



# Colley Lane Primary Academy

"Never settle for less than your best"



## Newsletter - 9th February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of a short but productive half-term. It went by so quickly! During the past five weeks, we have been teaching the children about the things they can control, such as kindness, good manners, good behaviour, and taking pride in their work. These values are crucial in making our students not only outstanding members of Colley Lane, but also of the broader community. At Praise Assembly, we have celebrated the accomplishments and milestones of individuals and classes, which demonstrates how working together as a school and home can improve opportunities and outcomes for your children.

### Curriculum

You might have noticed that we have changed our History curriculum this half-term and the children have been coming home with facts and vocabulary around their new topics. They have enjoyed the new approach and this will continue with Geography when we return. It has also allowed us to look at our curriculum overall and ensure that children experience a broad and balanced curriculum with the opportunity to shine with their knowledge and skills.

### Personal Potential

As the Head, I am always biased when it comes to how fantastic Colley Lane is when it comes to opportunities for personal potential and this week alone has seen sporting competitions, trips and visits as well as the clubs and teaching that takes place. Take a moment this half-term to look at our Facebook page or the blogs to see how much goes on.

Please remember that there are Dudley MMR catch-up clinics taking place over half-term. [www.blackcountry.icb.nhs.uk/measles](http://www.blackcountry.icb.nhs.uk/measles)

Thank you for your continued support and I wish everyone a peaceful holiday. Take time to share stories, read together or chat about what new facts the children have learnt and we will see you on Monday 19th February at 8:40am

Kind regards  
Mr D Simpson  
Headteacher

### Colley Lane Primary Academy

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### Key Dates

**Monday 12th - Friday 16th  
February**  
Half term week

**Wednesday 21st - Friday 23rd  
February**  
Year 6 Residential to PGL

**Thursday 7th March**  
World Book Day (Children can  
dress up)

**Tuesday 19th March**  
Nursery Parents Meetings  
**Nursery closed for children**

**Wednesday 20th March**  
Parents Evening - more information  
will follow

**Thursday 21st March**  
Parents Evening - more information  
will follow

**Friday 22nd March**  
Break up for Easter

**Monday 8th April**  
Return to school

**Monday 8th April**  
Year 5 Ancient Egyptian Workshop  
(Please pay on ParentMail)

### Reminder!

*We are a nut free school. We do have children in school with severe nut allergies. Children should not bring any products that contain nuts including Nutella / Nut chocolate spread, chocolate bars with nuts, bombay mix etc.  
Thank you.*

## Attendance

Overall this week:

**91%**

[Attendance information](#)

## Aspire

- I am resilient
- I can self-quiz

## School Menu

Week 2

[Link to Menus](#)

## *What's been happening in school this week?*

### Nursery

What a super final week of the half term we have had in Nursery!

We finished our whole class reading story by having a tasting session. The children got to try all of the fruit which the hungry caterpillar had eaten in the story. The children got to try some apples, pear, plum, strawberry and orange. For each fruit, we then used our tasting lens to think of some super describing words such as juicy, sweet and delicious!



Thank you for all your support this half term and I hope that you all have a lovely February half term break!

### Reception

Reception children have been working hard in the final week before half term. They have now been taught a number of phase 3 digraphs in phonics and starting to spot and say digraphs when reading new words. They have focused on writing sentences and using their letter formation and phonics knowledge to help them become independent writers.



The children also took part in the big schools bird watch and visited the library this week. Please remember to return library card forms to your child's class teacher.

Happy half term!

### Year 1

What a great half term we have had!

The children have really enjoyed our history unit, investigating the lives of significant people from the past, studying the lives of Mary Seacole, Florence Nightingale and Edith Cavell. The children have created fact files, recalling lots of facts about each of the nurses. They were also able to identify the similarities and differences of their lives and work. To finish our unit, the children had their first debate, on which nurse they thought was the most important. After making their choice the children had to give reasons, based on the facts they had learnt over the past few weeks. We had some great discussions, and it proved that each nurse had made an impact on our lives today. Well done Year One, we are really impressed with how much you have learnt and remembered over the past few weeks!



### Year 2

What a great Kings and Queens Day year 2 had on Thursday. A big thank you to all the parents - the costumes were amazing.



We started the day recording facts on ChatterPix about the monarchs we studied. Then we produced three art pieces collaboratively using different art methods of



King Henry VIII, Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II. In the afternoon we created collages of King Charles



Hope you all have a great half term!

### Year 3

The highlight of our week has got to be visiting Birmingham's Symphony Hall.

It was a fitting way to conclude our Music topic The children were so excited to hear a range of music being played to tell a story.

The Birmingham City Orchestra wore different coloured t-shirts to show the different groupings of instruments. Can your child tell you which colour the String group was wearing?!

We all joined in clapping, cheering, conducting and finally dancing to the music. We are pretty sure the favourite piece of music came from Harry Potter closely followed by 'Angry Birds'!

The children also used our visit to write a recount in English. It allowed them to write in the past tense, using chronological order linked by adverbs of time. They used adjectives and similes to add detail and included technical, musical vocabulary such as pitch and dynamics.

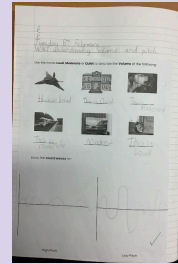
A lovely conclusion to a half term. Have a lovely week and see you ready for Spring Two!



before ending the day with Tudor Sports - jousting, archery and Tennis.

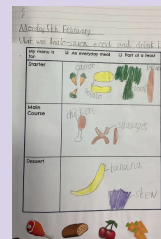
### Year 4

What a lovely last week we have had in Year 4 to finish off the half term!



We have finished our topic on Sound in Science and learnt about sound waves and how these look and change at both high and low pitches.

It was Safer Internet Day on Tuesday, so Year 4 did another BBC Teach Live Lesson learning all about Artificial Intelligence and how this is used a lot in our everyday lives. We also learnt that AI can be used in negative ways, such as in the promotion of false advertisements and deep fake images, so we have to be mindful and not believe everything we see on the internet.



In History, we have now finished our topic on the Anglo-Saxons and this week, the children have been able to create their own Anglo-Saxon menu and crack and write messages in Anglo-Saxon runes!

Hope you have a fantastic half term!

### Year 5

What a lovely week to end our half term. Year 5 are such a credit and have really shown themselves to be outstanding role models.

We started the week with a visit to the library. This was lovely as the children had the chance to hear a story and explore all of the lovely books on the shelves.

We had another fabulous swimming lesson this week. The children even had a treat time in the pool for their outstanding behaviour and hard work this half term.

We are thoroughly enjoying our book 'Alice in Wonderland'. This week, we learnt all about the Duchess, Mad Hatter, March Hare and the Cheshire Cat. We will be holding our Year 5 Alice Day on Friday 23rd

### Year 6

What an amazing week we have had this week in Year 6 to finish off our half-term. The children have been amazing all week!

To begin with, we investigated microorganisms to see how they react in different conditions. Each group conducted an investigation to see what happens to a balloon when warm water, sugar and yeast are mixed together.



The result is the mixture creates carbon dioxide which inflates the balloon.



Over this half-term, we have really delved into what



February. We will be sending more information through Class Dojo.

Finally, Mrs Peters had the pleasure of taking a group of Year 5 pupils to see Windsor High School's performance, 'We Will Rock You'. This was a fantastic event and the children were a pleasure to have as role models for Colley Lane.



Make sure your child takes a look at our technology challenge on Google Classroom. Send your entries to your class teacher.

We wish you all a wonderful half term.

happened in WW2. The children have thoroughly enjoyed this topic and have been eager to learn more and more each day. We used play-doh this week to show how the Allies advanced through Europe to end the war. Additionally, we read a short story about Anne Frank and then wrote a diary entry as if we were here.

### Homework

Children have been given homework to complete over the half-term holiday. As SATs are approaching, it is essential now that children complete this and any weekly homework that is sent out. The children have helped to design an award scheme for completion of any homework. More information will be posted on Class Dojo/Parent Mail about SATs and homework.


Thank-you for your support and have a wonderful half-term break!

## *Pupil Achievements*

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

NURS	RR	RW	1MS	1Y	2D	2E	3K	3W
Rosie	Darcie	Oscar	Karo	Lyla	Ben	Dania	Michaela	Maizie
Sofia	<b>4A</b>	<b>4H</b>	<b>5C</b>	<b>5P</b>	<b>6G</b>	<b>6R</b>	<b>6S</b>	
	Aryaan	Jaidan	Jonah	Ethan	Kyle	Zahra	Lexi	

**Hot Chocolate Friday children:**

RW	RR	1MS	1Y	2D	2E	3K	3W
Rosarn	Dominic	Aleeza	Kushman	Nevaeh	Ryan	Matthew	Yunus
<b>4A</b>	<b>4H</b>	<b>5C</b>	<b>5P</b>	<b>6G</b>	<b>6R</b>	<b>6S</b>	
Riley	Ellena	Robyn	Darcey	Meya	Ayesha	Olly-George	



Lily played some amazing football the weekend being awarded as Tiger of the match for her Saturday team Starz Academy Tigers and Player of the match for her Sunday team DK Tigers. Well done Lily!



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



## Club News

The last two weeks have seen plenty of chances to represent the school in competitions. The girls and boys football teams have both had fixtures in their leagues, the cross country team have been to the Dudley Cross Country at Summerhill High School and the sportshall athletics team went to Leasowes High School. Well done to everyone involved for the amazing results achieved.



### Pre-loved Uniform

We do now have a pre-loved school uniform rail that all parents are invited to use. It is located in the school. Ask the office if you would like to come in and have a look!

Don't forget to check the website and our social media accounts for more information:

[Colley Lane Website](#), [School Blogs](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Class Dojo](#)

More useful links:

[Term Dates](#)

[Attendance](#)

[Breakfast and After School Club](#)

[Essential information](#)

[ParentMail](#)

[Extracurricular Activities and School Clubs](#)

[Mental Health and Wellbeing](#)

[Dudley's Cost of Living Support Hubs](#)

[Worrying about money?](#)

[Support for Parents](#)

[Safeguarding](#)