Colley Lane Primary Academy

Never settle for less than your best

Newsletter - 29th April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after what I hope was a restful break for everyone. It has been lovely to hear what the children have been up to and they have come back ready to learn, impressing their teachers with their attitude towards learning. I hope that you are logging onto Dojo and taking a look at what your children have been up to over the week.

During the holiday, a number of building projects were completed from new carpets and paintwork in areas of the school and the start of our rolling programme of renewing the screens in the classrooms. It is important that we have the right facilities for the children to succeed and the old interactive whiteboards were past their best. The Trust have invested in phase one of the replacements and they are noticeably different in the classrooms although some of Year 6 were a bit disappointed that it wasn't just a TV. These new screens will allow for improved interaction with the 1:1 devices as well as reducing glare. We have also started the work on Reception and Nursery outdoor areas to improve our lovely grounds further at Colley Lane.

Thank you to you for helping the school to maintain our school uniform policy, which can be found on the <u>school website</u>. Please ensure that on PE days that your child comes into school in the correct kit and not in logoed t-shirt or hoodies. PE t-shirts are available from the school office.

I would also like to let you know that Mrs Bagail will be sadly leaving us next Friday after seven years at Colley Lane. She has a new position at Temple Meadow Primary School and we wish her the best of luck. Mrs Bagail has been an invaluable support to not only to our school but also to the wider community in supporting those parents and children where English is an additional language. She is a very popular member of staff and I am sure parents and staff alike will join me in congratulating her in her new role.

Finally, have a wonderful long weekend and Eid Mubarak to all our families who will be celebrating Eid this weekend.

Kind regards

Mr Dominic Simpson Headteacher



Next week's Aspire Character and Learner skills

- I am I am courageous
- I am respectful



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 2nd May May Bank Holiday School Closed
- Wednesday 4th May Nursery Trip to Birmingham Wildlife Conservation Park
- Monday 16th May Young Voices Concert
- Monday 30th May Friday 3rd June Summer Half Term
- Monday 6th Wednesday 8th June Year 6
 PGL Residential Trip
- Monday 13th June Year 4 Think Tank Museum Trip
- Thursday 23rd June Dance 'Frozen' Theatre Trip to London
- Monday 27th June INSET Day School Closed
- Friday 1st July Year 6 Drayton Manor 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

DPA Brass Lessons

Just to inform you that there will be no DPA Brass Lessons next Thursday 5th May due to staff training.

Breakfast Club

Due to staffing, please note that Breakfast club MUST be booked in advance. If you need to drop your child off early due to an appointment/emergency, please book online or call the office to check if there is space. There is a charge of £3.50 per child.

<u>Tuck Money - KS2 Please note there has been a slight price increase.</u>

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 40p each, other than the Milkshakes which are 45p.

Names in 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.

ΡF

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

<u>Parking</u>

Can we remind you that the car park is for **staff only.** If you need to use the car-park, please see the office for a parking permit. Please do not park in the disabled bays unless you have a blue badge.

Iris Parent Mail

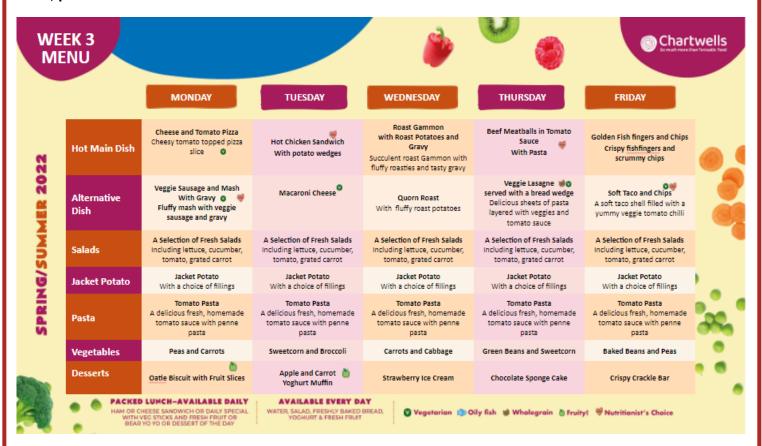
ParentMail is our main communication platform where you will receive emails from Mr Simpson, the office and teachers keeping you informed of school events, trips and class news. You can also report absences, book and pay for Breakfast and After School Clubs and purchase uniforms.

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 will be **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.

PE Days

Nursery - Wednesday

Reception - Monday

Year 1 - Wednesday

Year 2 - Thursday

Year 3 - Monday and Tuesday

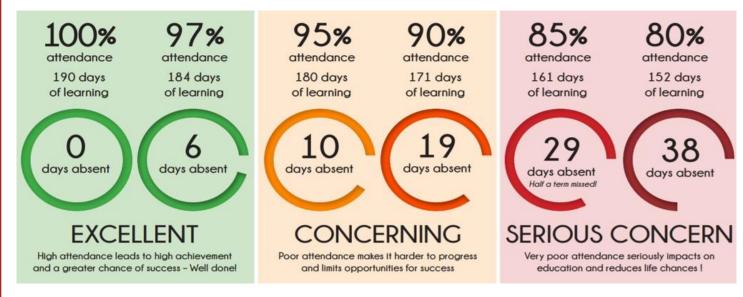
Year 4 - 4R & 4K Monday and Thursday, 4H - Wednesday and Wednesday

Year 5 - Tuesday and Friday

Year 6 - Wednesday and Friday

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 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

It has been lovely to see all the children back in Nursery after, what I hope was, a lovely Easter break.

This week in Nursery we have been learning all about Ramadan and Eid. The children have looked at what the festival is all about and some of the children have spoken about their Eid experiences from previous years. We also spoke about how Eid is a giving celebration and read some Eid stories.



In WCR this week, we have started to learn about our new story and we have found out that it is all about a range of animals. We also found out that there are lots of different colours in our new book and learnt the 'I can sing a rainbow' song. As part of our new learning we also looked at our 5 senses and looked closely at sight and what things we can see.



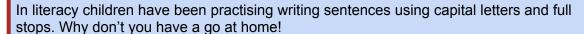
In maths this week, we have been looking at more and fewer. The children have been comparing different sets of objects to see which set has more and which set has fewer. Some of the children have then been linking more and fewer to numbers to help understand that a bigger number

would be more. You could help your child with this concept by sharing items unfairly and asking them who has more/fewer.

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Reception

Reception children have had a busy first week back at school learning about Ramadan and Eid. The children have worked together to decorate the home corner so it is ready for Eid as well as making Eid cards for family and friends.







In Whole Class Reading, children have learnt about vegetables and fruits. They have sorted food items into different categories, talked about the fruits and vegetables they like to eat and watched time lapse videos of apples and strawberries growing. Next week the children will be unveiling their new story and investigating it further.

In numeracy, the children have been learning to subtract within 5 using first then and now. The children showed a good understanding of subtraction this week and are using the new star vocab words for maths more often throughout the day. Well done!

All of EYFS, would like to wish everyone a lovely bank holiday weekend and Happy Eid to all the families who are celebrating.

Year 1

It was great to see everyone back this week recharged and ready to learn! We returned to an exciting, new interactive screen, in the classroom, which is already proving to be a great improvement.

We started the term off with a focus day on keeping healthy. We concentrated on the importance of eating 5 portions of fruit and vegetables each day. The children have since been keen to tell everyone how many they have had each day.

Our new Art based theme began this week and we will be looking at mini beasts in some of our lessons. We have already looked at how artists have used insects in their work and over the next few weeks, we will be using some of their pieces as inspiration for our own. To begin, we did some observational drawings and started a giant bug sculpture. We also looked at work produced by Raku Ionue, who uses things found outside in nature to create his images. So, we went outside, onto the field and into the glade to collect such things like leaves, petals and sticks to produce our own minibeast creations.

In our English lessons we are learning about the features of non-fiction texts and we will be producing our own non-chronological reports using mini beasts as our subject matter. We will be collecting lots of facts and information on different types of bugs over the next few lessons and maybe get the chance to go and look for a few outside, although some of us may have to pretend to be brave if we come across any spiders! Hopefully the children can hunt for some at home, in the garden or at the park and tell us

about their findings.

We also began a new science topic this term on materials. We have already sorted some objects, grouping them into what they are made from eg. wood, metal, plastic, glass, rubber and rock. See if the children can name some of the materials of things found around the home. We will also be looking at fabric, paper and liquids and thinking about why some objects have been made out of certain materials.



Year 2

It has been lovely to see the children back in school to start their final term in Year 2! The children had a great start to the week, making fruit kebabs and learning all about a healthy diet. We also looked at how we can keep

ourselves healthy through exercise, good oral health and pracisiting mindful activities.



We also had a very special delivery on Monday. The office had received a mysterious package which Mrs Palmer delivered to the Year 2 classrooms. The children were full of questions and used the clues on the boxes to make inferences. When we opened the boxes we discovered eggs! We will observe these very closely over the next couple of weeks to see what appears. The children have written recounts of these events, detailing what happened. Look out for these on Dojo.

In maths, we have been investigating 3D shapes. We identified edges, vertices and faces and then looked at what 2D shapes we could spot on them. Later on in the week, we

made repeating shape patterns, using both 2D and 3D shapes.

We have started to look at the artist Frances Hatch. The children have studied numerous pieces of her artwork; identifying what they liked and what they disliked. In art this week the children have also created their own arctic collage, which they will add texture to next week. As part of our theme, the children have also used the 'Now Press Play' headphones to immerse themselves in an Arctic adventure. With their favourite husky, Arluk, they snuck onto their first ever hunting trip. However it didn't go as planned.

Our new whole class reader, The Hodgeheg by Dick King Smith. It was great to learn all about hedgehogs to help us build up a wider picture of our main character, Max. We are all excited to see what happens as we read more next week.

We have also had a special delivery of caterpillars in Year 2. We are going to watch as they grow to help us learn about the life cycle of a butterfly.

We hope you all have a wonderful long weekend and we would like to wish a Happy Eid to any families celebrating over the weekend.

Year 3

Welcome to Summer term in Year Three! It has been lovely seeing the children all back after the holiday and hearing what they have been doing at home.

This week saw the start of our Art and Music themes. We're in for a creative half term. The children are learning about and trying out a different style of art each week which they will then turn into a year group, collaborative piece of art to be displayed. We're not revealing what we are hoping to create, but it is an animal! This week the children found out about the style of Pointillism, a technique in which tiny dots are applied to build an image. We looked at the work of Georges Seraut. The theme of pattern continued in Music where we created pattern and rhythm using our body. It got rather noisy!

In English, following the animal theme, we have been reading, planning, drafting and writing Acrostic poems about our favourite animals. We used the ipads to add to our knowledge to help describe our chosen animal. Some lovely work.

Science continued under 'Animals including humans' where, as you saw on Dojo, the children discovered animals can't make their own food, but plants can. They really enjoyed being creative drawing how a 'human' could attempt to be more plantlike! Lots of green, strange creatures!

We revealed the title of our new whole class reading book earlier in the week and the children are finding out about the background to the story before we begin to read next week. 'The Railway children' by E.Nesbit is a classic all about a family and steam engines! The children have enjoyed predicting and researching so far.

Maths has seen us identifying and finding shapes and objects which have right angles. They have made and used their angle finders to see where the right angles are. Can your child tell you how many degrees there are in a right angle?

Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend and a happy Eid to those celebrating over the weekend.

Year 4

Welcome back to the Summer term! We hope that you had a restful break! We have leapt straight back into learning this week with plenty of fantastic learning opportunities.

In Maths we have been learning about units of measure and identifying examples of capacity, length and mass. Children found capacity the hardest to think about so if you have chance to look at the capacity of containers at home, such as bathroom products and kitchen products. it would really help the children to see the sizes of different containers. The same for mass too, what can the children find in your kitchen cupboards that weigh more or less than 1 kg, $\frac{1}{2} \text{kg}$, $\frac{1}{4} \text{kg}$ etc?

Our new theme has begun this week and it is a creative arts based unit about the continent of Africa. We have started off the week with using different mediums to create a variety of animal patterns such as leopard print, giraffe print and snake print. We have begun a bigger piece of art based on the Tingatinga style of artwork. We have used our art sketch books to begin a background design of the African savannahs and next we will build on this and show you our finished pieces.

Keeping with the African theme, in English we are reading African folk tales. This is a style of writing that the children will not have come across before. Firstly, we used our iPads to investigate which countries are in Africa and created a group fact file. Secondly, we have read fables with morals such as 'The Wise Mother', which taught us to choose your friends wisely. Lastly this week, we completed a comprehension about Nelson Mandela and talked about apartheid. This leads onto our new book this term, 'Jopurney to Jo'burg', which touched upon the story of apartheid and clearly links to our African theme.

We can't wait to learn more about Africa over the next few weeks.

We would like to wish a Happy Eid to anyone who may be celebrating over the weekend.

<u>Year 5</u>

As we welcome a new term, we also welcome new and exciting learning opportunities in Year 5 and we are very

pleased to share them with you.

On Tuesday afternoons, Children now have Spanish, PE and Music lessons. Our Spanish lessons are taught by Mrs Fernandez and will cover a range of key topics. If this week is anything to go by (we had children practising their Spanish outside of the lesson) we have lots of engaging learning ahead. Children absolutely loved their first music lesson and we cannot wait to see and hear what they can do by the end of the term. During Tuesday afternoons, Mr Abbott, Miss Cheyne and Ms Claridge will be working with small groups to support reading and maths targets. These are only short interventions and will be rotated so the same lesson is not missed each week. The first week was really successful.



On Thursday we welcomed visiting animation artists into Year 5. They will be working with each class during this half term, creating a collaborative animation movie. Once recorded and edited, we will be visiting the Midlands Art Centre, Birmingham (Weds 15th June) for a cinema experience viewing each animation movie from across Windsor Academy Trust. The buzz around this project already is amazing!

We have completed research and developed our understanding of the First World War and the role animals played in it ahead of reading War Horse by Michael Morpurgo. We begin reading chapter one next week. Children are already excited to start reading the story which is told with carefully selected vocabulary by a master storyteller. We strongly advise against viewing the movie (which is a 12A) or the theatre production, as some scenes differ from the book.

Reminder of PE days

All classes now have PE on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Have an enjoyable weekend and we wish a happy Eid to those families celebrating.

Year 6

Year 6 have had a very busy week preparing for their SATs. With lots of maths and English lessons, the children have been studying hard to ensure their skills are at their best. We are really proud of everything the children are doing at the moment, particularly related to their SATs.

In Theme, we began our new 'Magic Moments' topic called Witchcraft and Wizardry. This theme is focused on dance, drama and music. Our lessons began this week with a short dance routine, based around the dance technique of unison. Unison is where all of the children move together as one, creating movement as a consistent group. The children used their books as props as they created a piece of dance centred around a Hogwarts classroom. The children were so impressive! They amazed us with their performer and character skills as they danced. What a great start to the topic!

In Science, the children explored healthy lifestyles. They looked at ways they can support themselves with exercise, diet and personal hygiene. They created leaflets to advertise these and showed their understanding of how to support their own lifestyle choices.

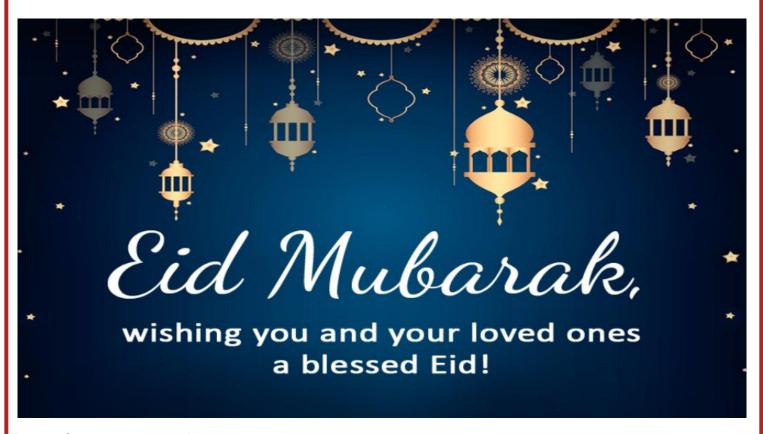
In Art on Thursday, the children made Eid cards for their families or friends. The children put lots of effort into these and demonstrated their artistic talents. We would like to wish all of the children and their families a very Happy Eid.

We look forward to another busy week next week. Please consider signing your child up for SATs Breakfast Club - we loved to have the children altogether each day, giving them time to be with their friends and relax before their busy days.

Have a wonderful Bank Holiday weekend, and we look forward to seeing the children next week.

Eid

We would like to wish all our Muslim families a happy and blessed Eid.



Beaver Scouts group recruiting new members

If your child is interested in becoming a Beaver Scout, one of our parents has asked if we could mention the following:

Every Tuesday night from 6.00pm-7.15pm at the Scout Hut, Foxcote Lane (just past The Why Not Pub) the Beaver Scout group meets to do activities, games and crafts. Six year old boys and girls are welcome.

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.

Audio Books

Audio books are a fantastic way to engage readers and offer a perfect opportunity to enjoy sharing a book with your son or daughter at home. Sooper Books very kindly donated their entire library of audio books for children to enjoy at school so we will be enjoying these in our lessons. If you wish to dip into a sample of these books at home, please access them via our school website on the following link:

https://www.colleylaneprimary.org.uk/teaching-and-learning/reading-at-home/

Here you will find a range of award-winning fairy tales, bedtime stories, fables and poems. Some of the titles are samples and there are a few stories which are free to access all of the time.

We would like to thank Sooper Books for their generous donation. If you would like to sign up for a membership to Sooper Books from home, they are currently offering a 1 week free trial or a £3.00 monthly subscription.

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

Pupil Achievements



Well done to Grace Lee in 3H who completed her Stage 1 Swimming before the Easter Break - Great work Grace!



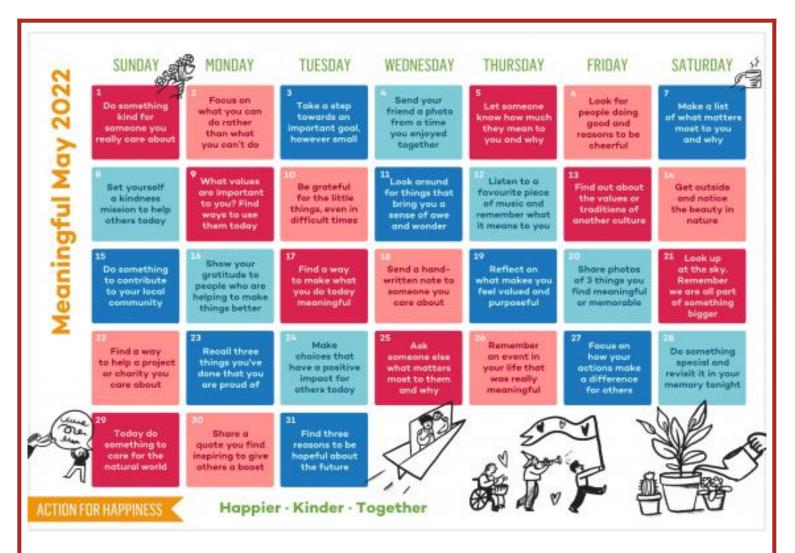
A big well done to Gabrielle Stewart in 3W for receiving her 3rd Year Achievement award for attending Stagecoach Performing Arts School at Earls School - Congratulations Gabrielle!



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

The Kindness Corner

Action for happiness





LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST

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

Diary Dates

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

Autumn Half Term

Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October 2022

Return to School on Monday 31st October 2022

Winter Holidays

Monday 19th December 2022 to Monday 2nd January 2023

Return to School on Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Bank Holidays

May Day – Monday 2nd May 2022

Inset Days

Monday 27th June 2022

Sports Clubs

Colley Lane Sports Club News

Clubs are all back up and running this week and it has been lovely to see some new faces. There are still plenty of spaces at most sports clubs, especially Wednesday night athletics where we are training the children for the events at the Halesowen Athletics Competition to be held at Halesowen Athletics Club in June and also Thursday morning cricket club which again will hopefully lead to a competition.

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 and Y6 Cross Country (8.00)	£1.00	Y3 & Y4 Multi Sports (4.15) YR ,Y1 & Y2 Multi Skills (4.30)* JSB	£1.00 £3.00			
Tuesday	Y3, Y4 and Y5 Tri Golf (8.10)	£1.00	Y4, Y5 & Y6 Netball (4.15)	£1.00			
			Y5 & Y6 Dance (4.15)	£1.00			
			Y5 & Y6 Football (4.30)* JSB	£3.00			
Wednesday	Y5 & Y6 Football (8.00)*JSB	£2.00	Y5 & Y6 Athletics (4.15)	£1.00 £3.00			
	Y3 & Y4 Football (8.00)* JSB	£2.00	Y3 & Y4 Dodgeball (4.30) * JSB				

Thursday	Y4, Y5 & Y6 Sportshall Athletics -invite only (8.00) Y4, Y5 & Y6 Cricket (8.00)	£1.00	Y5 & Y6 Rounders (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	YR, YI & Y2 Football (8.00) *JSB	£2.00	74, Y5 & Y6 Girls Football (4.30)	£1.00
			Y5 & 6 Squad Football - Invite Only (4.30) Y4 Football trials	£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.