



Colley Lane Primary Academy

"Never settle for less than your best"

Newsletter - 26th January 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you

It was lovely to see the school awash with green and yellow today, including green hair, to raise awareness and donations for NSPCC. Thank you for the kind donations and the support that has been shown towards Mrs Wicks and Miss Cheyne as they continue to train for the London Marathon.



Class Visits

During each week, myself and SLT, along with other leaders, visit classrooms to see how the children are getting on, the standards in books and the progress being made with school initiatives such as STAR and pupil engagement. It is always impressive to see how the children are responding to their learning and how they are being resilient when things are harder than they first thought. As part of this resilience, we are encouraging the children to communicate clearly when they are stuck and understand that everyone gets stuck; it's part of learning. It's how we respond to this that makes us more independent learners. It's the 1% better each day that I have shared with the children in assembly.



As you are aware, there are many activities and opportunities that your children experience by being at Colley Lane and we are very proud of all we do from interesting lessons, trips and workshops to the offer of extracurricular activities. We share these on

ClassDojo but also on Facebook and X (Twitter) and would love to get the message out to more families about our wonderful community and School. So over the next few weeks if you are on our social media platforms, could you follow, like, share and retweet to spread the word? Thank you

The half-term is speeding away from us but thank you for all your support with reading at home, practising times-tables or encouraging your child with home learning. Even 5 minutes a day can make a huge difference in the education of your child.

Kind regards
Mr D Simpson
Headteacher

Colley Lane Primary Academy

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Email: info@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk Website:

<https://www.colleylanepriamry.org.uk>

X (Twitter): @colleylane Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Colleylanepriamryacademy>

Key Dates

Tuesday 30th January
EY and KS1 Maths Workshop
9am or 2:15pm
(Please sign up using the Google form on class dojo)

Tuesday 6th February
Year 3 Trip to Birmingham
Symphony Hall (Please pay on ParentMail)

Friday 9th February
Break up for Half Term

Monday 12th - Friday 16th February
Half term week

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

Thursday 7th March
World Book Day

Reminder!

Can you please make sure children's coats, hats, scarves, lunchboxes etc are clearly marked with their name in. We have a lot of children with the same items in school.

Attendance

Overall this week:

93%

[Attendance information](#)

Aspire

- I am resilient
- I can self quiz
- I can communicate clearly

School Menu

Week 2

[Link to Menus](#)

What's been happening in school this week?

Nursery

This week in Nursery we have started to learn all about our new topic, under the sea!

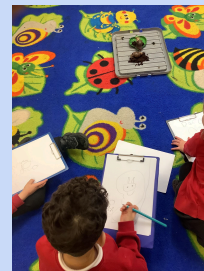
The children have really enjoyed learning about the different animals and plants which can be found under the sea and have particularly enjoyed exploring the creative and playdough activities.



The children have also enjoyed our Whole Class Reading sessions this week. We have been looking at minibeasts and then acted out the lifecycle of a caterpillar in preparation for our new book next week which is all about a hungry caterpillar!

Reception

RR started the week making bird feeders with their families in preparation for the big schools bird watch. RW's families can take part on Monday 29th January. Please sign up using the Google form on class dojo.



Both classes have also practised their observational drawings skills by drawing large African land snails. The children were very quiet to ensure they didn't scare the snails. This meant that they could see them moving and beginning to form a slime trail! I wonder what book they will be reading next linked to snails?!

Lots of language, writing, maths and phonics work has also taken place during child initiated time all around the theme under the sea.

Year 1

In Year 1 this week, we have had a wonderful week where we have enjoyed continuing to learn about and exploring the lives of three famous nurses in history. Following on from learning about Mary Seacoll, this week we have been learning about Florence Nightingale, also known as 'The Lady with the Lamp'. We had a go at comparing the lives of Florence and Mary, finding similarities and differences between the two women.



Year 2

This week we have continued our history unit where we have been learning about famous monarchs.



We finished learning about Henry VIII earlier this week, and delved deeper into the culture and lifestyle of the Tudor period. We listened to music, looked at different portraits and learnt some of the key sports at the time. In PE, we then had a go at some tennis and our child friendly version of jousting and archery.

In writing, we have begun writing our own version of 'The Queen's hat'. Instead of it being Queen Elizabeth's hat that blew away, it was Queen Victoria's. The children learnt all about the dusty, smoky streets of London during the Industrial Revolution and used this setting within their own story. We can't wait to

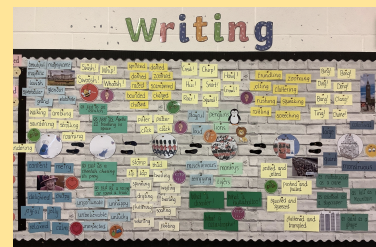
In our writing lessons, we have started learning about another famous woman in history: Florence Joyner, the fastest woman on earth.

In our PE lessons this week, we have begun our dance unit. We went on an imaginary safari, incorporating dance moves to retell the events of us driving the jeep and meeting different animals. We hope you have a wonderful weekend and look forward to our exciting learning next week.



finish our story next week!

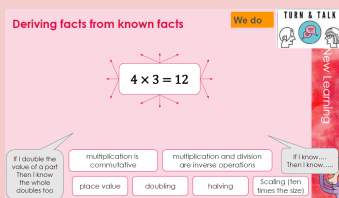
Just a reminder that on Thursday 8th February, we will be having a Kings' and Queens' focus day. All children are invited to wear their fancy clothes that make them feel like a royal. This could be a dress and crown, or a smart shirt and trousers. Additionally, you might want to send your child looking like a monarch from the past. There is no pressure to go out and buy clothes / costumes, but use things you might already have at home.



Year 3

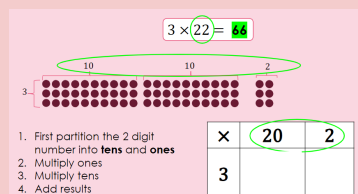
This week we are shining a light on Maths. The children have been using their multiplication and division skills across the last couple of weeks.

Every Maths lesson, we have 'Star words' the children use when calculating and explaining their strategies. We use a mixture of solo silent thinking time (thinking to yourself) and then turn and talk to see if their partner has a different strategy or come to a different answer.



We have been using the vocabulary of 'known facts' and using those to derive other facts as shown above.

The children have been multiplying 2 digit numbers by one digit numbers using their place value knowledge and times tables. They have seen how important being able to recall times tables are. TTRS and Century Tech can help with this.



Have a good weekend everyone and see you next week.

Year 4

In Year 4 this week, we have been learning to add and subtract fractions with the same denominators, we have also looked at improper fractions and mixed numbers and how we can convert from one to another.

In English, we have been creating our own poem based around being resilient and not giving up even when things get hard.

In Science, we have looked at the ear in more detail and labelled a diagram of an ear, learning all the intricate parts. Did you know the smallest bone in our body is located in the ear?

In History this week, we have been learning about Anglo-Saxon villages and the children created a map of their own village, explaining what they would have in it and why. Also, we have been learning about clothing that Anglo-Saxons would have worn and we had a go at dyeing some wool using natural materials like turmeric, red cabbage, spinach and blueberries!



Year 5

Year 5 have had a lovely week again this week.

We have begun to read our book 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' by Lewis Carroll. The children met Alice and the White Rabbit in the first chapter of our story. Alice has just eaten a very interesting piece of cake; what will happen next? We can't wait to find out.

In Science this week, we have continued to explore forces, finding out about the impact gears, levers and pulleys can have on forces. We investigated models of these, and also looked at them in action in real-life scenarios.

In our History lessons, we have explored the Kings of the Shang Dynasty and the roles they played in the development of Chinese history. We have also looked at settlements, and the importance of settling near to the Yellow River. Again, these were incredibly interesting lessons.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Year 6

In Year 6 this week, we have been continuing our work on classifying animals using classification keys. We began our work by creating yes or no questions to sort liquorice allsorts before moving onto more difficult animals.

In PSHE the children have been discussing being positive and making the choice to be positive in a bad situation. Being positive won't make the sun shine but it will make you happy.


In English, we have been writing formally with some great ways to improve the local cemetery. We will share completed ones next week!

In history, we have had a less intense week than last week and we have created single/double page spreads about daily life in WWII.


Finally, we would like to thank Mr. Ali who has been teaching children across the year group whilst training to become a teacher. Thank-you for all your hard work Mr Ali!

Pupil Achievements

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

NURS	RR	RW	1MS	1Y	2D	2E	3K	3W
Reuben (Full-time)	Taryn	Haadi	Asrar	Axel	Josh	Finley	Amelia	Layan
Saskia (PM)	4A	4H	5C	5P	6G	6R	6S	
	Gerald	Marseille	Hend	Scarlett S	Alishbah	Lilia	Thierno	

Hot Chocolate Friday children:

RW	RR	1MS	1Y	2D	2E	3K	3W
Charles	Madison	Haitham	Oscar	Ahmed	Kerem	Violet	Druven
4A	4H	5C	5P	6G	6R	6S	
Rahmah	Olivia	Brandon	Fergus	Orla - next week	Zuhan	Clara	

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



Club News

Well done to everyone who's attended a club this week. The children have lots of clubs to choose from at Colley Lane so if you haven't tried one yet find the best one for you and come along and try it. There are lots of sports competitions and opportunities for the dance and choir to perform coming up so please keep an eye out for the forms to fill in if your child is chosen.



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 entrance to school. Ask the office for sizes.

Local Events

LIBRARY NOTICE

Come and join us at Cradley Library to support 'The Big Garden Birdwatch'

Did you know?
We've lost 38 million birds from UK skies in the last 60 years

Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers like you take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring.



Join us:
Saturday 20th January 11-12 for a bird inspired craft
Saturday 27th January 11-12 to help us spot and count!

46 Colley Lane, Cradley, Halesowen, B63 2TL, 01384 812 885.
We'd love you to see you there!

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

BETTER the feel good place

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](#)