Colley Lane Primary Academy

"Never settle for less than your best"

Newsletter - 23rd September 2022

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a short yet busy week and it is lovely to be able to see the children flourishing in their new classes and year groups. Last Friday, a number of our children took part in the WAT Primary Games at Aldersley Stadium in Wolverhampton which brought together children from across all the WAT primary schools for a day of sport and competition. The weather shone as Colley Lane stepped up and came back overall winners on the day! Well done Superstars! There is more information and photos here: <u>WAT Primary Games</u>

We have launched a <u>Digital Reading App called BoomReader</u> for all children in Years 4, 5 and 6. This means that these pupils will no longer bring a Reading Record home each evening. Instead, we would like to invite you and pupils to 'Add a note' on their Digital Reading Record in order to provide feedback on the book they are reading, how many pages they have read and importantly, their response to the text. It is really useful to hear from our pupils and parents about whether your child is enjoying their book, if they found anything difficult and which reading skills they were able to demonstrate. Book talk and shared reading is a powerful way to develop reading enthusiasm and to support our drive here at Colley Lane to create a culture of reading for pleasure and in ensuring that all of our pupils love reading.

Top tips for reading with your child:

- Ask your child questions about the text, e.g. the plot... what might happen next? What is the character thinking? What are their characteristics?

- For Reluctant readers; take it in turns and read a paragraph each.

- Encourage your child to use their voice in different ways so they capture the reader's interest and take into account punctuation.

- Encourage your child to express their opinion about what they are reading and compare it with similar books they have read.

- Briefly retell the story or give key facts learnt from an information book.

We are excited about the greater ownership and responsibility that our Reading App will afford children in years 4 to 6. Pupils will today receive a login and parents are also able to login through the App. We have launched it in school today so please take a look with your son/daughter on their iPad and encourage them to track their reading and to enjoy the opportunity of showcasing their daily home reading. For more information, including a Parent Guide to BoomReader, please see <u>Class Dojo</u>.

Kind regards, Mr Dominic Simpson.

Colley Lane Primary Academy

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Next week's Aspire Character and Learner skills

- I am resilient
- I am courageous
- I can self-quiz
- I can become unstuck



What's been happening in school this week?

<u>Nursery</u>

What a lovely week we have had in Nursery!

Now that the children have settled well into the Nursery routines, we have started to look at our topic, 'Me and my family'. During group time the children have spoken about who is in their family and how many people or animals live in their houses. We have spoken about how all families are different and that some people have lots of people in their families while other people may only have a few. During snack times we have been sharing the different family pictures which have been sent in and the children have been very excited to tell their peers all about the people in the pictures.

We have also introduced our first Whole Class Reading story this week. The children found out that the book is set in a forest and spoke about the different animals which we might find in this habitat. We then found out that there would be some owls in our story and introduced the key vocabulary 'nocturnal', 'hunting' and 'swooping'. On Friday we listened to the story for the first time and the children enjoyed talking about their favourite part.



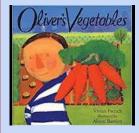


Next week we will be starting our next topic, 'Autumn'. We will be taking a look at the changes we can see around us as we enter the Autumn season and encourage the children to collect Autumn items such as conkers, pinecones, fall leaves and twigs to bring into school.

We hope you have a lovely weekend!!

<u>Reception</u>

Well done to all our new reception children for being excellent over the last few weeks. They have been busy getting used to new routines, staff and children and they have done really well! They are now confident accessing their indoor and outdoor learning environments and are being responsible for their resources by tidying up and making good choices.



The children unwrapped their first whole class reading book this week and explored the theme of vegetables and family members in the book Oliver's Vegetables. They really enjoyed listening to the story and spotting vocabulary they had been taught last week.

In numeracy, children have been matching objects using star words 'same' and 'different'. They have also started to develop their knowledge of tens frames. As part of their self registration task, children put their photo onto a tens frame learning bus and each day we count how many children are on each bus.

The children have also started to draw and write about their family members. It has been lovely listening to the children talk about their family whilst they have been drawing.

Next week we are starting our Autumn theme. If your child would like to bring in any leaves, pine cones, conkers or other autumnal objects that would be great!

If you haven't done so already, please can your child bring in a photo of their family. Or you could have a go at creating a family tree with either pictures or photos of family members. We are focusing on people who are young and old in our families. Just so you are aware, photos will be used as part of a display so will not be returned till later in the term.

<u>Year 1</u>

What a busy week of learning we have had in Year 1! We have enjoyed learning about ourselves and our families in our Theme 'A journey through time'. We looked at baby pictures of ourselves and explored how we had changed using the vocabulary 'then', 'now', 'past' and 'present'. The children had great fun trying to match baby pictures to the Year 1 teachers and Mr Simpson! Our Theme continued through the week as we



explored our families and we really enjoyed listening to the children proudly talking about their family members.



In English this week we have begun exploring our new writing approach - The Write Stuff. We have looked at and used different lenses like 'feeling', 'noticing' and 'asking' to write sentences and develop our thinking and writing skills. The children have written some wonderful sentences and we can't wait to delve into our new book next week! In Whole Class Reading we have learnt all about engineers in our book Rosie Revere Engineer. We linked the book to our Aspire Mountain and talked about being resilient and courageous and how to 'become unstuck' in times of difficulties. The children wrote some great positive messages for Rosie encouraging her not to give up.

In Maths we have explored doubling and halving using practical resources and role play. We have also begun to explore number bonds within 10.

Finally, just a reminder that our PE days are Monday and Friday. Have a great weekend!





<u>Year 2</u>

Year 2 have had a wonderful week at school, packed with new and exciting learning opportunities. Last week, we began our history theme where the children were tasked with designing and decorating their own 'Space' themed t-shirt. We talked about the different planets, who travels into space and how they might get there. It was a great way to launch our big question: 'Will we ever get to Mars?'. We added to our knowledge this week, learning all about SpaceX Falcon 9. We used drama to put the events of Falcon 9 in chronological order and were surprised that the dragon capsule detached twice from the original rocket. In our art lessons this week the children have been focusing on portraits. They used tone and line to add detail and discussed the features of a portrait to make sure the proportions were correct when drawing.

In science this week, the children have been working scientifically and created rocket nose cones. We had to predict what would happen when we placed our rocket nose cone on top of a bottle and squeezed the bottle. We enjoyed going outside for part of our lesson to see if our predictions were correct.

In maths this week we have been understanding numbers up to a hundred, recognising tens and ones whilst becoming more confident in our counting. We were very impressed with the children's confidence.

Our writing lessons this week have been focused around the story 'The Way Back Home'. The children have been busy creating their own sentences, which have included onomatopoeias, adjectives and verbs.

We look forward to focusing on the second part of our story next week!

We have loved celebrating the children in both 2E and 2D everyday and getting to know them during our celebration time.



<u>Year 3</u>

What a busy week of learning we have had in Year 3. The children have begun 'chotting' (chatting and jotting) in English lessons collecting precise verbs and onomatopoeias to help write story sentences based on 'The star in the jar'. The children are enjoying seeing who has their sentences displayed on the 'Sentence stacking' wall!

In Whole class reading lessons we have continued to read and enjoy 'The BFG'. We enjoyed acting out being a petrified Sophie crouching under her blanket and we were amazed how tall the BFG's table and chair was! Taller than the classroom!

In Maths we have been exploring strategies to use when adding and subtracting using place value knowledge. The children have been exploring numbers using bead strings, Numicon and Diennes. Some good partner talk to decide on the most efficient strategy to use.

We have continued on our historical journey through the Victorian era this week. We researched Queen Victoria and discovered she loved photographs, displaying many in the Great exhibition of 1851. We stayed a little closer to home learning about The Black Country and its name; looking at chain making and the links to Titanic.

The children are looking smart in their House PE tops and have enjoyed working as teams in PE with relay races using their athletic skills and lots of support and encouragement to be resilient and courageous from each other.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

<u>Year 4</u>



Year 4 children have continued to impress the Year 4 teaching staff this week with their enthusiasm and willingness to learn new things. We are incredibly excited about the year ahead.

Both classes have started our new writing approach and the impact on children's writing is already clear to see. Children have carefully selected their vocabulary and have constructed sentences to retell the story of Stone Age Boy which links to our Aspire theme focus - Stone Age to Iron Age. Children have shared their writing by sharing underneath the visualisers and also by reading aloud. Wow!Just Wow!

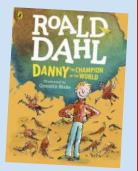
In our whole-class reading lessons, we are already enjoying our first book - James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl. Children have discussed and summarised what has happened in each chapter and have practised their reading domain skills in searching for keywords to help with questions. In maths, we completed our first unit - reasoning with 4-digit numbers. This week we rounded numbers to the nearest 10 and 100.

Home learning tasks (to be completed on iPads) will be introduced in the coming weeks. In the meantime, we are focussed on introducing our new reading app.

Have a wonderful weekend.

<u>Year 5</u>

Despite being a slightly shorter week this week, Year 5 have certainly been busy!



This week, we began our new writing approach - Jane Considine's The Write Stuff - which we will be using to develop our English skills. The children embraced their new learning around the book 'Gorilla' by Anthony Browne and really challenged themselves to better their thinking when writing. We are really looking forward to continuing this journey and can't wait to read the pupils' written work at the end of this unit. In Reading, we began 'Danny the

Champion of the World' by Roald Dahl. The children really love this book and are so excited to find out what happens next in the following chapters.

In Science, the children tested the density of rocks in a practical experiment. Each group timed the rock as they sank to the bottom of a bowl of water, identifying how density can change the way a material reacts in water. They loved the practical experiment and are really looking forward to more challenges. This week in Theme, the pupils looked at the Ancient Greek language and learnt to speak Greek themselves. We had great fun reading and writing in Greek, learning about pronunciation and linking this to the English language.

Reminders of PE days:

5C - Monday and Thursday

5P - Tuesday and Thursday

5K - Wednesday and Thursday

We wish you a restful weekend and look forward to another great week!

<u>Year 6</u>

We have now completed our first full weeks in Year 6 with another fantastic week of learning.

In Maths, we have been looking at the place value of numbers up to 10,000,000. In addition, we have been reading and writing these numbers in words and using counters to represent them. We also took part in a wonderful Maths Day last Tuesday. We went outside on a treasure hunt to answer mathematical questions, we learnt about Alan Turing and how Maths was used in his life during WW2 and we solved a Maths investigation.

In reading, we have been beginning to look at the background of our new book, 'Boy, Tales of a Childhood' by Roald Dahl. The book is always a lovely book to read as not many children have read this particular book.

For writing, we have been trying to communicate clearly by practising handwriting using kinetic letters. Also, we have been showing the teachers what we remember from our Year 5 writing by writing freely on some fantastic images such as a UFO, a cave city and a stormy scene to name a few. We also read 'The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse', and discussed the meaning of some of the phrases. We then used and adapted the quotes in order to create our own. Afterwards, we drew some beautiful pictures alongside them.

We began our Ancient Egyptian theme 'What can we learn about the Ancient Egyptians from what has survived?' by locating Egypt on Google Earth and identifying key cities, the River Nile and famous landmarks. In addition, we have learnt about pharaohs and designed our own sarcophagus for a well-known pharaoh.

Over the last few weeks, we have been visited by various secondary schools as they shared with the children what makes their secondary school special. We have sent out on Class Dojo a list of local schools and when their opening days are. Your child has also been sent home with a booklet all about the process of applying for schools.

We hope that you all have a restful weekend.

Pupil Achievements

Well done to Bradley Foxall in 1Y who has passed his Stage 2 in Swimming and achieved Player of the week in Rugby at Old Halesonians.Great work Bradley!



Well done to Tatum in Year 2 who went on a trip with her Beaver Scout group in the Summer holidays and was awarded with two badges. One for joining in with the camping activity, and one for working well as part of a team. Super work Tatum!

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	3Н	3W	
Zoya Z	Arianna	Harry	Ahmed	Finley	Emily	Michaela	Ayah	Lily	\sim
Henry	4A	4H	5K	5C	5P	6CW	6R	6S	
	Layla	Zak	Clara	William	Khirad	Rhys	Emma	Hannah	

Hot Chocolate Friday children:

RTW	RR	1Y	1MS	2D	2E	3H	3W	
Hunter	Oliver	Sophiya	Kerem	Joshua	Armaan	William	Luke	Ð
4H	4A	5K	5C	5P	6CW	6R	6S	
Darcey	Lia	Lexi	Antonia	Jake	Rhana	Max	Toby	

	Key Dates	Reminders		
Important Dates	 Wednesday 28th September 9.15 am - Open Event for Prospective Nursery & Reception Parents for 2023 Thursday 29th 	<u>School start and finish times</u> 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		
	September 3.30pm - Open Event for Prospective Nursery & Reception Parents for 2023	Uniform Please can all children's uniforms, hats, coats, water bottles and lunch boxes be labelled with their child's full name.		
 Wednesday 12th October - Parent's Evening 3.30pm - 6.00pm Thursday 13th October - Parent's Evening 		PE All children are to come into school wearing their PE kits on their PE days.(Days listed below)		
 4.00pm - 7.00pm Friday 14th October - School Photographer 		Parking Can we remind you that the car park is for <u>staff only</u> <u>and permit holders.</u> If you need to use the car-park,		
Half Term	4th - Friday 28th October - October	please see the office for a parking permit. Please do no park in the disabled bays unless you have a blue badge.		
 Monday 3 school 	1st October - Flu immunisation in	<u>Lunchboxes</u> Can we remind you that we are a nut-free school		
 Friday 2nd Closed 	l December - INSET Day - School	therefore no nut products are allowed in school. This includes nutella, peanut butter, kinder bueno type biscuits etc. Please note that no sweets or chocolate bars are allowed in school unless it is biscuit based. Any lost unnamed lunchboxes or water bottles will be kept in school for 1 week before disposing.		

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 3 Menu:**



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.

<u>Asthma</u>

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.

<u>Class Dojo</u>

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. <u>PE Davs</u> Nursery - Monday (AM) & Tuesday (PM) Reception - Wednesday Year 1 - Monday & Friday Year 2 - Monday & Thursday Year 3 - Tuesday & Thursday 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/RoadSafetyDudleyCouncil

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 <u>attendance@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk</u>
- 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....

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

Harvest Festival

The Harvest Festival is a fantastic time of year. It allows us to come together and reminds us to give thanks for the food we receive, provides greater awareness of where it comes from and encourages us to reflect on those who are less fortunate.

This year, the tradition of Harvest festival will fall on Sunday 11th September and we would like to invite the children to bring in food to donate to our local **Black Country Food Bank**. The food items will be collected and displayed in the hall, where it will serve as a reminder throughout the week.

On Tuesday 20th September, our school will welcome Claire Biggs from the Vale of Stour Methodist Church to share an assembly about the Harvest Festival.

To find out more about the Black Country Food Bank and to see what shortages they currently have, click on the link https://www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk/support/shortages/

Cradley Library

Cradley Library opposite the school are doing board game sessions on a Thursday straight after school until 4.30pm. It is a free session and all children are welcome.

Walk to School

This week we have relaunched our Walk to School Campaign. Classes have taken baseline surveys to see how children currently travel to school and have also started logging journeys. They will continue to log journeys throughout the school year with the aim of achieving a badge each month.

It would be great if you could send any autumnal walk to school photos to the <u>info@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk</u> 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

Clubs are all up and running and we are having great fun and learning new skills already. There are still places available at all clubs apart from dance so you still have the opportunity to sign up and learn a new skill, get fitter and make new friends.

The last week has already seen 39 children have the chance to represent the school in sports competitions. Last Friday we went to Aldersley Stadium in Wolverhampton with a group of 24 children to represent Colley Lane at the WAT Games. The year 6 children took part in a tag rugby tournament during the morning where they finished 2nd and year 3 and 4 children took part in hockey tournaments finishing 2nd and 3rd. In the afternoon all the children took part in an athletics tournament where we won 15 of the 30 gold medals on offer. All the points for the day were added together and Colley Lane finished as champions of the WAT Games. Then on Tuesday 15 children went to Old Halesonians Rugby

Club for a rugby festival. They spent the morning learning rugby skills and the afternoon taking part in some friendly matches. Well done to everyone who has taken part this week we are proud of you all and hopeful there will be plenty of chances for others to take part this year.

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	Y3, Y4. Y5 & Y6 Tri Golf (8.10)	£1.00	Y5 &Y6 Netball (4-15)	£1.00
			Y3 & Y4 Dance (4.15)	£1.00
			Ч5 & Y6 Football (4.30)*JSB	£3.00
Wednesday	Y4, Y5 & Y6 Football (8.00)*JSB	£2.00	Ч5 & Y6 Tag Rugby(4.15)	£1.00
	Y1, Y2 & Y3 Football (8.00)*JSB	£2.00	Y3 & Y4 Dodgeball (4.30) *JSB	£3.00
	Y4. Y5 & Y6 Cross Country (8.10)		Ч5 & Y6 Hockey (4.15)	£1.00
Thursday.		CT 00	Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 Choir (4.15)	£1.00
Thursday		£1.00	YI & Y2 Football (4.30)*JSB	£3.00
			Y3 & Y4 Football(4.30) * JSB	£3.00
Friday			Y5 & Y6 Girls Football (4.30)	£1.00
	Y6 Gymnastics (8.10)	£1.00	Y5 & 6 Squad Football - Invite Only (4.30)	£1.00
			Ч5 & Y6 Dodgeball (4.30)	£3.00