	30	31				

Half Term Holiday