



Colley Lane Primary Academy

"Never settle for less than your best"

Newsletter - 1st December 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas has arrived at Colley Lane as the children walked into school to find all the lights out and the Christmas trees twinkling with lights and the decorations they had made in class adorning the trees. It is a lovely time of year and the cold crisp morning made it more festive. In assemblies this week, we looked at the meaning of Advent and why people countdown to Christmas. I have also set the children a challenge to help with a "Reverse Advent Calendar" this year. At some point during Advent when they open their calendar, if they have one, to think of others and bring something in for our Bank Country Food Bank. That way we share the spirit of Christmas with many more families. Any donations can come into classes or the office.



Today I have given out a Special Headteacher Award to Mia in Year 2. Mia has been a huge support to her Mum, who recently had a non epilepsy seizure when it was just herself and Mia in the house. Mia calmly unlocked Mum's phone and contacted her Dad and brother and then held Mum's hand until they arrived, remaining calm throughout. This is such an amazing thing to be able to do at a young age and worthy of praise from the whole Colley

Lane community. You are a star Mia!

Don't Forget!

.On Wednesday 6th December the children can come in their own clothes or Christmas clothes for the day as we will be having a festive surprise for EYFS/KS1 and KS2. This surprise has been half funded by Friends of Colley Lane and all that we ask in return is that you donate a good quality unwanted gift that will go towards the "Elfridges Store" at the Winter Fayre. This will be a stall where the children can buy a gift and wrap it for someone special if they would like. The plans for the Fayre are really coming on so remember to save the date of Friday 15th December at 3:30pm!

Reminder!

I would like to politely remind parents about the high expectations around parental behaviour and language on our school site during drop-off and collection each day. We are a community school with a fantastically diverse population and as parents, we are role models for all of those children. Thank you for your support with this.

I hope that everyone has an enjoyable weekend as Advent starts and look out for our Christmas activities in the coming weeks.

Mr D Simpson
Headteacher

Key Dates

Tuesday 5th December 9.00am
Year 4 Christmas Craft Session
(Parents Invited)

Wednesday 6th December
Non-School Uniform day - bring an unwanted gift for Elfridges stall

Friday 8th December
INSET Day - School Closed

Tuesday 12th December
1.45 -3.00 pm Nursery & Reception
Christmas Singing & Craft - Nursery
PM Parents can attend

Wednesday 13th December
Nursery & Reception Christmas
Singing & Craft
9 -10.30am - Nursery AM Parents can attend
1.45 -3.00pm - Reception Parents can attend

Wednesday 13th December
School Christmas Dinner (No tuck served)

Friday 15th December
Nursery Dudley Zoo Trip (Please pay on ParentMail)

Friday 15th December
Friends of Colley Lane
Winter Wonderland Fayre 3:30pm

Tuesday 19th December 9.30am
Year 2 Christmas Play - Parents invited

Tuesday 19th December
Christmas Carol Service at St Peter's Church - Year 3 & 4 Parents only

Wednesday 20th December 9.10am
Year 1 Singing & Christmas Craft Session (Parents Invited)

Wednesday 20th December
Christmas Carol Service at St Peter's Church - Year 5 & 6 Parents only

Wednesday 20th December
School Discos

Friday 22nd December

Colley Lane Primary Academy

Colley Lane, Halesowen B63 2TN Tel: 01384 900450

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

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

Twitter: @colleylanepriamary Facebook:

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

Break up for Christmas and Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 8th January
INSET Day - School Closed

Tuesday 9th January
Children return to school

Attendance

Overall this week:

96%

[Attendance information](#)

Aspire

- I am resilient
- I can be collaborative

School Menu

Week 3

[Link to Menus](#)

What's been happening in school this week?

Nursery

It has been a very busy week in Nursery! The children have started to explore their new topic all about transport and enjoyed learning all about how to safely cross a road from Super Cat!

On Thursday, the afternoon and full-time children also go to visit the library. They enjoyed listening to a story from the librarians and then shared some stories with their friends.



Just a reminder, if your child is due to start Reception in 2024, please sign up [here](#). Even though your child has a place at our Nursery, you still need to apply for a Reception place at Colley Lane. Thank you

Reception

Reception children have enjoyed exploring their new topic all about transport and are now using their phonics to write captions and phrases. They have also enjoyed taking part in number and word hunts, where the numbers and words are hidden on cars around the room.

The children enjoyed their recent trip to the library and shared stories with their friends.

Just a reminder, on class dojo there is a link to the song your child will be performing in our Christmas singalong. Please practise the words and signs at home. Thank you

Year 1

For our "Where in the world am I?" theme this term, we have been looking at maps. We started by creating some symbols and drawing them onto maps of our journey from home to school. We then thought about different symbols we might find on a map of a seaside town. This week we have looked at a map of the UK. We have been learning which four countries make up Great Britain and locating them on a map. We also tried to find and name the four capital cities of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The children loved looking at pictures from around the UK and recognised many places they had visited!

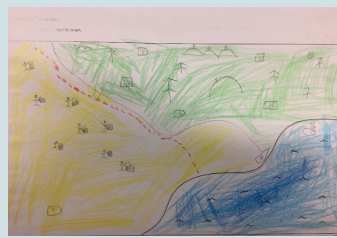
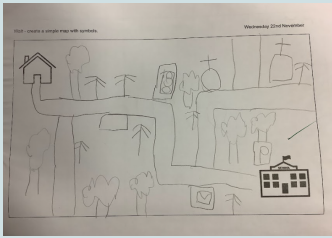
Year 2



In writing this week, the children have explored the features of a postcard. We loved sharing our new text 'Meerkat Christmas, reading all the different postcards and

finding out about his adventures. On Friday, we started looking deeper into the features, starting with the greeting and adventures. The children came up with some fantastic ideas and vocabulary.





In science this week the children have also been focusing on constellations. They had lots of fun recreating current ones and designing their one, using black paper and chalk.

Thank you to everyone who has already sent in Christmas play costumes. Can we ask that costumes for the play are in by **Monday 11th December** so we can finalise costumes please. Thank you and we hope you have a lovely weekend all.

Also, just a reminder about our parent reading workshop on **Thursday 7th December at 9:05**. Please see Dojo for more information.

Have a lovely weekend!

Year 3



Year Three have been showing off their creativity this

week. The Christmas trees are up and adorned with decorations all made by the children. The reindeers, trees, snowmen and Father Christmas all look fabulously festive!



The children have also been celebrating 'Non-fiction November' by producing postcards to highlight the importance of our oceans needing to be protected - some beautiful and thought-provoking work.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Year 4



Another great week in Year 4 this week!

On Tuesday, the children got to make their own mini ecosystems in Science and we will be observing how they change over time.

We have been learning all about grid references and compass points in our Theme lessons and as part of our movement towards better understanding sustainability, the children have produced some lovely postcards highlighting the effects of polluting our oceans.



Lastly, to finish off the week, we have been getting festive and have decorated our trees with some lovely decorations all made by the children themselves.



Have a great weekend!

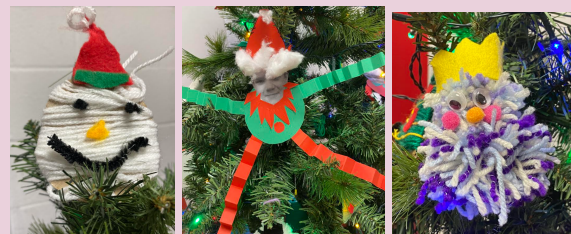
Year 5

We have had an incredible week in Year 5.

On Wednesday, we were extremely lucky as we got to take part in an Indian Dance Workshop. Both classes had the opportunity to work with two professional dancers from Black Country Dance Hub, Monika and Julie for two hours, learning a dance in the style of Kathak, a traditional dance from southern India. The children were incredible and loved every minute of the workshop. They also were treated to a special performance by Monika, who performed a traditional dance from her hometown in New Delhi. What a fantastic day we had!

Year 6

This week, Christmas has begun in Year 6. We have decorated our classrooms and Christmas trees in Year 6. Each class has created a different Christmas tree decoration for the corridor trees and classrooms.

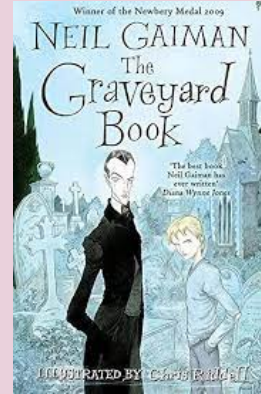




On Thursday, we were visited by Meya in 6G with her two bearded dragons. As we have been studying the yellow spotted lizards in our Whole Class Reading book 'Holes', Meya offered to bring her pets in for the children to stroke. She also told them lots of amazing facts all about them. Another great experience for Year 5!

Have a wonderful weekend.


We are also well into our book this term "The Graveyard Book" by Neil Gaiman. It is a very detailed and descriptive book about a boy called Bod who lives in a graveyard. The vocabulary is rich and the descriptions are vivid. Bod meets lots of people from the past in the graveyard along with meeting different types of ghouls and ghosts. We can't wait to see what happened to Bod on his journey through the graveyard.




Have a restful weekend everyone.

Pupil Achievements

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

NURS	RR	RW	1MS	1Y	2D	2E	3K	3W
Mariam (NAM) Millie (NFT)	Hallie-Rae	Marwah	Lilly	Arzu	Ahmed	Ashley	Sinan	Alice
	4A	4H	5C	5P	6G	6R	6S	
	Zaynah	Oliver	Archie	Zak	Trip	Trip	Trip	

Hot Chocolate Friday children:

RW	RR	1MS	1Y	2D	2E	3K	3W
Haadi	Lavakuhan	Rouen	Logan	Bobby	Finley	Michaela	Chad V
4A	4H	5C	5P	6G	6R	6S	
Bethany	Jacob	Claudia Hala	Dalton	Trip	Trip	Trip	



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

Another great week at clubs this week. Please remember that now the nights are getting dark to come down to collect the children and not call them across the car park to you.

After School Club

Check out our [After School Newsletter: Summer 2 2023](#)



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.

School Coats and Fleeces

We have some old stock of waterproof coats and fleeces with the school logo on which we are selling for just £5. Coats are available in sizes: 12-13 / 13-14 / 15-16, for the fleeces we only have size 3-4. Pop into the office if you would like to purchase any.

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](#)