

Colley Lane Primary Academy

Never settle for less than your best

Newsletter - 22nd October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

They say time passes quickly when you are having fun and this half-term seems to have flown by! It has been lovely to become part of Colley Lane and see just how much potential the children have. Sharing their work at parents' evening was a very proud moment as well as seeing the smiles when children took part in Praise assembly. It is hard to believe how settled the children have been and all the wonderful work they have produced. A well-deserved break is needed by everyone.

Today we "went" Purple to raise awareness of Back Country Women's Aid and thank you for the kind donations. The children looked great although I wasn't brave enough to dye my hair like some! All the donations are being counted and we will let you know how much we raised next half-term.



Academy Photos have set Friday 3rd December for retakes if your child was absent. Once the photographs have been taken, parents can order directly with Academy Photos and not the school.

From time to time, programs and apps become the new best thing or "Fad" and usually, this is without the knowledge of parents or carers. One such program at the moment is Netflix's *Squid Game*. It is becoming a viral sensation and one of the downsides of this is that children are viewing content online that is inappropriate and parents need to know that the level of violence is very intense in *Squid Game*. There are a number of websites that give information about this including commonsensemedia.org. (<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/tv-reviews/squid-game>) With all these things it is always best to talk to your child about it if it comes up and establish your boundaries with your household.

It has been extremely beneficial having the children attend school in PE uniform on the appropriate days but the standard of the uniform is becoming a concern. The children need to wear the correct colour t-shirt to represent the house they are in. These can be purchased from the school office for just £3. Now that the weather has changed it is advised that the children wear a tracksuit, this needs to be a plain black or dark grey or navy in colour and have no logos or printing on it. These can be purchased relatively cheaply from various high street stores. Trainers also need to be dark colours or white (no red, pink etc.) Thank you for your support in this matter. We would like the children to look as smart in their PE uniform as in their normal school uniform.

Finally, I hope that you all have a good half-term holiday and keep safe. Thank you for the support over this half-term and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 1st September at 8:40 am prompt.

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

- Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October - Half term
- 31st October 2021 - deadline for applying to secondary schools
- 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 6th - Wednesday 8th June - Year 6 PGL Residential Trip
- Monday 25th July - Friday 2nd September - Summer Holidays

Reminders

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.

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

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.

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;

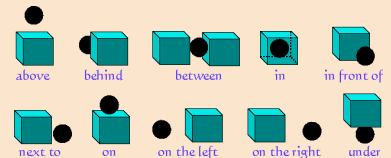
- Calling 01384 900450 and speaking to a member of staff or leaving a message.
- Sending an email to attendance@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

- Reporting their absence via the ParentMail App.

What's been happening in school this week?

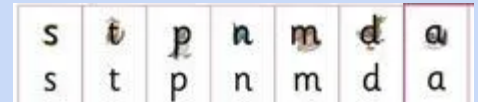
Nursery

Nursery have had a fantastic first half term. Existing nursery children and new starters have settled in well getting to know new key adults and making new friends. This week they have been retelling What the Ladybird Heard sing mask which the children really enjoyed. They also drew their own farms and talked about their pictures. In maths we have been looking at using preposition language such as next to, on top, behind and in between. Why don't you have a go at using these words at home? Use a toy and ask your child to put it on top of the table, next to the sofa and in between the chairs.



Reception

Reception children have had a great first half term in school. They have settled in well to their new environment and new routines. They are showing they are ready for learning by doing good sitting, listening and looking for everyone. This week they have explored their new whole class reading book, Funnybones. They have looked at speech bubbles and how authors choose different words to add effect. In maths they have been looking at numbers within 6 and one more than using objects, songs and a counting stick. In phonics they have now learnt the letters s a t p i n m d. Over half term why don't you encourage your child to have a go at recognising these sounds, forming them and thinking of words which start with one of the sounds.



Year 1

The excited Year 1 children discovered a witch's hat, a cauldron and a wand in the playground on Monday and have been writing some super descriptions of the witch from the story Room On A Broom! In Science, they have been naming and matching animals and their young.



The children have also been folding paper to make dogs. They were so proud of their creations that they wanted to take them home immediately! Later in the week, the children were able to think about how they might feel if someone spoilt or damaged their creation. This helped them to consider how Christians believe God might feel if people do not take care of the earth.



We are beginning our new geography based topic next half term. Could you please take a photograph of your child somewhere in our local area, standing near to a recognisable geographical feature such as a hill, a monument, shops or a pond for example? The other children will then look and say where they think they are and why.

Year 2

We have had another great week in Year 2 this week. In English, we have been writing Biographies about Amelia Earhart. It has been a chance for us to show all of our new learning from our history lessons from this half term. We were also able to demonstrate our new English skills including using conjunctions to extend our ideas and using captions to give more information about pictures. In science, we went on a materials hunt around the school. This time though, we started to think about why different materials had been used for different objects, using our knowledge about the properties of materials to help us. We have continued to demonstrate the ASPIRE values in our lessons. In maths we did some brilliant collaborative work when adding and subtracting 2 digit numbers. We also had to show resilience as we were working with some large numbers. It's been a super first half term in Year 2 and we hope you all have a restful break. We look forward to seeing you next half term where we will be beginning our new Geography theme. We can't wait!

Year 3

A great end to the half term in Year Three. The children have been enjoying starting each day reading and taking their book quiz. We have come to the end of reading 'The BFG' in class and have thoroughly enjoyed it, acting parts out and reviewing it. Lots of 5 star reviews. We have had a spelling and grammar focus in English across the week and the children have really impressed us with the application of their skills. A spelling booklet will come home with your child to help make sure they can read and spell the high frequency words from KS 1 and begin learning our Year Three spellings. In Maths we have been using a range of strategies to calculate answers when adding and subtracting; we have used partitioning, diennes and the columnar method. As you may have seen, we have been learning about how fossils are made and how important they are in Science. This week we also discovered the work of Mary Anning in Lyme Regis in the late C18. We have come to the end of our theme learning about Victorian life in the Black Country and the children have decided they would rather live now in the C21. I wonder why?! Can your child tell you? Have a lovely half term break.

Year 4

What a wonderful half-term we have had in Year 4! This week, we have been developing our reading skills in Accelerated Reader and becoming independent when we read our books, take the quiz and choose a new book. In English, the children have produced another superb piece of independent writing when writing diary entries about the Stone Age in our Excellent Writing Books. To end our theme, Stone Age to Iron Age, we completed a Key Assessment Task on, "Was the Stone Age a good time to be alive?" The children said that it was a good time because everything was free and you had the chance to see animals such as sabre-tooth tigers. The children said it was not a good time to be alive because if you were ill, there were no hospitals and also you had to kill animals so you could eat them. In Science, we have had fun sorting liquorice allsorts and classifying them, after we did this, we classified animals using our own questions to sort them into the different categories. We have rounded off the term practising rounding to 10, 100 and 1000! Over the holidays please keep up with TT Rockstars practise if you can. We have added a holiday tournament - boys v girls in each class. Good luck to both genders!

Year 5

As our first half-term together ends, we can reflect on what a brilliant start to Year 5 we have all had. This week we started a new maths learning block - multiplication and division. Children have discovered how to identify multiples, factors and prime numbers. We will continue this focus after half term.

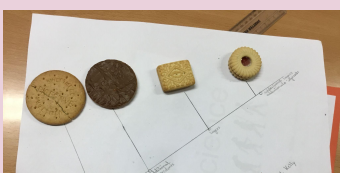
In theme, children finished their research booklets on the facts they have learned on Ancient Greece. We are incredibly proud of their achievements.

In English, children wrote their second piece of writing in their 'Excellent Writing' books. They described the setting of Hazell's Wood from our class book. During reading lessons, we finished reading Danny The Champion of the World and wrote a book review. We are already looking forward to our next class book.

Please continue reading your Accelerated Reader book and practising on TT Rockstars. Have a wonderful break.

Year 6

We have had an awfully busy week this week in Year 6. Firstly, the children revealed their mummified tomatoes, taking them out of the salt they have sat in for two weeks. They loved it! There were lots of disgusted faces and lots of giggles when they removed them from their shells. Additionally in Theme, the children played an Ancient Egyptian board game called Senet, which involved tossing bones (wooden lollipop sticks!) as dice and moving counters to try and win the game. The children had lots of fun playing this.



In Science, we came to the end of our Evolution and Inheritance topic. The children created cladograms, showing the development of biscuits over time. They found this really interesting and now have a very good understanding of how evolution works.

Finally, on Thursday, the children took part in a Science Live Lesson with the BBC. Steve Backshaw hosted the programme and the children worked hard to understand how horses evolved over time. Such a great week to finish the term!

Other News....

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

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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.

Mexican Fiesta Day



Thursday 11th November is school meals Mexican Fiesta Day. There will be Chilli (beef and veggie option) nachos and chipotle potato wedges on the menu. Please book your child's dinners the usual way.

Young Arts Ambassadors

Miss Holt had the pleasure of taking four of our Year 5 children to Great Wyrley Academy in Walsall. The children trained to be Young Arts Ambassadors and will be working across the school to implement the Arts subjects including music, art, dance and drama. They were a credit to Colley Lane and she looks forward to supporting them in their new roles this year.



Pupil Achievements

This week's Hot Chocolate Friday children:

RDW	RY	1H	1MS	2D	2E	3H	3W	
Megan	Ahmed	Sophie	Finley	Jaidan	Charlie	Archie	Esme	
4R	4K	4H	5W	5C	5A	6H	6O	6S
Naseeb	Blossom	Jake	Curtis	Jalal	Junior	Harrison	Saif	Za'Kai

A big well done to Oliver Baker-Smith in 3H who recently achieved his yellow belt in Karate after working really hard in his classes - well done Oliver!

Harry Billingham in RY took part in the Cancer Research muddy 5K with his mum, nan and auntie and raised £200 for charity - well done 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.

Poppy Appeal

The Poppy Appeal merchandise has arrived in school and year 6 children have been going round school selling the following: zip pulls, poppy reflectors, silicon wristbands, snap bands, poppy pins and poppies. Thank you to all those who have donated and bought items already, these will still be available after half term. Please can children bring in some change if they wish to purchase an item. Prices range from 50p - £1.50, depending on the item.



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

What a great half term of clubs, the children have enjoyed themselves and are learning so many new skills. After half term it will be colder so please make sure they have suitable clothing for the weather, we will go outside as often as possible. Football for the older children will be on the field as much as possible so they are likely to get dirty, if they have football boots it is advisable that they bring them to school with them.

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>
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
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.

**child accident
prevention trust**



Please see the below information with links to a host of really important safety advice.

With many organised displays cancelled again this year, many families will be thinking of having displays at home.

But do we all know how to buy safely and avoid unlicensed sellers?

Do we know what precautions to take to avoid a serious accident?

And would we know what to do if the worst happened?

Our new [fireworks advice hub](#) makes it easy for you to share safety messages with families. You'll find:

- [Fireworks buying guide](#) – to help families avoid dangerous fireworks.
- [Fireworks safety tips](#) – essential tips for families doing their own display.
- [Lessons for little ones](#) – a downloadable resource to help you teach children about safety.
- [Warning to parents](#) – a real story to share.
- [In an emergency](#) – good first aid will reduce the likelihood of lifelong scarring.

