# **Colley Lane Primary Academy**

Never settle for less than your best

# Newsletter - 4th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Spring is always the time of year when you look around home to see what needs a good clean or how you can make a few changes to rooms and it is the same here at school. We have started to review areas around school that need to be improved, haven't been used as much during the pandemic or just need a good spring clean. You may have noticed that the Nursery garden has been tidied as a start which has allowed more space for the children. We are looking at how we can improve the space to provide different opportunities as well as improving privacy. This will not be a quick process but it has started with one skip of rubbish being removed already. The next step is to look at the Reception outdoor space and tidy that up. I am also aware that there is a piece of equipment in the KS1 playground that has been fenced off for a while which we will be removing to open up the playground further.

Spring is also the time when we look at our actions for the year and review how we are getting on. This year as a school three of the main targets were improving fluency in Reading, attainment in Maths and embedding high expectations of behaviour for learning with the children. The Aspire Mountain displays the expectations for the learners behaviours and as I stated in the last newsletter we will share the values and learner skills each week for parents to support us with.

You can also help with reading at home by listening to your child share a story or ask them about what they have read at school. Each year group has a Whole Class Reading book that they are focusing on so that would be a good point to start a conversation around reading. And remember any reading from a football programme, game instructions or recipe is valuable for your child and helps to improve their reading. You could even try Wordle with older children to develop thinking around words.

When it comes to Maths and helping at home, we all help out with times tables and number bonds but there are many other things you can do to improve recall of numbers. Helping with money when shopping, playing the number plate game, where you add the numbers up or even trying Sudokos or card games all support the maths curriculum. Perhaps try a few of these this week.

The MORE that you READ, the More things you will KNOW.
The MORE that you Learn, the more places you'll GO.

Mr Dominic Simpson Headteacher

### **Next week's Aspire Character and Learner skills**

- I am compassionate
- I am resilient
- I can communicate clearly



### **Colley Lane Primary Academy**

Colley Lane, Halesowen B63 2TN **Tel**: 01384 900450 **Email**: info@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk **Website**: https://www.colley.dudley.sch.uk **Twitter**: @colleylane

### **Key Dates**

- Monday 7th February Year 3 Trip to Birmingham Symphony Hall
- Monday 21st February -25th February -Spring Half Term
- Tuesday 29th March Parents Evening
- Wednesday 30th March Dance Festival at Stourbridge Town Hall
- Thursday 31st March Parents Evening
- Monday 11th April Friday 22nd April Easter Holidays
- Monday 16th May Young Voices
- Monday 30th May Friday 3rd June Summer Half Term
- Monday 6th Wednesday 8th June Year 6 PGL Residential Trip
- Monday 25th July Friday 2nd September -Summer Holidays



#### Reminders

#### School start and finish times

Start time - All years - Doors open at 8.40am, school starts at 8.55am

Finish time -Reception and KS1 - 3.05pm. All KS2 - 3.15pm

#### Tuck Money - KS2

Can parents please check their ParentMail account to make sure there is money if they would like their child to have tuck at break time. Please note that this also applies to families who receive free school meals. Items are 30p each and there is a range of food available.

#### Coats

Can we remind all parents / carers to make sure children bring a coat to school with their name on. We do still have limited coats available to buy from the school office for just £5.

#### Uniform

Please can all children's uniforms, coats, water bottles and lunch boxes be labelled with their child's full name.

### PΕ

All children are to come into school with their PE kits on their PE days.

### **Parking**

Can we remind you that the car park is for **staff only**. Please use alternative parking when bringing / collecting your child from school.

### Iris Parent Mail

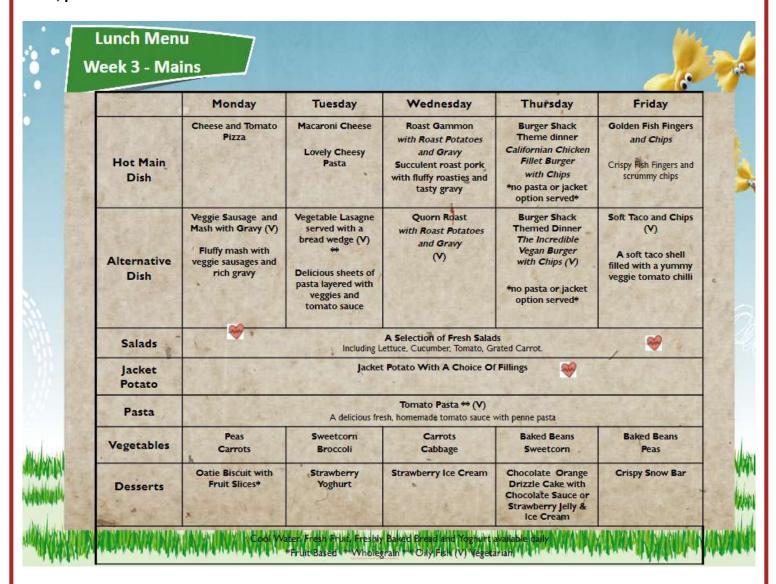
ParentMail is our main communication platform where you will receive emails from Mr Simpson, the office and teachers keeping you informed of school events, trips and class news. You can also report absences, book and pay for Breakfast and After School Clubs and purchase uniforms.

We encourage all parents to register if you haven't already. For those who haven't and if you have an email address, you will be receiving a verification email soon via your emails. Please follow the link on the email to register. You will get notification when we send out forms for trips, all payments will be via Parentmail. Please contact the school office if you need any assistance.

## General Reminders

#### **School Dinners**

Just a reminder that you no longer need to book meals in advance, children can choose what they would like to eat on the day at the counter. Parents will still need to ensure that there is money in their child's ParentMail account but children will indicate they are having a hot dinner on the day in registration. **Next week is Week 3 Menu, please see below:** 



The menus rotate on a 3 week cycle and all menus can be found on the website under 'School Life' then 'Essential Information'. You can also pick up a copy from the school office.

#### Asthma

Just a reminder that if your child needs an inhaler in school, please can you come to the office to fill in the relevant paperwork. You will be asked to leave one inhaler in school.

#### Class Dojo

Please sign up to Class Dojo this weekend using the letter provided from school. For more information please see your child's class teacher or the school office.

#### Parking

We would like to remind parents and carers to park considerately around school. We have attached a letter from the West Midlands Police regarding Dudley's Operation Park Safe scheme. We would appreciate it if you can take a moment to read it and follow the rules set out in the Highway Code outlined in the letter.

Concerned parents/carers now have the opportunity to report unsafe parking via their Self Reporting Scheme. Copies of these forms are available in the office.

Please can we respectfully ask for all parents to park considerately around school. The parking for the bungalows on Colley Lane must not be used as this area is only for the owner's use. Thank you.

#### PE Davs

Nursery - Wednesday

Reception - Monday

Year 1 - Wednesday

Year 2 - Thursday

Year 3 - Monday and Tuesday

Year 4 - 4R & 4K Tuesday and Thursday, 4H - Tuesday and Wednesday

Year 5 - 5C & 5A Monday and Friday, 5W - Thursday and Friday

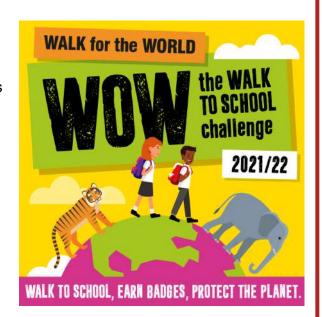
Year 6 - Wednesday and Friday

#### Walking to School

We are currently taking part in Dudley's Walk to School campaign. Children log their daily journeys to school and are awarded badges if they walk to school on a regular basis.

Daily walking helps children with their physical and mental health and is a great way to start the day. Well done to year 3, who have won January's walk to school challenge and to all the children who have been awarded a badge.

Who will win February's challenge?



### **Attendance**

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason please let us know as soon as possible by:

- Calling 01384 900450 and speaking to a member of staff or leaving a message.
- Sending an email to <a href="mailto:attendance@collev.windsoracademytrust.org.uk">attendance@collev.windsoracademytrust.org.uk</a>
- Reporting their absence via the ParentMail App.

Please be aware you **must** report your child's absence **every day** that they are unable to attend school.

#### If your child tests positive for Covid:

The isolation period has now changed to 5 full days, if they test negative with a lateral flow test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to school immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be <u>reported to NHS Test and Trace</u>.

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two Lateral Flow tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

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# What's been happening in school this week?

# **Nursery**

We have had a fabulous couple of weeks in Nursery exploring Chinese New Year. The children have enjoyed trying to use chopsticks, creating their own Chinese lanterns and learning all about how Chinese New Year is celebrated.

This week, we have also enjoyed taking part in National Storytelling Week, sharing well known stories without a book and making up some of our stories. In Whole Class Reading last week we found out that our new book was set on a leaf and was all about a caterpillar. This week we then revealed our new book 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and enjoyed using Sequencing Suki to put the story back into the correct order.

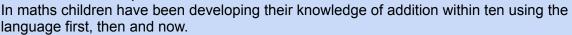
In maths, we have been exploring 2D and 3D shapes. We have learnt new vocabulary to explain our shapes and will be finding shapes in the environment next week.

Have a wonderful weekend!

## Reception

Reception children have had another fantastic week exploring Chinese New Year, they have developed their learning further through using new vocabulary. They have also used their existing knowledge of different fruits and African animals to predict their new whole class reading book, Handa's Surprise. The children have enjoyed listening to the story this week and have been very creative and made their own fruit baskets.

The children have also used their knowledge of fruits to write riddles for our Young Writer's Riddle Competition.



Next week the children will be learning about the Winter Olympics!



## Year 1

We have been out looking for signs of Winter this week. As part of the Science curriculum the children have to undertake a year-long topic so we are looking at how our environment changes around us as the seasons change. We went out for a walk around our field and glade with our clipboards (making it very official) with some pictures of things to tick off when we'd found them. We identified the evergreen and deciduous trees and spotted some different leaf shapes left from Autumn.

We are excited to see some signs of growth from our bean seeds. While we have been waiting, we have been learning the names of different common flowers such as rose, daffodil, tulip, bluebell, daisy and many more.

In our English lessons, we have been looking at instructions and thinking about how they are written. We have had some fun talking about "bossy verbs" and the children have enjoyed the opportunity to be bossy, giving instructions to their partners, acting out how to get ready for school. We have also made jam sandwiches, in preparation for writing our own set of instructions. The children had great fun even though some declined the opportunity to eat their creations!

In PE, the children have been practising their gymnastics and are developing their balancing skills. We have been learning some rolls and are working on

putting together a little routine. For our warm up, we are working very hard on skipping. It is quite difficult but the children are showing great resilience. We are getting there!

Have a lovely weekend.

## Year 2



We have had a busy but brilliant couple of weeks in Year 2! This week we concluded our aspirational theme with our 'Fantastic Finish'. The children reflected on their ASIRE sentences and thought hard about which learner skills they need to develop in order to be successful. As one theme ends, another one starts. Next week we are excited to begin our design technology and music theme. The children will be evaluating existing products, designing their own pizzas and then evaluating them. Even more excitingly we will be making these pizzas at 'Our Hive'.

In writing over the last couple of weeks, the children have written some wonderful character descriptions based on the characters; Boggis, Bunce and Bean! We enjoyed choosing

synonyms for some boring adjectives and upleveling them using a thesaurus. The Year 2 children also experimented with similes, describing the crook's different features and personality traits. The children then wowed their teachers by including these in their independent writing!

In maths, the children have been introduced to fractions, finding halves and quarters of shapes. Ask your child if they can explain to you what a numerator, denominator and a vinculum is!

Have a lovely, restful weekend and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday.

### <u>Year 3</u>

A creative week in Year Three across many of their lessons. In Science this week we have been investigating the relationship between the apparent movement of the sun and the length of shadows. As we did not have a sunny day the children used a sundial and figure and moved the torch slowly moving up and around each hour. I wonder if your child can tell you when the shortest shadow was and why? Next week, to link with it being National storytelling week this week, we will be making shadow puppets to help us tell a story.

As you may have seen on Twitter and class dojos we have been inspired by the work of the artist Darrell Wakelam. The children were resilient in creating their tinfoil sculpture; not as easy as they first thought! As it was Chinese New Year they chose an animal to create out of foil. Next week the children will be using cardboard to create animals.

This week we began our DT project which will result in the children producing a photo frame. This week they have researched function, size, shape and explored various designs.

As you know and again, may have seen on class dojo, we had a great time over at Our Hive; a big thanks to Mrs Shuker and Miss Hunt. There was a wide range of activities for the children to choose from and as always they loved spending time in the relaxing environment. We used this as a stimulus for our recount writing in preparation for our independent write following on from our trip to Symphony Hall in Birmingham next Monday.



Have a lovely weekend.

## Year 4

We have had a fabulous fortnight in Year 4 over the last few weeks! The children have used the ASPIRE mountain over the last few weeks to try and become 'unstuck' in all areas of the curriculum.

Maths has seen significant work being carried out with fractions and I can honestly say that the children have a solid understanding of how to convert improper fractions to mixed numbers, how to find unit fractions of numbers using a bar model and they can also add and subtract fractions.

Writing over the last few weeks has seen the children write about their favourite sandwich and how to make it. Some children even made their sandwich at home! Maybe, you could ask your children to read out their recipe and you can make their sandwich!









Our new theme in English is Beowulf and we read the abridged book this week and acted out the different chapters after watching the cartoon version too. It is book full of blood and gore and I can guarantee that this book hooks the children. They can't wait to see what they will be doing in English over the next few weeks! Also in English, you may have noticed on Class Dojo this week that we have put on the spellings for this week. We are having a big push with spellings so the children can 'communicate clearly in their writing. Please encourage your child to use Spelling Shed to learn them.

We completed our ASPIRE work on 'Can Everyone Achieve?' which looked at people that may face adversity each day and the children use the ASPIRE mountain to be 'more 'compassionate'. Our final lesson on this was reading about and watching videos about adults who have facial disfigurements and how we should all judge everyone equally as we are all the same in so many ways. We read about August from the book 'Wonder' as a starting point.

Our new theme until half-term now is designing and making a chocolate bar for Valentine's Day. We have tasted chocolate this week and investigated which type of chocolates children like. In 4R the favourite chocolate was Cadbury Dairy Milk, in 4K it was a Cadbury's Creme Egg and in 4H it was also a Cardbury's Creme egg!.

Science has seen the children carry out lots of investigations based on sound. We have investigated pitch using elastic bands and we are investigating how sound can be muffled.

### Year 5

It has been a busy and exciting couple of weeks in Year 5. Children have worked incredibly hard and have used our ASPIRE values to support their learning.

In reading, we are really getting into the story - Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. During National Storytelling Week, it was a perfect opportunity to hold quality book talks and share our opinions about the story and Lewis Carroll's writing style. We have also shared a range of other stories too.

During English lessons this week, we have started a new writing style focus: diary writing written from a character's perspective. We will be developing skills, vocabulary and writing styles building up to creating a diary entry from the perspective of Alice, the main character from our class book.

In maths, we have started our new unit:angles. We have learned how to correctly use a protractor and also classify acute, obtuse and reflex angles. There are some practical maths tasks ahead of us next week and we can look forward to consolidating our understanding before finishing this half term.

During science this week, our scientific investigation focussed on friction, with the question: Which material would make the best floor surface to stop people from slipping? We had great fun using the force meters and a variety of materials during this practical lesson and recorded our findings on a table. We followed this with whole-class discussions about our findings.

And in our DT theme project, we have explored different techniques used to join card to other materials so we could apply those methods to create a marble run bridge.







If you can send in any spare cardboard toilet and kitchen roll holders, that would be great. We are so excited to produce the end product.

Have a great weekend!

### Year 6

This week has been another great one in Year 6. We have been working hard in all subjects - undertaking experiments in science, writing diary entries in English, practising our hockey skills in PE and studying architecture in Art.



In Science at the beginning of the week, the children were investigating microorganisms and identifying whether they were living things. The children mixed warm water with yeast and sugar, before placing a balloon on top of the bottle. The children watched as the gases produced were trapped and began to blow up the balloon. We had so much fun with this!



As part of our English topic, the children have studied diary entries this week. The children put themselves in Aya's shoes to write about her experiences either travelling in the lorry out of Syria or on the boat journey across the Mediterranean Sea. The children were so inspired by our book 'No Ballet Shoes in Syria' and were incredibly creative with their writing.

In PE, the children developed and enhanced their hockey skills, furthering their understanding of how to play the game correctly. In Art, the children investigated the features of great architecture, identifying influential architects and the techniques they use to create their designs. We have really enjoyed our week!

A couple of quick reminders - we would love for you to download ClassDojo, to ensure you are receiving any messages or notes that we send to you. Also, it is National Storytelling Week this week. Why not share a story with your child or another family member. We are really looking forward to another busy week next week.

# Other News....

### Netflix Age Ratings

You will be aware that Netflix is hugely popular across all ages but there have been concerns in relation to age ratings and the type of content that is recommended to viewers. Like many other services, Netflix uses algorithms to determine what you might like to watch based on viewing history, what you have liked etc.

Since last year, Netflix has been working with the BBFC and 100% of the content on Netflix is now age-rated to BBFC classification standards. It is the first UK streaming service to accomplish this.

Here is a guide on how to set up a child account and choose maturity ratings. Parental controls on Netflix

### Colley Lane Website

If you haven't already, please take the time to look at our new website at <a href="https://www.colley.dudley.sch.uk/">https://www.colley.dudley.sch.uk/</a>
You will be able to find all the information that you need about our school including key information, news and dates and parent information.

# **Pupil Achievements**

This week's Hot Chocolate Friday children:

								$\Box$
RDW	RY	1N	1MS	2D	2E	3H	3W	
Ethan	Ellis	Ruby	Chad	Michael	Riley M	Abdul	Dacey	
4R	4K	4H	5W	5C	5A	6Н	60	<b>6S</b>
Ed	Umaymah	Jacob	Emma	Ella-Mae	Mariya	Rebeccah	Reyhaan	Absent - will attend next week



Well done to Lily in 2E who got girl of the game last week for her team Halas Hawk Angels and managed to score 2 goals as well! Fantastic work Lily!



Alyssa Hadley of 3W passed her first gymnastics badge, Badge 8 at Earls Gymnastics this week - Congratulations Alyssa!



On Saturday, Ethan Foxall 3W and Finley Cheadle 3H played at Worcester Warriors during the half time interval. There were 6800 in the crowd. Both boys played well with all their Old Halesonians U8 team. Fantastic opportunity for them. Well done boys!



Please email achievements to <a href="mailto:info@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk">info@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk</a>

### The Kindness Corner

### **Black Country Food Bank**



The collection box for Black Country Food Bank is now in the school foyer where donations can be brought in at any time throughout the school year.

If you are able to donate any non-perishable food items please bring these along to the school office where we will collect them before donating them to help our local food bank and community.

Take a look at the amazing work they do by visiting their website at <a href="https://www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk/">https://www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk/</a>

### **Action for Happiness**



# **Diary Dates**

#### **Spring Half Term**

Monday 21st February 2022 to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Return to school Monday 28th February 2022

### **Easter Holidays**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022

Return to school Monday 25th April 2022

#### **Summer Half Term**

Monday 30th May 2022 to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022

Return to school on Monday 6th June 2022

### **Summer Holidays**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022 to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2022

Return to school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022

### **Bank Holidays**

New Year - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022

May Day – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022

Inset days to be confirmed

# Sports Clubs

### Colley Lane Sports Club News

It was amazing this week to take 32 children to our first sports competition in nearly two years at Windsor High School. The children were wonderful and we even had one comment from a passenger on the bus about their good behaviour.

The football competition itself went really well with the Boys coming 1st and 3rd and the Girls 2nd and 3rd. Well done to all of the children involved, and are now looking forward to many more competitions in other sports coming soon.



The price of clubs is £1 per club to a maximum of £3 regardless of how many clubs attended per week (this doesn't include JSB clubs.)

Unless your child has PE on the same day as a club they must come in school uniform and bring their kit to change into. If they are participating in a club before school they can come in their kit and bring their uniform to change into if they don't have PE that day, this also applies to the JSB club.



Sports Clubs							
	Before school (Start time)	Cost	After school (Finish time)	Cost			
Monday	Y4 & Y5 Cross Country (8.00)	£1.00	Y3 & Y4 Multi Sports (4.15) Y1 & Y2 Multi Skills (4.30)* JSB	£1.00 £3.00			
		£1.00	Y5 &Y6 Netball (4.15)	£1.00			
Tuesday	Y3 & Y4 Tri Golf (8.10)		Y3 & Y4 Dance (4.15)	£1.00			
			Y5 & Y6 Football (4.30)*JSB	£3.00			

Wednesday	Y5 & Y6 Football (8.00)*JSB	£2.00	0/5 C 0/C 0 (), 15 )	£1.00 £3.00
	Y3 & Y4 Football (8.00)*JSB	£2.00	Y5 & Y6 Basketball (4.15) Y3 & Y4 Dodgeball (4.30) *JSB	
Thursday		£1.00	Y5 & Y6 Hockey (4.15)	£1.00
	Y5 & Y6 Sportshall Athletics (8.10)		Y3 & Y4 Choir (4.15)	£1.00
	13 6-10 ороныши лишейся (8.10)		Y1 & Y2 Football (4.30)* JSB	£3.00
			Y3 & Y4 Football (4.30) * JSB	£3.00
Friday		£2.00	Y5 & Y6 Girls Football (4.30)	£1.00
	Y1 & Y2 Football (8.00) * JSB		Y5 & 6 Squad Football - Invite Only (4.30)	£1.00
			Y5 & Y6 Dodgeball (4.30) *JSB	£3.00

### Free School Meals

If your child is in Reception, years one or two, you will automatically be entitled for free meals under the new 'Universal Infant Free School Meals' criteria.

However if you do meet the criteria listed below then you will need to submit an online claim in order for your child's school to receive Pupil Premium funding.

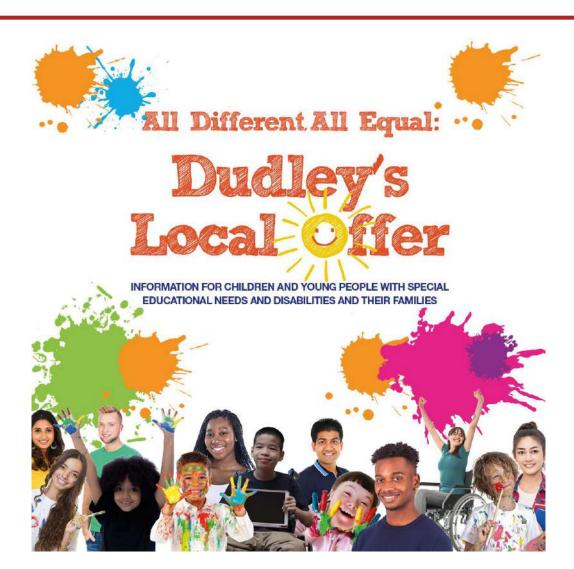
Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State 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 paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit (you must have less than £616.67 a month net earned income (after tax and not including any benefits)

Children who receive a qualifying benefit in their own right are also allowed to receive free school meals. Children under the compulsory school age who are in full time education may also be entitled to receive free school meals.

### Infant free school meals in England

Your child will be able to get free school meals if they're in a government-funded school and in: reception class, year 1 and year 2 Tell your local authority if you also get any of the qualifying benefits. Your child's school can get extra funding if you do. If you wish to apply for Free School Meals click here <u>Free School Meals</u> or collect a form from the office.



For more information please visit: <a href="https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/dudleys-local-offer/">https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/dudleys-local-offer/</a>