Colley Lane Primary Academy

"Never settle for less than your best"

Newsletter - 16th December 2022



Dear Parents and Carers.

The end of a very busy and productive term has finally arrived and what a last few weeks it has been! It was lovely to welcome Year 2 parents into school to the Christmas Play and share the joy of seeing the children perform on the stage. We held our Christmas Carol Concert on Tuesday and Wednesday and shared St Peters Church with our community and Mother Victoria, who welcomed us in. I have been very proud of all the children as they have stepped up to say their lines, remembered individual songs or just been brave enough to take part in front of parents, grandparents and carers. We hope that the activities and performances have put you in a Festive mood.

What a great success the film night and discos have been this week and it is so good to have these events back. The children that came thoroughly enjoyed themselves and who knew that a snow machine would be so popular. Thank



you to everyone who helped out and supported the Friends of Colley Lane. The hard work has raised over £1000 which is an amazing start to fundraising for school projects and initiatives. The Friends of Colley Lane will be holding a meeting in the New year to plan the next events and set a focus for fundraising this year, so if you can support us at all, it will be appreciated.

Thank you for all the support that you have shown the school over this Autumn term. It makes a huge difference to the ethos of our wonderful school and ensures that children feel safe, secure and able to achieve their academic and personal potential. The children and staff have worked incredibly hard across a whole host of curriculum areas and events and I am incredibly proud of each and every one.

Can I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year. Whether you are with extended family, friends or just celebrating quietly, please enjoy the break. Be safe and use our support for parents page on the website, for emotional and mental health support, financial help and support and parenting support if you need to. We return on Wednesday 4th January 2023 at 8:40am when we will welcome the children back for new adventures and learning.



Kind regards Mr Dominic Simpson.

Colley Lane Primary Academy

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Email: <u>info@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk</u> Website: https://www.colley.dudley.sch.uk Twitter: @colleylane Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Colleylaneprimaryacademy

Next week's Aspire Character and Learner skills

- I am creative
- I can be collaborative



What's been happening in school this week?

Nursery

The final week of Autumn Term has been an extremely busy one for Nursery! We started with our Nativity performances on Monday, had our Christmas party on Wednesday, made gingerbread men on Thursday and finished with Christmas Jumper day on Friday! In between all the fun we have also been creating our cards and calendars for our families! What a fun-packed week!

The children were all superstars in the Nativity performances on Monday and really enjoyed spotting their adults in the audience. Thank you for all your support with costumes and coming to see the show. It makes it all worth it to see the children on stage smiling at their adult, enjoying their moment in the spotlight.

On Wednesday we all enjoyed our Christmas party day and the children all looked wonderful in their party clothes. We spent some time in the classroom playing games before going into the hall to have a dance and play some music games. We then returned to the classroom to enjoy a few treats provided by Mr Simpson and Mrs Dodd. The children then got to enjoy using the Christmas props in the photo booth and enjoy time with their friends.

On Thursday, to complete our Whole Class Reading story 'The Gingerbread Man', we all made our own gingerbread man. We followed the recipe to make the dough and then each had a turn at rolling some dough out and cutting our own gingerbread man. On Friday, we then spent some time decorating our gingerbread men using icing and sweet treats.

Finally, thank you for your continued support throughout this term. The children have settled into school life well and will be able to support our new starters in January.

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year!

Reception

Reception Children started their week performing A Wriggly Nativity. They sang and acted very well and were excited to see family members in the audience. Thank you for coming and supporting. The children worked really hard this last term and for many children it was their first performance in front of an audience.

This week children have also been creative making Christmas cards. They have practised their fine motor skills through cutting and using a pincer grip to decorate their tree. Children also showed off their fantastic writing inside their card. We had some great trees! They also made a lovely calendar for next year and had a super time at their Christmas party dancing and singing along to different songs.



Reception children have worked hard this term academically and socially. Children have made new friends and developed existing friendships, they have learnt how to turn take and share resources during play as well as use kind words, hands and feet. Academically, children have learnt a number of sounds and many children are starting to blend to read three letter words. In maths children have been introduced to the concept of addition and subtraction through songs and practical resources. They also have developed their story knowledge through whole class reading stories which they have enjoyed reading over and over.

Well done to all the reception children on their first term in school. They have worked very hard and achieved so much. Thank you as well for all the lovely Christmas gifts and cards.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Reception staff.

Year 1

Year 1 have had a fabulous finish to the Autumn Term this week. We kicked off the week with a Christmas Disco and it was lovely seeing so many Year 1 children attend. We enjoyed dancing, munching on our sweets and getting over excited when the snow machine was released!

On Tuesday the children enjoyed their Year 1 Christmas party. We spent the time dancing and playing games in the hall before going into our classes to eat some party treats and play games.

This week the children enjoyed getting creative when making their Christmas cards. We chose the artist Andy Warhol as our inspiration and the children had fun printing colourful Christmas Trees. We think they look great and we hope you liked them too! Children also took their calendars home this week which focussed on the





children's aspirations when they are older. It was lovely hearing the children talk about what they want to be when they are older. We had lots of footballers, some hairdressers, artists and even teachers!

In English this week we watched the Christmas classic, The Snowman. The children then wrote a postcard from the perspective of the boy, writing about their adventure to the North Pole. We really enjoyed reading the children's postcards and were amazed at their wonderful independent writing.

In Maths we revisited addition and subtraction with the children using a number line to work out their answers.

Finally, we would like to say super well done to all the Year 1 children for a fantastic first term. They have all worked so hard and we couldn't be more proud. They thoroughly deserve their Christmas break.

Thank you for your support this term and here's to a brilliant Christmas and glorious New Year.

Year 2

Wow! What an amazing last week we have had for our Autumn term! Our week has been jam packed with festive fun and I know it's left us all feeling very Christmassy.

The week started with a wonderful disco which was put together by the Friends of Colley Lane. The children

loved dancing to some of their favourite Christmas songs and taking part in different activities, we even had a snow machine!

On Tuesday, the children had their production of 'A Midwife in Crisis'. They were absolutely fantastic and we were all very proud of them. Thank you for all your support, helping the children pracise their lines and supplying parts of the costumes. We hope you enjoyed the show, we certainly did!



We had our Christmas party on Wednesday afternoon, where the children enjoyed party games and snacks. The children loved playing musical statues and pass the giant parcel. We have done lots of different Christmas crafts this week such as cards, calendars and we even had to make new decorations for the tree, as our cheeky elves took them off! The children's do look much better though.

In maths this week we have continued with our multiplication and division, focusing on the two times table.

Finally, The Year 2 team would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and we hope you have a wonderful New Year!

Year 3

We have come to the end of the Autumn term and we are so proud of all the children and how hard they have worked on all the ASPIRE characteristics.

We have had a lovely, festive last week of term getting ready for Christmas. The children were fantastic in the Carol concert, singing and signing along and a special thank you to our readers who spoke so clearly to help tell the Christmas story. Many children came along to the disco earlier in the week and had great fun with the bubbles, snow and dancing! The Christmas party was a success with party games and festive snacks. The children made their rocking snowmen



and Christmas cards this week. They printed the Christmas tree and snowflakes using straws and finger printed the baubles onto the tree.



The children have been listening to and discussing the story of the Nativity in class and the story of the Jewish festival of Hannukah. They have also been learning about religious symbols; the Christingle as an example of a Christian symbol with a candle in the orange to represent Jesus as the light of the world. We saw how light is a common thread across many religions. Can your child tell you how many

days Hannukah is celebrated and why?

We finished reading 'The Nothing To See Here Hotel' this week and wrote a book review using our summarising skills. So many of the children gave it a 5 star review and would recommend it to others which was lovely to see. We start our new book when we return after Christmas.

We will be beginning our D.T Theme after the holidays so any 'junk' you can collect to help us make animals would be appreciated. We start a new topic of 'Light' in Science' and we will be learning how to write instructions in English; lots to look forward to.

May the Year Three team wish you all a peaceful and happy holiday and thank you so much for your continued support. See you in 2023!

Year 4

Year 4 children have made a great start to this academic year and we have finished off the term in style. We are incredibly proud of the children's achievements (academic, creative and sporting) and look forward to the coming terms to witness what else they can achieve. It is wonderful to see how much they have grown and adapted to the new approaches etc we have used.

On Tuesday evening, we had our school disco with Year 3. It was so much fun and staff enjoyed spending this time with the children, dancing along and playing games. The Friends of Colley Lane did an amazing job setting up and supporting this event and it is truly appreciated by all. We saw lots of great dance moves from children and staff (Miss Hale) and a classic two step (from Mr Abbott).

We finished reading The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe and completed a book review following this. Children summarised the story in 100 words or fewer, predicted what would happen in a sequel and also compared the book to the movie version. Overall, children have really enjoyed this book and we had the added bonus that it references Christmas and is set in winter.

On Wednesday afternoon, Year 4 and 6 did an amazing job at the Christmas Carol Concert at St Peter's Church. They represented Colley Lane excellently and sang and signed with pride and passion - a massive well done to all!

We thank you all for your support and feedback during our first term together and look forward to continuing this partnership in the coming months. We wish you all a merry Christmas and a peaceful new year. Take care and best wishes from the Year 4 team.



Year 5

We have come to the end of our first term in Year 5 and we cannot be more proud of the children's achievements. The children have settled incredibly well into their classes and have worked so hard in every lesson. We praise all of them for their dedication to their learning and also thank all parents and carers for your support these first few months.

This week has been a fabulous finish to the school term. In Writing, the children imagined themselves as Stanley Yelnats from our book - they wrote fantastic letters to their parents describing how they loved being at Camp Green Lake, which was very untrue! The children's letters were so creative and full of imagination. In Reading, we finished our final few chapters of 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. The children loved it! We celebrated this by watching the film version on Thursday - the children loved seeing the story play out on the screen after reading all about it over the past few weeks.

We also celebrated Christmas this week with lots of different activities. On Monday, the children painted their Christmas decorations. They looked amazing and the children couldn't wait to take them home to show their families.

On Tuesday, the children did a fabulous job in the Christmas Carol Concert. They sang so beautifully and were a real credit to the school. The speakers for all three classes did a fabulous job and the choir were a pleasure to watch. It really was a wonderful afternoon. In the evening, we celebrated with the Year 5 and 6 Disco. We all had a fabulous time and the children showed off their excellent dance moves. Again, the children really were a credit to the school.

On Thursday, we had our Year 5 Christmas party. It was wonderful seeing all of the children joining in with all of the party games, dancing to the music and having fun. It was fantastic!

We thank you all for your support over the past few months. We wish you and your families a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. We look forward to continuing our fabulous year in January.

<u>Year 6</u>

The children have made it to the end of the first term in Year 6. Well done to all children for their hard work and thank-you for your support this year so far.

This week, we have based much of our work on Christmastime. To begin with, we have completed writing a recount on 'The Christmas Truce'. The children used a range of grammar and punctuation to write about the main events in the story. Here are some extracts from the children's writing;

"As I turned around, I heard the beautiful birds chirping during the pause; singing of the German and British soldiers filled the air."

"The day before, bombs were exploding. Guns aimed and terror hit. It was dreadful. It was deadly. It was disastrous".

In Maths, we investigated where Santa had placed all the presents by completing a series of Christmas problem solving activities.

In Science, we completed our How We See Light Unit with a series of fun investigations involving mirrors. For example, we had to try and read a message on a post-it note on our backs by using mirrors, we had to see how many reflections you can see in a mirror if they are placed parallel to each other and finally we had to read messages under the table with mirrors.

In our comprehension lessons this week, we have been completing video comprehensions based on Christmas adverts and using our knowledge from reading comprehension lessons to answer the questions in full. We watched the John Lewis advert which was based on children in care at tis time of year and also the Asda advert about the movie Elf.

Thank-you to those children that supported the school at the school disco this week. All the Year 6 children showed exemplary behaviour as well as exemplary dancing skills!

Our Christmas party was full of fun party games and more dancing and all the children thoroughly enjoyed the event as nobody is too old for party games! We played corners, musical statues, musical bumps and bobsleigh. In addition, we danced to the Cha Cha Slide and Miss Rigley's favourite Superman!

We hope you enjoyed the Christmas Carol concert in the hall on Wednesday. We believe that all pupils tried their best and put on a fantastic concert along with the beautiful readings of the poem.

Finally, the Year 6 team would like to wish you a happy holiday and a peaceful new year to you all.



Pupil Achievements

Jonah (4A) and Grace (RTW) performed at the Cornbow Hall last weekend in their dancing school show. It was Grace's first time on stage and Jonah danced despite having a broken thumb! Well done both!



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

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

NURS	RR	RTW	1MS	1Y	2D	2E	3H	3W
All children	Maham	Archie	Angel	Wendy	Icia	Sophie Mae	Marseille	Piper-Bleu
	4A	4H	5C	5K	5P	6CW	6R	68
	Alicia	Dalton	Emma	Thierno	Jamie	Olivia	Curtis	Sameer



Hot Chocolate Friday children:

RR	RTW	1MS	1Y	2D	2E	3H	3W
Aleeza	Grace	Louie	Tommy	Evan	Rory	Yaseen	Zak
4A	4H	5C	5K	5P	6CW	6R	68
Hala	Eden	Megan	Reuben	Shubmeet	Darius	Lucas P	Sebastian



Key Dates	Reminders
 Tuesday 3rd January - INSET Day - School Closed 	Winter Coats Now the weather is cooler, can you please make sure your child comes to school wearing a coat, clearly
	labelled with their name. If they do not come to school with a coat, one will be provided from lost property if available.

- Thursday 12th January Year 2 Trip to Birmingham Town Hall to see The Gruffalo
- Friday 13th January Young Voices Concert (For selected children)
- Friday 27th January INSET Day School Closed

Items for the School Day

Children should come to school with all their belongings needed for school that day for example water bottles, lunch boxes, iPads, PE kits for clubs etc. We cannot guarantee items brought in throughout the day will get to your child.

Uniform

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 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. First week back in January will be **Week 1:**



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 Davs

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 - ask Parents to like and share - https://www.facebook.com/RoadSafetyDudleyCouncil

Childcare Choices



Please take a look on www.childcarechoices.gov.uk



Attendance

Colley Lane would like to wish all of our families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Children return to school on Wednesday 4th January 2023. Gates open at 8.40am.

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....

Pop up Vaccination Clinic

I wanted to let you all know about a new project that is starting this week in Brierley Hill Town Centre at the Moor Centre. DY5 3AH.

There will be a vaccination van in Brierley Hill on 24th December 2022, 7th & 22nd January 2023, 4th & 18th February 2023, 4th & 18th March 2023 from 9am–1pm.

The van is there to have conversations about all vaccinations (not just COVID) and answer any queries you may have. There will be the opportunity to have a COVID vaccine if eligible.

The van will be moving around to other places across Dudley borough, please see below for further information.

https://blackcountry.icb.nhs.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/pop-up-vaccination-black-country

Adult Learning Classes

There will be no classes next week but will restart week commencing 9th January 2023.

Family Finance Course

Are you a working parent who would like to explore ways to save money and brush up on your maths skills? Family Learning is offering a 7 week Family Finance course which will help you get to grips with fuel bills, interest payments, understanding your pay slip etc. It is open to anyone who is employed (including zero hours contracts and self-employed) and does not already have maths at grade C or above. The course will start in January, just in time for New Year's resolutions.

To reserve a place, please complete the google form below. This course will only run if we have enough interest.

https://forms.gle/nmxBzmQFMsDMHskR6

Dudley's Let's get moving campaign - Dance Classes for the over 50's

Dudley Public Health has commissioned a new, weekly, Dance to Health free dance sessions, to help residents build up their strength and balance. No experience is necessary and each class will include a cuppa and time to chat to get to know your fellow dancers.

The extra taster session will take place at Wellington Road Community Centre, in Dudley DY1 1UB at 10.15am – 12.15pm on Thursday 12 January. Come along and see what you think.

It's also not too late to sign up to any of the classes, which all begin in January.

When will the dance sessions start?

Town	When	Where
Netherton	10.15am – 12.15pm Tuesday 10 January	Primrose Hill Community Church
Quarry Bank	10.15am – 12.15pm Wednesday 11 January	Quarry Bank Community Centre

Coseley	1 – 3pm	Mary Dermott Memorial Hall	
	Wednesday 11 January		
Brierley Hill	1 – 3pm Thursday 12 January	Oakfield Community Centre	
Dudley (taster session)	10.15am – 12.15pm Thursday 12 January	Wellington Road Community Centre	

Email dudley@dancetohealth.org or telephone Jodie on 07470 799540 to attend.

Snow buster packs now available from Dudley Council

As temperatures plummet, we're reminding people they can apply for free equipment to help clear snow and ice this winter. The snow buster packs are available via Dudley Council's winter warmth service and include free shovels, salt spreaders, high-visibility vests, bags of special salt and advice on snow clearing.

The snow buster packs give residents the ability to clear driveways and smaller residential roads whilst gritting teams cover 480km of main roads.

People can call 01384 817086 between 8.30am and 5pm on Mondays to Thursdays and 8.30am to 4.30pm on Fridays for their pack.

Himley's Magical Christmas Portal opens on Wednesday



Shows from Wednesday to Sunday - get tickets from just £5

Following last year's hugely popular inaugural event, Himley's Magical Christmas Portal is back!

The excitement will begin as we take you on a journey through the magic portal to speak directly with Father Christmas live, via a large screen.

Find out how Father Christmas and the elves use magic to make the toys, receive a bespoke Himley Hall gift, enjoy the Christmas market, food & refreshment stalls, festive children's entertainment, and traditional funfair rides.

The show, including the interactive meeting with Father Christmas all takes place on a large screen. This event is set in the grounds of Himley Hall so wrap up warm!

Tickets start at just £5 - click here to find out more or to book

The Kindness Corner

OLIO App - Free Items



Have you heard the news? Sharing and neighbourly kindness is happening right on our doorstep.

More and more people on our street are using OLIO - an app which brings neighbours together to give away (and get) good food and good things - all for free.

Download from the App store, Google Play, or learn more at www.olioex.com.

Black Country Food Bank

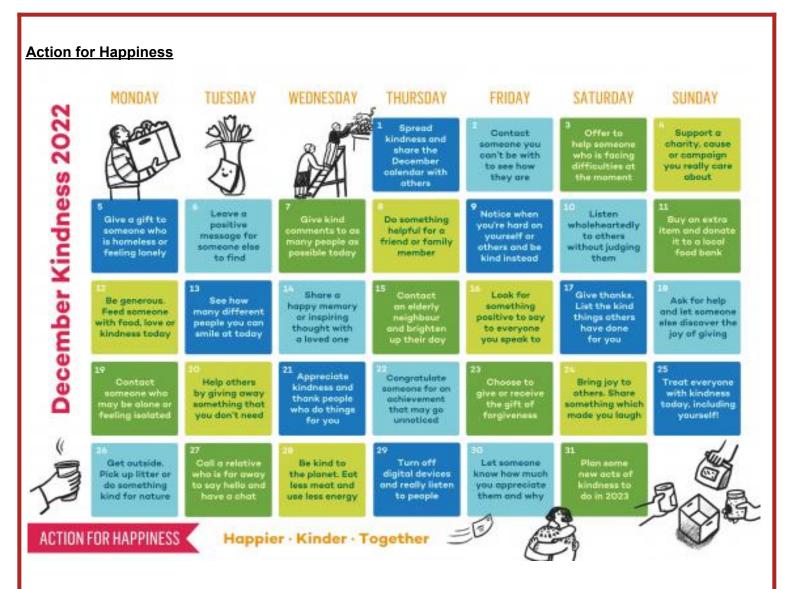
The collection box for Black Country Food Bank is located in the school fover where donations can be brought in at any time throughout the school year.

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

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

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Friday 27th January 2023

Monday 26th June 2023

Bank Holidays

May Day - Monday 1st May 2023

King's Coronation - Monday 8th May

Club News

Colley Lane Club News

Thank you to all the children who have attended clubs this term. We have had so much fun and learnt so many new skills. There are a couple of changes to clubs after Christmas with Gymnastics club on a Friday morning changing to year 4 and tag rugby changing to basketball. All clubs restart the first week back.

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.

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) Y4, Y5 & Y6 Art (4.15) Y1 & Y2 Multi Skills (4.30)*JSB	£1.00 £1.00 £1.00 £3.00		
			Y5 &Y6 Netball (4-15)	£1.00		
Tuesday	Y3, Y4. Y5 & Y6 Tri Golf (8.10)	£1.00	Y3 & Y4 Dance (4.15)	£1.00		
			Y5 & Y6 Football (4.30)*JSB	£3.00		
ava	Y4, Y5 & Y6 Football (8.00)*JSB	£2.00	Y5 & Y6 Basketball (4.15)	£1.00		
Wednesday	Y1, Y2 & Y3 Football (8.00)*JSB	£2.00	Y3 & Y4 Dodgeball (4.30) * JSB	£3.00		
			Y5 & Y6 Hockey (4.15)	£1.00		
ar	Y4. Y5 & Y6 Sportshall Athletics	£1.00	Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 Choir (4.15)	£1.00		
Thursday	(8.00)	LI.UU	Y1 & Y2 Football (4.30)* JSB	£3.00		

			Y3 & Y4 Football (4.30) * JSB	£3.00
Friday	Y4 Gymnastics (8.10)	£1.00	Y5 & Y6 Girls Football (4.30)	£1.00
			Y5 & 6 Squad Football - Invite Only (4.30)	£1.00
			Y5 & Y6 Dodgeball (4.30)	£3.00

