

Colley Lane Primary Academy

Never settle for less than your best

Newsletter - 15th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely this week to open the doors and welcome parents and carers into school for Parents Evenings. We hope that you enjoyed looking at your child's books, sharing the progress they have made and visiting the classrooms. Thank you to Helen in the kitchen for providing samples of school dinners and puddings which may have persuaded you to try school dinners as the weather gets colder. I have to say that there were so many proud parents and children that it didn't seem quite as long since the last time we held a parents evening. I hope that you found the experience of booking online and the reports useful and we hope to hold more parent workshops soon.

This week has also seen the start of a new tradition at Colley Lane as we announced Headboy, Headgirl, Deputy Headboy and Deputy Headgirl. The children in Year 6 who wanted to put them forward all wrote a supporting letter which all the teachers read and then voted for. It was very close and each child that took part received a letter of achievement but well done to:

Headgirl: Alex Kerr

Headboy: Adriano Grabolli

Deputy Headgirl: Tatyana Vasileva

Deputy Headboy: Ryan Harrison

They will form the start of our Junior Leadership team with the school senate members from Year 3 to Year 6. It will be lovely to hear the ideas and suggestions from this group as well as ask the Headboy and Headgirl to be ambassadors for Colley Lane.

Thank you for your feedback on Accelerated Reader (AR) which is our new system for supporting all of our children to become confident, independent readers. We are at a very early stage of its implementation and we are continuing to develop our use of it further. As part of this, we will be focused on expanding the number of different AR books across all levels and capabilities of interest. In the meantime, please continue to read at home choosing the books you would like to read with them.

Please remember that next week is the last week of this half-term, which seems to have flown by, and we will be supporting Black Country Womens Aid on Friday by wearing something purple.

Have a lovely weekend and thank you for the support.

Kind regards

Mr Dominic Simpson

Headteacher

Colley Lane Primary Academy

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Website: <https://www.colley.dudley.sch.uk> **Twitter:** @colleylane

Key Dates

- Thursday 21st October- Open Day 9am-10am and 5pm-6pm
- Friday 22nd October - Go Purple for BCWA
- Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October - Half term
- Thursday 11th November - School meals Mexican Fiesta Day
- Wednesday 8th December - School meals Christmas Dinner
- Friday 10th December - School closed
- Monday 20th December - Monday 3rd January - Winter Holiday
- Tuesday 4th January - Inset day - School closed
- 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 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

Uniform

Please can all children's uniform, 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.

School Meals

Please book your school meals every Thursday by 4pm. The booking forms are sent out every Monday via ParentMail and on our website

Flu Letters

Please can you return your child's Flu immunisation consent form to school by Tuesday 19th October.

Home-school agreement

Can you please read, sign and return your child's home-school agreement to school by Friday 22nd October.

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.

General Reminders

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 this weekend using the letter provided from school. We are just using the "Classroom" tab at the moment. Class stories and Messaging will be used but staff are not checking these currently.

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.

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 - Wednesday and Thursday

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

Year 6 - Wednesday and Friday


Attendance

Lates

We have noticed an increase in the number of children arriving at school late over the last couple of weeks, whilst we are aware that sometimes this cannot be avoided, please be aware that your child should be at school, ready to learn at 8.55am, doors open at 8.40am.

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

MINUTES LATE PER DAY	EQUIVALENT OF MISSING	HOW MANY LESSONS THIS IS MISSED
5 MINUTES	3.4 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	17 LESSONS
10 MINUTES	6.9 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	35 LESSONS
15 MINUTES	10.3 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	51 LESSONS
20 MINUTES	13.8 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	69 LESSONS
30 MINUTES	20.7 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	104 LESSONS



Leaving school early

We ask that you please make every effort to avoid booking medical and dental appointments during school time, except in cases of emergency. If your child has a hospital or specialist appointment, please bring the letter to the school office where a copy can be placed on their file as proof of an authorised absence. Children should not leave school early unless it is for an appointment that we have been made aware beforehand and have a letter/medical card/medical appointment text for, or if school has asked you to collect your child early due to them

being ill in school.

A quick reminder;

If your child is ill with any of the following 3 symptoms they need to self-isolate immediately and you must carry out a Lateral flow test or book a PCR test as soon as possible:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste.

Please let school know any test results, or if your child is going to be absent for this or any other reason by;

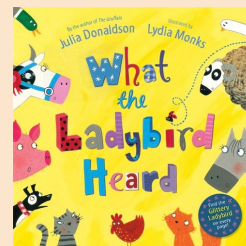
- Calling 01384 900450 and speaking to a member of staff or leaving a message.
- Sending an email to attendance@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk
- Reporting their absence via the ParentMail App.

What's been happening in school this week?

Nursery

We had a lovely Autumn walk this week. We collected different items and had fun exploring the natural areas in our school grounds. We used our senses to talk about what we could see, hear, smell and feel.

We have also started a new whole class reading story this week. We have started to explore new words in the story *What the Ladybird Heard*.



Reception

This week we have started phonics sessions. We have learnt how to recognise and write the letters s, a, t and p using the school handwriting scheme. We have also been focusing on hearing, saying and writing initial sounds in words.

We have been very busy this week and have started a new whole class reading story. We have learnt about different parts of the body and labelled different parts of the skeleton. Yesterday we predicted what the story was going to be, using our helper predicting pip, and found out that our new class story is *Funnybones!*



Year 1

Year 1 children have had a very busy week. In Science they have been investigating the senses of smell and taste. They had fun naming the foods they could smell such as garlic, chocolate, curry and cheese. They also enjoyed tasting and describing a range of different fruits, even lemon! In Maths, the children have been learning to use positional language through playing games and through programming the Beebots to move in different directions.

They have taken part in roleplay activities in English acting out scenes in our story *Knuffle Bunny*. The children then wrote speech bubbles for the two main characters. The children were full of great ideas and some were even able to include exclamation marks!



Year 2

We have had another brilliant week in Year 2. It was wonderful seeing so many parents and carers at parents evening. We hope you were impressed with the hard work that you saw in your child's books. In Whole Class Reading this week, we finished the text *Beegu*. We had some fantastic discussions around feelings within the text and it was lovely seeing some of the children getting excited that their predictions had been correct. In science, we were continuing to develop knowledge of materials and their properties. We did an investigation where we investigated which material was most suitable as a base for our shoe. We undertook the investigation and talked about how we could make it as fair as possible. We also thought about how we could record our results in the most scientifically appropriate way. There were some lovely, scientific comments made by the children.



Year 3

Well done Year Three for all your hard work this week. We have enjoyed using our acting skills when reading 'The BFG' this week. We have been reading about the dreams he creates and thinking about dreams we would like to have. We carried out an 'observation over time' enquiry in Science this week. We wanted to prove weaker rocks had gaps between the particles so we put sandstone in water. We knew the water must have gone inside the rock and as it pushed air out. We saw bubbles float to the top. Maths has been busy this week; reading, interpreting and constructing a range of graphs. In our writing lessons this week the children have been working independently on an assessment task. They were set the challenge of planning, writing and editing a story based on an astronaut and aliens. The children were resilient and very proud of themselves to see how much they were able to write. We are coming to the end of our theme, 'The Victorian era'. The children located where the Black Country was on maps and drew what they thought it might have looked like locally in the nineteenth century. They were able to use tone in their colouring which they had been trying out in Art earlier in the week. It was lovely to meet so many of you at parents evenings this week and the children loved showing you their work.

Year 4

We have had a wonderful time this week meeting parents and sharing the children's hard work with you in their books. Thank-you for taking the time to come into school and supporting your child in school and at home. In school this week, we have been continuing our work in gymnastics by using apparatus and different points of our bodies. In Science we have been classifying animals using a branching key. In theme lessons, we have used Google Docs on our iPads to write down a set of instructions on how to make bronze. During our English lessons, we have begun to write the first part of a diary entry about going back to the Stone Age based on 'The Stone Age Boy' using fronted adverbials and describing our feelings. In ASPIRE, we are having a focus next week on being responsible for our own belongings and learning, for example, tying their own laces, charging their iPads and reading their accelerated reader book independently and taking the quiz in school.

Year 5

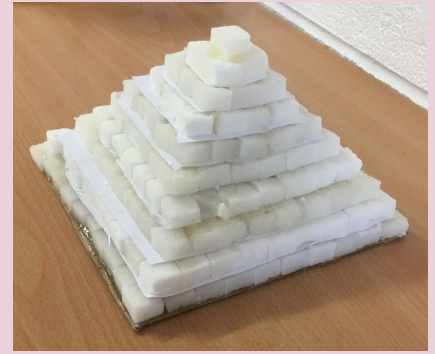
Year 5 have really enjoyed learning and applying writing skills within their work. They have explored Roald Dahl's use of similes and metaphors and have then written their own sentences describing Hazell's Wood. Next week will be our last week on our setting description focus and we are excited to be writing in our 'Excellent Writing' books once again. We are also getting towards the end of our first whole-class reading book and we have absolutely loved it.

In maths, we have explored converting between measurements and reading information on a timetable. Throughout this week children have worked out the duration of journeys on a bus timetable by adding and subtracting the amount of time (hours and minutes).

In science, we have researched how we know that the Earth is spherical. We discovered that theories and developments actually linked to our theme of the Ancient Greeks.

Year 6

This week, Year 6 have undertaken a range of exciting tasks. In Science, the children have researched key evolutionary pioneers including Charles Darwin and Mary Anning, to understand the impact these individuals have had upon the world of science. In English, the children have analysed the character of Ms Trunchbull from Roald Dahl's Matilda and have compared her to the Matron from the boarding school Roald Dahl attended as a boy. Next week, the children will be utilising the skills they have developed over the past week to write a character description as an extended piece of writing. Finally, Year 6 had a fantastic time in Theme this week, when they had the opportunity to build their very own sugar cube pyramid as a class! They worked in teams to build each layer of the pyramid and then as a class assembled them to create a fantastic square-based pyramid. They had so much fun!



Other News....

Colley Lane Primary Academy

Open Day

21st October 2021

9am-10am and 5pm-6pm

www.colleylanepriamry.org.uk



Click here book your place at Open Day - [Visit our school](#)

Active Autumn - Family Learning, Dudley Council

Family Learning are encouraging parents to spend time with their children, explore the great outdoors and embrace community cohesion and sustainability through a series of six challenges in the autumn months. The short course entitled Active Autumn is available to anyone who has access to the Internet and parents can find out more and register an interest by telephoning 01384 818143.

There is also the option to upload comments and photographs of their achievements. As with all Family Learning courses, there is no charge to participate.

Family Learning free courses

Family Learning are offering free courses every Monday 1pm-3pm at Our Hive, formally known as Little Colliers. We have attached some details of the courses on offer. If you are interested in joining us, please contact the office with the name of the course you are interested in.

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](#)

Secondary school applications for 2022 entry

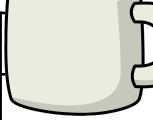
For those of you applying for Secondary schools for 2022 entry, please be reminded that the applications need to be submitted by 31st October 2021.

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	1H	1MS	2D	2E	3H	3W	
Aamna	Ben	Aizah	Lilly	Robert	Lexi - Mai	Alicia	Salina	
4R	4K	4H	5W	5C	5A	6H	6O	6S
Antonia	Reuben	Mason	Abdulrahman	Hannah	Florence	Cody	Aurora	Rayan



A big well done to Harry Bateman in RDW who achieved his Duckling 3 Award at Swimming this week! We are very proud of you Harry!

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

Black Country Food Bank

A huge thank you to those families who brought in donations of food this week. We are going to be setting up a collection box for Black Country Food Bank 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.

Purple Day

Children are allowed to wear their own clothes to school for Go Purple day. However, please make sure that they are dressed in clothes that are suitable for the school day.

If your child has PE on a Friday please ensure that the clothes they wear are suitable for sports, or that they bring their PE kit with them in to school.

Poppy Appeal

The Poppy Appeal merchandise has arrived in school and children will be going round school next week to sell the following: zip pulls, poppy reflectors, silicon wristbands, snap bands, poppy pins and poppies. Please can children bring in some change if they wish to purchase an item. Prices range from 50p - £1.50, depending on the item.



We're going purple to show our support

At Colley Lane we are proud to support our local charities and that is why **On Friday 22nd October 2021** we are 'going purple' to raise money for **Black Country Women's Aid**.

Please come to school dressed in something purple, or you could paint your nails purple, spray your hair purple, it's up to you!

Please bring a donation for this amazing charity.

To find out more visit www.blackcountrywomensaid.co.uk

Black Country Women's Aid
GO PURPLE 2021



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

POPPY APPEAL

Diary Dates

Autumn Half Term

Monday 25th October 2021 to Friday 29th October 2021

Return to school Monday 1st November 2021

School Closed Friday 10th December 2021

Winter Holiday

Monday 20th December 2021 to January 3rd 2022

Inset day - School closed Tuesday 4th January 2022

Children return to School - Wednesday 5th January 2022

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

Thank you for your continued support of clubs. It is brilliant to be able to offer the children so many different opportunities, hopefully during the school year there will be competitions and tournaments for the children to attend. Please make sure that parents/carers come down to the doors to collect the children and not wait in cars, especially as it gets darker, the car park is busy and small children aren't always seen by drivers.

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 JSB clubs.

<i>Sports Clubs</i>				
	<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>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Y3 & Y4 Tri Golf (8.10)</i>	<i>£1.00</i>	<i>Y5 & Y6 Netball (4.15)</i>	<i>£1.00</i>
			<i>Y3 & Y4 Dance (4.15)</i>	<i>£1.00</i>
			<i>Y5 & Y6 Football (4.30) * JSB</i>	<i>£3.00</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Y5 & Y6 Football (8.00) * JSB</i>	<i>£2.00</i>	<i>Y5 & Y6 Tag Rugby (4.15)</i> <i>Y3 & Y4 Dodgeball (4.30) * JSB</i>	<i>£1.00</i> <i>£3.00</i>
	<i>Y3 & Y4 Football (8.00) * JSB</i>	<i>£2.00</i>		
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Y5 & Y6 Sportshall Athletics (8.10)</i>	<i>£1.00</i>	<i>Y5 & Y6 Hockey (4.15)</i>	<i>£1.00</i>
			<i>Y3 & Y4 Choir (4.15) Cancelled</i>	<i>£1.00</i>
			<i>Y1 & Y2 Football (4.30) * JSB</i>	<i>£3.00</i>
			<i>Y3 & Y4 Football (4.30) * JSB</i>	<i>£3.00</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>Y1 & Y2 Football (8.00) * JSB</i>	<i>£2.00</i>	<i>Y5 & Y6 Girls Football (4.30)</i>	<i>£1.00</i>
			<i>Y5 & 6 Squad Football - Invite Only (4.30)</i>	<i>£1.00</i>
			<i>Y5 & Y6 Dodgeball (4.30) * JSB</i>	<i>£3.00</i>

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.