Colley Lane Primary Academy

"Never settle for less than your best"

Newsletter - 7th October 2022

Dear Parents

We are looking forward to welcoming you into school next week for the first Parent Evenings of this academic year. As I have said previously, the children have settled well into their year bands and classes and we are looking forward to sharing their work and books. You will notice when you come into school that we have invested in smarter exercise books to help raise the pride and standards across the school but also that the feedback and marking within school has progressed too.

As a staff, we carried out a review in the Summer term of the existing CLPA feedback policy, researching the purpose and different types of effective feedback but also how teachers use the time spent on marking. A different approach was trialled and found to not only enhance the effectiveness of feedback but also maximise learning opportunities for the children. We therefore made the decision to move away from the traditional models of marking to a more analytical and reflective approach where teachers are empowered to select the method of feedback they feel will benefit children's learning best at that time and improve learning outcomes for all. This approach involves a greater emphasis on live marking, as a whole class, group or individual.

Parents evening will also be an opportunity for you to claim any lost property. We will be putting out lost property in the hall and please could I ask that any clothes that come into school are named. Named uniform will always makes its way back to the children.

A huge well done to Mrs Bevan who entered the school into the Arnold Clark Football kit competition and won! We have a brand new kit making it's way to us as we speak. The school has also invested in new PE t-shirts to make us shine and look the part this year at competitions. We have a proud history of sporting excellence amongst many other achievements, so it is always good to have a smart kit for the children to wear when they represent Colley Lane.

If you would like to become a Parent LAB member, there is still time to express your interest. Please see the information in the News section of this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support and have a peaceful weekend.

Kind regards, Mr Dominic Simpson.



Colley Lane Primary Academy

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Next week's Aspire Character and Learner skills

- I am compassionate
- I can communicate clearly



What's been happening in school this week?

Nursery



We have had a lovely week in Nursery finishing off our Autumn topic. The children have really enjoyed exploring all the natural Autumn resources and using the new vocabulary to talk about them. They also thoroughly enjoyed our reading sessions on Wednesday. Thank you to all of the parents who were able to make the session and enjoy some time crafting with their child. It was wonderful to see so many of you and to welcome you all into Nursery for the first time.

This week in WCR, we read our new story 'Dear Zoo' and recapped the vocabulary which we had learnt last week to guess which animals were in each crate. The children were very good at thinking about each word and deciding which animals they might be describing. On Wednesday, we enjoyed exploring the 'Dear Zoo' book further with the support of Dudley MBC Family Learning and our parents. Next week we will begin a new story, I wonder what it might be?

In Maths this week, we have continued to look at sorting object by one attribute. We started the week by recapping our learning on sorting objects by colour and then began to focus on sorting things by their size. We read the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears to help us think about different sizes. We then used some props to decide which objects were for Daddy Bear (big), Mummy Bear (Medium) or Baby Bear (small). You could support this at home by asking children to use vocabulary such as big, medium, small, bigger and smaller to compare 2 objects.

Next week the children are starting to learn more about different emotions. They will be exploring emotions over the next two weeks using the stories The Colour Monster and Rainbow Fish.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Reception

Reception have had a fantastic week learning all about Autumn. Each class went on a leaf hunt around school and had lots of fun exploring and talking about Autumn.

In PE they have been developing their listening skills through following two step instructions. They have been learning how to do star jumps with Mr Blount and also how to travel in different ways. Encourage your child to practise star jumps at home and send a video or photo to your child's class teacher!

In maths children have been talking about patterns and explaining what they can see using the sentence stem The pattern is ... Children have made some lovely patterns in play with a range of resources using size and colour to create their pattern.



In whole class reading, children have explored the story The Little Red Hen. The children have learnt about working together, being collaborative and kind. They also roleplayed the story using puppets and props.

This week the children have learnt about our Aspire character value being responsible. We talked about being responsible for our learning, our classroom, our actions and our choices. Please continue to let your child's class teacher know of



examples of your child being responsible at home so we can share this news with their class. If you could send a photo that would also be great!

Next week the children are starting to learn more about different emotions. They will be exploring emotions over the next two weeks using the stories The Colour Monster and Ruby's Worry.

Year 1

We have had a lovely week in Year 1. We came to the end of our first Write Stuff writing unit and have seen some wonderful engagement. The children have really enjoyed sharing their words and have shown good resilience when writing some challenging sentences. Our classroom displays have really spurred the children on to be super word collectors and sentence writers with children eager to have their picture displayed. Next week the children will take on their first independent writing task and we're sure they will be great!





In Maths we have begun to look at subtraction using the part whole model and number lines. The children have been using the correct language when discussing their answers with their partners and the class.

In Science this week we began our new theme, 'Animals including Humans'. The children had fun drawing around each other and labelling different parts of the body.

Our Whole Class Reading unit started with an exploration of Australia this week. We looked at different animals, particularly Koala Bears and learned a range of facts including how Koala's aren't bears at all! . We ended the week being creative and painted Koala pictures in the style of Aborigional dot paintings.



Have a wonderful weekend!

Year 2



Year 2 had a brilliant afternoon being scientists, exploring different materials that we could find and use in our classrooms. We then went on a materials hunt around school, and explored the different properties of the materials that we found.

In English we reached an exciting part of our story, where our main character met a small, green alien on the moon! The children had lots of fun experimenting with similes and compared the character to peas, kiwis and apples. Next week we look forward to finding out about how the boy eventually finds his way back home. We have loved reading more of our class book: Beegu, and we have been having

some brilliant conversations about Beegu's feelings at different parts in the story.

In our Maths lessons this week the children have compared and ordered numbers to 100, using their knowledge of place value. In our Maths Meetings we have been singing songs about the days of the week and months of the year. We have also been practising writing numbers as words.

We had a fantastic art lesson where we were exploring what happens when we mix together different colours. We discovered that we can make new colours, and we can also change the tone of colours by adding more or less white paint. We will use this knowledge to help us add more detail to our portraits over the coming weeks.

We have continued our theme this week, comparing the achievements of Neil Armstrong and Tim Peake. We were very impressed with all of the facts the children remembered from our previous lessons. The children had so much fun exploring space for themselves whilst pretending to be Neil Armstrong. They used the Now Press Play headphones to help them imagine what it would be like to travel around space and see what life could have been like for the astronaut. They flew rockets and even tried moon rock! The children



are keen to go on their next adventure!

In all of the lessons, children are continuing to show their ASPIRE character values and learner traits. Well done Year 2!



Year 3

Lots of children in Year Three have brought in entries for the Space week competition which is great to see. Keep the posters/poems, models or artwork coming! The children enjoyed learning about the moon landing in 1969 and the role of Katherine Johnson, a talented mathematician who worked for NASA.

We continued with our 'Rocks' topic and discovered some rocks are harder than others. Are lunar (moon) rocks weak or strong we wondered. The children saw sandstone, back here on planet Earth, was weaker rock compared to granite, an igneous rock. Can the children recall how these rocks are formed?

Our writing links in with the space theme too. Tom has found a star in a jar and doesn't know who it belongs to or why it has arrived. The children have been using adjectives, verbs and questions to describe Tom's experience. Today we imagined we were Tom, listening to nighttime sounds. We heard a real range of animals scurrying, rustling and screeching.

Maths has been continuing to explore numbers. The children have ordered, compared and added and subtracted 10/100. We spotted not every digit changed when we did this. Being number detectives is exciting - lots of pattern spotting and investigating. Keep working on number bonds and TTRS at home too.

In Theme the children have been researching to compare the lives of rich and poor Victorians. They 'put themselves into the shoes' of a Victorian child to describe and imagine a day in the life of. Being a chimney sweep, working in the coal mines, helping to make small chains in the yard or working in the dangerous factories did not sound good! The children are feeling quite lucky to live in 2022!

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Year 4

We've had a wonderful week in Year 4 linking our theme and writing lessons and making our learning stick. Children researched the Neolithic Age and discovered how people lived and survived during this period of history. Children also completed their first double-page spread on Skara Brae and this also helped children explore life in this era. During next week, children will be writing their own version of Stone Age Boy but theirs will be from the Neolithic Age.

In maths, children have practised solving addition and subtraction word problems. Children worked with teachers (and then talk partners) to identify the key information and used part-part-whole and column



methods to work out their tasks. This is a tricky concept and children are doing well. Well done to 4H who won the TT Rockstars Year 4 battle. The new TT Rockstars battle is boys vs girls. It goes live at 3:30pm today.

This week's spellings focus on the prefix 'in'. Spellings have been shared on Class Dojo. This week's Spelling Shed assignment is also live and children are asked to complete a minimum of three activities. Each Monday, children complete a low-stake quiz.

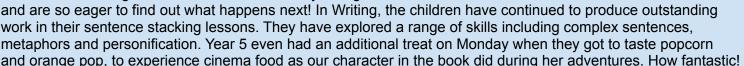
Have a wonderful weekend.

Year 5

Year 5 have been working incredibly hard this week in all their different subjects.

The children have begun to explore their new Science topic of Space this week; a perfect time to start with the launch of National Space Week! They have been exploring the different planets in our solar system and comparing the sizes and distances between the planets. The children were amazed by how large the Sun was compared to Earth. What a great way to start our new topic!

In Reading, the children have continued on their adventures with Danny in our whole class reading book. The children are really loving this Roald Dahl classic



In Theme this week, the children have been listening to Ancient Greek myths and legends, learning stories including Theuseus and the Minotaur, Odysseus and the battle of Troy and Icarus with his wings. The children created their own mythical creatures and had a go at creating their very own myth or legend. Additionally, the children explored the Ancient Greek Olympic Games; they learnt about the many events that were undertaken in the past as well as how these compare to the modern day Olympics. It really has been a fascinating week.



<u> Year 6</u>

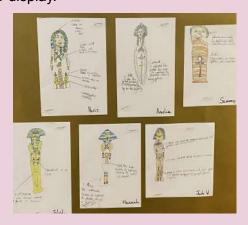
What a fun-filled week we have had in year 6 this week!

We kick-started our week with a Special Science Week and Black History Month assembly. The children learned about Katherine Johnson who was a very talented mathematician that worked for NASA in the 1960s. Well done to Max, Scarlet, Bea and Lucas who read out important facts about her. They read so clearly and were very confident. As part of Science Week, Windsor Academy Trust have launched a competition! Children can write a poem, write a story or even draw a picture all about space etc. and send it into school. There are prizes to be won!

For our Ancient Egyptian theme we have been creating our own pharaoh headdress photos with photos taken on our iPads with pastels. Some children decided to place a snake on their head dress which was said to protect the pharaoh. Children have also been adding other work to our display.







Within our history lessons, we have been writing instructions on how a mummy was mummified. The children found it really gruesome when they discovered the brain was pulled out of the skull with a hook through the nose! After they had written instructions, the children followed the process but with a tomato!









In Science, the fun continued with children learning about how Charles Darwin discovered evolution by researching finches on the Galapagos islands that had migrated from mainland South America. Each of the islands had different seeds available for the finches to eat. Darwin observed that the finches were identical to each other and to those on the mainland except that they had adapted their beaks to be able to eat the food available on their island. This adaptation happened over many years. Darwin believed the finches had evolved. So to replicate this in class, the children used different beaks (tweezers, pegs and tongs) to investigate the different seeds (Maltesers, silver balls, Starburst) the different beaks could pick up to see how the finches evolved.





Our Weekly Art of Happiness saying or activity you can discuss at home - 'You just bumped into someone from Planet Glum, which just happens to be the most miserable planet in the universe. Explain 'happiness' to them. What is it and where does it come from?'

Have a lovely weekend!

Pupil Achievements



A big Well done to Lily in 3W who got voted player of the match by the opposition team in her match Sunday with Withymoor Colts East! Super work Lily!



If you would like your child's achievements for activities they do beyond school this year, please email info@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

Praise Assembly Shining Stars: (see Class Dojo for the teacher comments)

NURS	RTW	RR	1Y	1MS	2D	2E	3H	3W
Dawud (AM) Madison (PM)	Isaac	Kaelan	Ewan	Imaan	Saffa	Leo	Skyla	Hudayr
	4 A	4H	5K	5C	5P	6CW	6R	6S
	Logan	Seth	Raniyah	Summer	Lucia	Zak	Layah	Jack



Hot Chocolate Friday children:

RTW	RR	1Y	1MS	2D	2E	3H	3W	
William	Isabelle	Nadia	Aamna	Tatum	Amelia	Zachary	Sarah	
4H	4A	5K	5C	5P	6CW	6R	6S	
Fergus	Sasha	Dillon	Maddie	Jack	Layla Abdo	Bobby	Enya	



Key Dates

- Wednesday 12th October Parent's Evening 3.40pm - 6.00pm
- Thursday 13th October Parent's Evening 4.00pm - 7.00pm (No choir)
- Friday 14th October School Photographer
- Thursday 20th October Year 5 Ancient Greek Parent Workshop
- Monday 24th Friday 28th October October Half Term
- Monday 31st October Flu immunisation in school
- Wednesday 9th November Year 5 Trip to **National Space Centre**
- Friday 2nd December INSET Day School Closed



Reminders

Parents Evening

Parent evening appointments are available to book on ParentMail for next week. Bookings will close over the weekend. Please contact the school office if you are having issues booking.

School Photographer

School photos will be taken next Friday (14th October) off all children in school, Nursery to Year 6. Children with siblings in school will have their photos taken together. If you do not want them taken together then please let the school office know. If children have PE on Friday, can they please come to school in their school uniform and bring their PE kit with them.

Breakfast / Afterschool Club

Can we please remind you to book in for clubs on ParentMail at least 48 hours in advance. For emergencies, please call the office to book in.

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

Parking

Can we remind you that the car park is for **staff only** and permit holders. 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 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's menu will be **Week 2 Menu:**



We have an exciting programme starting next week called 'The Flight of the Bumblebee' for pupils who have a school meal between Monday 10th - Friday 14th October. They will receive a fun and educational set of collectable playing cards focusing on the importance of the role of the bumblebees in the food chain. Thereafter, those pupils having a school dinner on Tuesday 18th, Thursday 20th October, Tuesday 1st, Thursday 3rd of November will receive additional playing cards to collect, swap and compare with other children.



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 - Monday (AM) & Tuesday (PM)

Reception - Wednesday

Year 1 - Monday & Friday

Year 2 - Monday & Thursday

Year 3 - Tuesday & Friday

Year 4 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 5 - 5C - Monday & Thursday / 5P - Tuesday & Thursday / 5K - Wednesday & Thursday

Year 6 - 6S - Tuesday & Wednesday / 6R - Wednesday & Friday / 6CW - Wednesday & Friday

Road Safety Awareness

The Road Safety & Travel Awareness Team provide road safety education and advice across the borough of Dudley, provide cycling and Bikeability advice and training, again across the Borough, both in schools and within the community as a whole. The team also coordinate the School Crossing Patrol service in Dudley

Please see links below for more information.

Road Safety & Travel Awareness Web Page - https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/parking-and-roads/

Facebook Page - https://www.facebook.com/RoadSafetvDudleyCouncil

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 do not use DOJO to report absence.

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

News....

Parent LAB member Vacancy

We are seeking a parent representative to sit on the LAB (Local Authority Board).

The parent representative should bring professional knowledge and personal experience that can be used to enhance the governing board's knowledge of the school and could assist the board in making decisions that will benefit pupils, the school and the community.

The LAB sits 3 times per year, usually in September, March and June. If you think you have breadth of experience and drive to help ensure the school runs effectively, please contact Mrs Dodd at sdodd@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk in the first instance.

Adult Learning Classes

Colley Lane will be restarting the Adult Classes this term. The classes are run by Dudley Adult Learning. We have had such a great outcome from the classes that were run last academic year and many learners have achieved a

new qualification and are ready to move up to the next level. Classes will take place at Our Hive (formerly Little Colliers) opposite the school.

We are offering Functional English on Mondays and Functional Maths on Tuesdays from 1 p.m - 3 p.m

Functional Maths will start on Monday 3rd of October and Functional English on Tuesday 4th October. It is required that the learner is at least Entry 2 level to access the course.

If you would like to join any of the classes above, please could you fill in the google form below or if you prefer, phone the school office and leave a message for me with your name, number and the course you would like to attend. Please bring a form of ID to the first session which will be enrolment.

Functional Maths: Mondays

https://forms.gle/jQJRkkHGEx7WCRJq5

Functional English: Tuesdays

https://forms.gle/BJZaKpGSXDhsqA3A9



Walk to School

October is national walk to school month. As a school we are working together to top the walk of fame leaderboard. Children are logging their daily journeys using the travel tracker app in school and we are promoting the benefits of walking in school. The class which is awarded the most badges in October will win an extra PE lesson with Mr Blount in November. So please keep walking to school as often as possible. Parking slightly further away from school and then walking also helps reduce congestion around the school gates. Thank you for your support.

It would be great if you could send any autumnal walk to school photos to the info@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk email address. Photos will be shared on social media and dojo. If you would prefer the photos to not be shared on social media please state this in your email.

The Kindness Corner



Black Country Food Bank

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

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

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

Diary Dates

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 Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Return to School on Wednesday 4th January 2023

Spring Half Term

Monday 20th February 2023 to Friday 24th February 2023

Return to school Monday 27th February 2023

Easter Holidays

Monday 3rd April 2023 to Friday 14th April 2023

Return to school Monday 17th April 2023

Summer Half Term

Monday 29th May 2023 to Friday 2nd June 2023

Return to school Monday 5th June 2023

Inset Days

Friday 2nd December 2022

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Monday 26th June 2023

One more INSET Day TBC

Bank Holidays

May Day - Monday 1st May 2023

Clubs

Colley Lane Club News

This week saw the Halesowen Football League return after 3 years and the 10 boys who went to represent us at Leasowes High School played some brilliant football and behaved impeccably. Well done to them! Don't forget that there will be **no choir on Thursday 13th October** because it is parents evening all other clubs will continue as normal that week.

The weather has definitely changed this week so can you please make sure that your child is bringing warm clothing for clubs, we will still go outside most of the time.



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 and Music Clubs						
	Before school (Start time)	Cost	After school (Finish time)	Cost		
Monday	Y4, Y5 & Y6 Cross Country (8.00)	£1.00	Y3 & Y4 Multi Sports (4.15) Y5 & Y6 Dance (4.15) Y1 & Y2 Multi Skills (4.30)*JSB	£1.00 £1.00 £3.00		
Tuesday		£1.00	Y5 &Y6 Netball (4-15)	£1.00		
	Y3, Y4. Y5 & Y6 Tri Golf (8.10)		Y3 & Y4 Dance (4.15)	£1.00		
			Y5 & Y6 Football (4.30)* JSB	£3.00		
Wednesday	Y4, Y5 & Y6 Football (8.00)*JSB	£2.00	Y5 & Y6 Tag Rugby (4.15)	£1.00		
	Y1, Y2 & Y3 Football (8.00)*JSB	£2.00	Y3 & Y4 Dodgeball (4.30) *JSB	£3.00		
Thursday		£1.00	Y5 & Y6 Hockey (4.15)	£1.00		
	Y4. Y5 & Y6 Cross Country (8.10)		Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 Choir (4.15) cancelled	£1.00		
			Y1 & Y2 Football (4.30)* JSB	£3.00		
			Y3 & Y4 Football (4.30) * JSB	£3.00		
Friday		£1.00	Y5 & Y6 Girls Football (4.30)	£1.00		
	Y6 Gymnastics (8.10)		Y5 & 6 Squad Football - Invite Only (4.30)	£1.00		
			Y5 & Y6 Dodgeball (4.30)	£3.00		