

Colley Lane Primary Academy

Never settle for less than your best

Newsletter - 14th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has seen the relaunch of our partnership with Dudley Performing Arts as we welcomed music teachers into Year 4 for djembe drums lessons and mixed brass instrument sessions. Who knew that the trombone was so loud? It was lovely to be able to add to our personal potential offer for the children and run this as a trial in Year 4 before involving other year groups. We are passionate about ensuring that all children can achieve success be that academic, personal or both and know that school is a better place for a wide, broad curriculum. We hope that this is the beginning of a great initiative for the children.

Another week, another change to the isolation guidance. We hope that the information that we send out is clear in regards to school procedures but if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. We have put the latest guidance in the attendance section of this newsletter. I also wanted to reassure you as parents and carers, that we continue to provide the best for the children despite the challenges at the moment. We have had a few staff isolating at times this term and I'm sure this will continue to be the case for this half-term. We have been fortunate that we are able to cover with staff the children know, which ensure continuity in their education and pastoral care. We do appreciate all your continued support.

On Tuesday, we welcome Ms Haywood, the new CEO of Windsor Academy Trust, to Colley Lane. She is visiting all the schools in the Trust over the new few weeks and I know that we will shine as we have a great community and superb children. She will be visiting classes, speaking to children and staff and looking at the Trust can support our school.



As the weather gets colder, it can get harder to get out of the house with young children but this week, we have had a large number of children arriving late to school. We open the gates at 8:40am and shut them at 8:55am. Please ensure that your child arrives at school on time as continually being late can lead to lost learning and establishing bad habits for the future.

Next Thursday, we are holding a themed "Burger Shack" school dinner and any child who has a hot meal on that day will be entered into the Parent and Pupil Prize draw - £50 tesco voucher and craft box. You've got to be in it to win it! The menu for next week is shown below.

Finally, we would love to share and celebrate how kind our pupils are in the Kindness corner section of the newsletter. Please email in any examples you have of your child or others in the community expressing kindness to those around them.

Have a peaceful weekend and wrap up warm if you are out and about.

Mr Dominic Simpson
Headteacher

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

- Thursday 20th January - Themed 'Burger Shack' school dinner
- **Friday 28th January - Inset day - School closed**
- Monday 7th February Year 3 Trip to Birmingham Symphony Hall
- Monday 21st February -25th February -Spring Half Term
- Monday 11th April - Friday 22nd April - Easter Holidays
- 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

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.

Lunch Boxes

Just a reminder that children should not bring chocolate bars into school unless it is biscuit based. Also can we remind you that no nuts or nut based products should be brought into school due to allergies. This includes nutella spread, peanut butter, Kinder Bueno bars etc.

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.

PE

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

Iris ParentMail

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, with a Themed Day on Thursday, please see below:**

Lunch Menu Week 3 - Mains		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Main Dish	Cheese and Tomato Pizza	Macaroni Cheese Lovely Cheesy Pasta	Roast Gammon with Roast Potatoes and Gravy Succulent roast pork with fluffy roasties and tasty gravy	Burger Shack Theme dinner Californian Chicken Fillet Burger with Chips *no pasta or jacket option served*	Golden Fish Fingers and Chips Crispy Fish Fingers and scrummy chips	
Alternative Dish	Veggie Sausage and Mash with Gravy (V) Fluffy mash with veggie sausages and rich gravy	Vegetable Lasagne served with a bread wedge (V) ** Delicious sheets of pasta layered with veggies and tomato sauce	Quorn Roast with Roast Potatoes and Gravy (V)	Burger Shack Themed Dinner The Incredible Vegan Burger with Chips (V) *no pasta or jacket option served*	Soft Taco and Chips (V) A soft taco shell filled with a yummy veggie tomato chilli	
Salads	A Selection of Fresh Salads Including Lettuce, Cucumber, Tomato, Grated Carrot.					
Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato With A Choice Of Fillings					
Pasta	Tomato Pasta ** (V) A delicious fresh, homemade tomato sauce with penne pasta					
Vegetables	Peas Carrots	Sweetcorn Broccoli	Carrots Cabbage	Baked Beans Sweetcorn	Baked Beans Peas	
Desserts	Oatie Biscuit with Fruit Slices*	Strawberry Yoghurt	Strawberry Ice Cream	Chocolate Orange Drizzle Cake with Chocolate Sauce or Strawberry Jelly & Ice Cream	Crispy Snow Bar	

Cool Water/ Fresh Fruit/ Freshly Baked Bread and Yoghurt available daily
*Fruit Based **Wholegrain ***Oily Fish (V) Vegetarian

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.

On Thursday 20th January we have a themed 'Burger Shack' menu. If your child has a hot dinner that day, they will be entered into a prize draw to win a 'pupil and parent prize' of £50 Tesco Vouchers and a reading and craft box.

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



BURGER SHACK

Thursday 20th January 2022

Tasty Mains
Californian Chicken Fillet Burger with Chips
or
The Incredible Vegan Burger with Chips

Scrummy Veggie Sides
Sweetcorn and Baked Beans

Yummy Desserts
Chocolate & Orange Drizzle Cake with Chocolate Sauce
or
Strawberry Jelly & Ice Cream



Don't forget, school meals are free for all children in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2!
To sign up for this tasty theme day menu, please speak to your school.

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 Days

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

Attendance

New Covid19 Guidance - effective from Monday 17th January 2022

Changes to the self-isolation period for those who test positive for COVID-19

From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will reduce their isolation period 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 their education or childcare setting 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 [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

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.

Anyone who is unable to take Lateral Flow tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Further [information on self-isolation for those with COVID-19](#) is available.

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 attendance@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk
- 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.

Thank you.

What's been happening in school this week?

Nursery

In Nursery this week the children have continued learning all about Winter. We have enjoyed exploring what happens during winter and will be taking a Winter walk around the school grounds next week to see the seasonal changes!

In Maths we have been practicing our counting using the counting stick. We have worked on orally counting forwards and backwards between 0 and 10 as well as introducing finger numbers. The children have been challenged to show the correct number of fingers throughout the week at different times and are all getting very good at them!

This week we have introduced our new whole class reading story by looking at where the book is set and meeting some of the main characters. We have found out that our new story will be set at the zoo and we have been introduced to some of the animals we will meet in the story and some of the noises they make!

Wishing everyone a wonderful weekend!

Reception

In Reception this week the children have continued learning all about Winter. They have learnt some new adventurous words to describe winter and have had a go at writing some new words and phrases. It has been wonderful seeing how well the children have been applying Phonics in their writing!

In Maths we have explored time and looked at seasons, days of the week and months of the year. The children did really well using our 'Star Words' in their discussions, including talking about the different activities they do both at school and home during the week, and when discussing their favourite time of the day. Not surprisingly, this was dinner time! In play it was lovely watching the children explore clocks and sand timers. The children used the sand timers to time themselves doing some exercise challenges! It was great to watch the children organising their activity and taking turns.

This week we started a new Whole Class Reading book. We learnt about goats, explored some new vocabulary and looked at animal habitats. Before we revealed our book, the children got the chance to be creative and draw their own trolls! The children let their imaginations run wild and we had some wonderful trolls, including a rainbow troll and another which had a spiky body! We read our book 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' before having fun acting out the story.

What a fun packed busy week we have had! Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Year 1

This week we started our new Science topic on plants. We looked at the different parts of a flower and talked about their functions. We will be planting seeds over the next few weeks, to find out how to make them grow and how to keep our plants healthy.

We have continued with our Aspire theme and this week we have been thinking about what skills and qualities are needed for different jobs.

We have also been talking about working collaboratively so the children had to work as part of a team, organising themselves to decide who needed to do what job in order to complete a task. We have some born leaders in Year One!

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Year 2

We have had another wonderful week in Year 2! We have continued our aspirational theme focusing on the learner skill, communicating clearly. We enjoyed working collaboratively with our partner by giving each other instructions on how to draw something. We had lots of fun seeing how successful we were! We have also looked at how we can be more responsible for our own things and actions.

Throughout our English lessons we have immersed ourselves in all things Fantastic Mr Fox! We have focused on the characters this week and have even had a go at creating some of our own. Within our writing lessons we have started to look at instructional writing. The Year 2 children have written command sentences to instruct someone to make goose and liver doughnuts.

In maths this week we have concluded our block on multiplication and division. To show off our maths skills we have done lots of reasoning, problem solving and have even been maths detectives. Thank you to all the children who took part in our first TTRS competition and well done to 2D.

It's been great to see the children back at forest school this week. The children were set on a special mission: to find some worms for our wormery. Luckily they succeeded and we now have some new additions to 2E and 2D, who are getting used to their new habitats.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you all next week.

Year 3

A creative week in Year Three. The children have had a focus on Winter and read, planned, composed and performed their own Winter themed poems. Some beautiful descriptions of snowflakes, ice and snowmen. The theme continued into Art. The children looked at images of snowflakes and discovered every snowflake is unique. They drew several designs before selecting one to create out of cotton buds. There are examples of their work on Twitter and in our Art gallery.

In Science we have been finding out the 7 colours in light and seeing how important light is. Without light sources we found it difficult to see and so worked collaboratively on how to represent the impact of there not being light; the impact on safety, work, plants and our mood!

Multiplication has been the focus over the week in Maths. Can the children explain what 'commutative' means? Children, keep working on TTRS across the week at home to secure your times tables and division skills.

'Goth girl and the ghost of a mouse' is our new whole class reader this half term so the children have been finding out what mansions are like inside as well as the gardens. We have been using the book cover and map of Ghastly Gorm hall to predict what we think might happen. The children are desperate to start reading it now!

Our ASPIRE theme has had a focus on character traits this week. Some great discussions communicating which traits the children felt were the most important. Lots of different opinions. The children will be bringing Bingo cards home to collect ways of demonstrating their character traits; responsibility and respect as two examples. Maybe some room tidying, table laying or drying up the dishes over the weekend!

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Year 4

Another fantastic week in Year 4. We have been very practical this week doing lots of activities involving actions and objects. We kicked off our new science topic of sound by investigating how different sounds were made using musical instruments and thinking about sources of sound. The children loved exploring (and making as much noise as they could!)

In English we have begun looking at instructional writing. We read, followed and annotated a variety of instructions including a recipe to make Mexican bean burgers and how to create a 7x table fortune teller. We particularly enjoyed competing against one another in a game of battleships after unpicking the instructions.

The Boy at the Back of the Class is proving to be a real hit with the Year 4's! This week we have read up to and including chapter 5. We have been introduced to Ahmet and discussed what a refugee was. The children showed great empathy when discussing why Ahmet had moved to London which was lovely to see.

Continuing with the theme of empathy, in theme this week we were looking at people who face adversity. The children completed a range of tasks including lip reading, doing everyday jobs with a hand behind their back and having to identify objects from just a description. We are working towards answering the question 'Can everyone achieve?'

Finally in maths, we have been exploring equivalent fractions. We created our own fraction walls and used these to find equivalents to a half, a quarter and a whole. The children were fantastic at spotting links between the numerator and denominator and using this to find even more equivalent fractions.

Not forgetting of course on Tuesday we started our Spanish lessons with Mrs Fernandez and our drumming with Mr K. What a busy week it has been! I wonder what next week has in store for us. Have a lovely weekend all!

Year 5

It has been a rewarding week for Year 5 children this week with lots of new experiences and quality discussions linked to our ASPIRE values.

English and Theme - Children explored how the ASPIRE values are embedded in many career paths and realised the fantastic opportunity to practise them now and throughout their education. We reviewed job adverts for the content and also the writing skills required to write our own job advert next week.

Reading - We have started our new class book, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll. We have enjoyed reading the first two chapters and have found the comments made from Alice, during her confusion, to be amusing. This book gives children a different style of writing, from a different genre and also time period. We hope they enjoy it just like many children and families have over many generations before them.

Maths - Children started their new focus in Maths Mastery, fractions and decimals. We have explored how to write and draw equivalent fractions and also how to convert fractions into hundredths (ready for future work on decimals and percentages). Fractions are sometimes one of the most fearful topics in maths but children have given each task their best efforts and, as always, support will always be given to address any misconceptions.

Science - This week, we used our iPads to record our findings from our investigation using force meters. Each group selected five objects and predicted the mass before weighing them using scales. They then predicted the value in Newtons and used equipment to check. Children are enjoying the practical aspect of this science block and are looking forward to future investigations.

One action packed and exciting week over and now we look forward to the next. Have an enjoyable weekend.

Year 6

What a fantastic first full week we have had back at school! The children have been eager to learn and they have really enjoyed the beginning of our new topics in Theme, Science and in English.

Our new Theme topic is based around 'Role Models and Aspirations' and the children have been thinking about careers they might like when they are older as well as challenging gender stereotypes in certain careers, such as being a nurse or a pilot. They have also learnt about two of Mr Smith's role models from when he was growing up, although still relevant today, that of Sir David Attenborough and David Beckham.

We have also started a new Science topic which focuses on living things and their habitats. In our first lesson, the children have focused on how we can classify animals based on their type, nutrition and skeletons. There were lots of discussions based on which animals were vertebrates and invertebrates.

In English, we have started reading 'No Ballet Shoes in Syria' which has already been a real eye-opener for the children as to the plight of refugees from Syria and other countries. It was brilliant to see and hear such empathetic discussions around refugees and the struggles that they face.

In addition, we just wanted to let you know that we are in the process of planning our second school trip of the year for after half term, aligning with the new Theme topic. No big reveals just yet though; although it does coincide quite nicely with the timing of the Easter holidays.

Finally, just a quick reminder that the children should be reading at home for 10 minutes a day and recording in their Reading Record. Have a wonderful weekend everyone.

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 <https://www.colley.dudley.sch.uk/>

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:



RDW	RY	1N	1MS	2D	2E	3H	3W	
Ryan	Elyas	Petra	Sophie	Clementine	Luke	Finley C	Scarlet F	
4R	4K	4H	5W	5C	5A	6H	6O	6S
Jack H	Emaan	Chantelle	Lewis	George	Taaha	Hamood	Grace	Khrya

Well done to Dalton McCoy-Armstrong in class 3W who won man of the match at his football club where he plays for Cradley Town. He was so happy and proud and wanted to share the news. Great news Dalton!

We would like to celebrate our pupils' achievements both in and out of school. If your child has achieved something out of school that they are proud of whether it be learning a new skill, sports or club certificates or overcoming a fear or obstacle for example, we would love to know.

Please email them to info@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk



The Kindness Corner

Examples of acts of kindness

Celebrity acts of kindness



In December Ed Sheeran and Elton John released their Christmas single a week early to help support Ladbaby in their attempt to get Christmas number one for the fourth year in a row.

Ed and Elton also collaborated with Ladbaby stars Mark and Roxanne Hoyle who have given all of the proceeds from their Christmas number one songs to The Trussell Trust, a charity who support over 1,200 food banks in the UK to provide food for those in need.

Not only did Ladbaby's song become Christmas number one ensuring more money for this wonderful charity but Ed and Elton also donated all of the proceeds from their Christmas single to the Ed Sheeran Suffolk Music Foundation and The Elton John Aids Foundation. True acts of kindness!

If you know anyone who has performed an act of kindness in the community, no matter how big or small, and you would like them to be recognised in our newsletter, please send us the details to info@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

We would love to see some of your great acts of kindness in The Kindness Corner.

Black Country Food Bank

**BLACK COUNTRY
FOOD BANK**
LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST

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 <https://www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk/>

Diary Dates

Spring Half Term

Monday 21st February 2022 to Friday 25th February 2022

Return to school Monday 28th February 2022

Easter Holidays

Monday 11th April 2022 to Friday 22nd April 2022

Return to school Monday 25th April 2022

Summer Half Term

Monday 30th May 2022 to Friday 3rd June 2022

Return to school on Monday 6th June 2022

Summer Holidays

Monday 25th July 2022 to Friday 2nd Sept 2022

Return to school on Monday 5th September 2022

Bank Holidays

New Year – Monday 3rd January 2022

May Day – Monday 2nd May 2022

Inset days to be confirmed

Sports Clubs

Colley Lane Sports Club News

This week morning sports clubs have been a little on the quiet side, we understand that it's cold and frosty on a morning at the moment but it would be lovely to see more faces beginning the day energising themselves. It really is a great way to start the day.

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

	<i>Before school (Start time)</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>After school (Finish time)</i>	<i>Cost</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Y4 & Y5 Cross Country (8.00)</i>	<i>£1.00</i>	<i>Y3 & Y4 Multi Sports (4.15)</i> <i>Y1 & Y2 Multi Skills (4.30)* JSB</i>	<i>£1.00</i> <i>£3.00</i>

Tuesday	Y3 & Y4 Tri Golf (8.10)	£1.00	Y5 & Y6 Netball (4.15)	£1.00
			Y3 & Y4 Dance (4.15)	£1.00
			Y5 & Y6 Football (4.30) * JSB	£3.00
Wednesday	Y5 & Y6 Football (8.00) * JSB	£2.00	Y5 & Y6 Basketball (4.15) Y3 & Y4 Dodgeball (4.30) * JSB	£1.00 £3.00
	Y3 & Y4 Football (8.00) * JSB	£2.00		
Thursday	Y5 & Y6 Sportshall Athletics (8.10)	£1.00	Y5 & Y6 Hockey (4.15)	£1.00
			Y3 & Y4 Choir (4.15)	£1.00
			Y1 & Y2 Football (4.30) * JSB	£3.00
			Y3 & Y4 Football (4.30) * JSB	£3.00
Friday	Y1 & Y2 Football (8.00) * JSB	£2.00	Y5 & Y6 Girls Football (4.30)	£1.00
			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 [Free School Meals](#) or collect a form from the office.