

# Colley Lane Primary Academy

*Never settle for less than your best*

## *Newsletter - 5th November 2021*

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have to say how impressed we have been with the way the children have returned after the half-term holiday. They have picked up where they left off and there is a wonderful sense of calm productivity around the school. The earlier opening of the doors at 8:40am has meant that the children are able to start the day with reading and phonics alongside the plan for the day, all of which makes for a great learning environment. It is always a busy half-term and this year it will be busier still as we will be putting on Christmas plays and Carols services - more details will follow in the coming weeks.

On Monday, we held our first LAB (Local Area Board) Meeting for the year. It was lovely to welcome Jane Price, the Chair and other parent and co-opted members back into school after such a long time and have a tour of school to celebrate our achievements so far. The LAB meeting itself looked at the priorities for the year ahead and how the LAB members can act as "critical friends" to ensure we provide the best for all children to reach their academic and personal potential. Our 5 main priorities this year are:

- Reading fluency and comprehension
- Improving outcomes in Maths
- Fully embedding high expectations across all staff, pupils and parents in the culture and behaviours for learning.
- Coaching and mentoring to support and improve Teacher effectiveness
- Improve academic and personal potential through enhanced use of digital technologies

We also spoke about how we can continue to ensure that Colley Lane Primary maintains, but also promotes, the nurturing, caring community that makes it so special.

Thank you for your support with the PE uniform as we mentioned in the last newsletter. The children are looking very smart in their plain coloured tshirt and hoodies. Some parents have mentioned about just having purchased items and I would not want anyone to buy additional trainers or hoodies just for PE but as they grow out of the old, please replace with the PE uniforms requirements.

This week, you might have seen on Class Dojo or our Twitter page that all the classes have been taking part in work around Remembrance Day and contributing to the Royal British Legion by purchasing poppies and other items, which will also be available next week. Next Thursday at 11am, we will fall silent as a school to show our respects alongside the rest of the country to all those who have fallen in conflicts around the world.



We have shared in assembly today the Firework code as the weekend approaches and you might like to talk to your child about this. Please have a wonderful time if you are celebrating Diwali or Bonfire Night but keep safe.

Kind regards

Mr Dominic Simpson  
Headteacher

### **Colley Lane Primary Academy**

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**Website:** <https://www.colley.dudley.sch.uk> **Twitter:** @colleylane

## Key Dates

- Monday 8th November - Flu immunisation for classes Reception to Y6
- Thursday 11th November - School meals Mexican Fiesta Day
- Friday 26th November - Y6 Botanical Gardens trip
- Wednesday 8th December - School meals Christmas Dinner
- Friday 10th December - School closed
- Monday 20th December - Monday 3rd January - Winter Holiday
- Tuesday 4th January - Inset day - School closed
- Monday 21st February -25th February -Spring Half Term
- Monday 11th April - Friday 22nd April - Easter Holidays
- Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June - Summer Half Term
- Monday 6th - Wednesday 8th June - Year 6 PGL Residential Trip
- Monday 25th July - Friday 2nd September - Summer Holidays



## Reminders

### School start and finish times

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

### Coats

Now the weather is getting colder, can we remind all parents / carers to make sure their children bring a coat to school.

We do have a special offer on school reversible coats for just £5! One side is fleece and the other is a hooded raincoat. If you wish to purchase one, please come to the school office.



Raincoat side



Fleece side

### Uniform

Please can all children's uniform, water bottles and lunch boxes be labelled with their child's full name.

We have a number of water bottles and lunch boxes left in school with no names on, these will be disposed of next Friday if they are not claimed.

### PE

All children are to come into school with their PE kits on their PE days.

### School Meals

Please book your school meals every Thursday by 4pm. The booking forms are sent out every Monday via ParentMail and on our website

### Year 6 Botanical Gardens Trip

Can Year 6 parent's please make sure they have completed the form on Parentmail and have paid the trip money before Friday 19th November.

## *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.

## *General Reminders*

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 this weekend using the letter provided from school. We are just using the "Classroom" tab at the moment. Class stories and Messaging will be used but staff are not checking these currently.

Parking  
We would like to remind parents and carers to park considerately around school. We have attached a letter from the West Midlands Police regarding Dudley's Operation Park Safe scheme. We would appreciate it if you can take a moment to read it and follow the rules set out in the Highway Code outlined in the letter. Concerned parents/carers now have the opportunity to report unsafe parking via their Self Reporting Scheme. Copies of these forms are available in the office.

PE Days  
Nursery - Wednesday  
Reception - Monday  
Year 1 - Wednesday  
Year 2 - Thursday  
Year 3 - Monday and Tuesday  
Year 4 - 4R & 4K Tuesday and Thursday, 4H - Wednesday and Thursday  
Year 5 - 5C & 5A Monday and Friday, 5W - Tuesday and Friday  
Year 6 - Wednesday and Friday

## *Attendance*



### **Lates**

We have noticed a considerable improvement in the number of children arriving at school late this week and we would like to thank you for all of your efforts and continued support.

A reminder - all children should be at school, ready to learn at 8.55am, doors open at 8.40am

### **Leaving school early**

In order to ensure there are minimal disruptions to the children's learning at the end of the school day, children should not be leaving school early unless:

- it is for an appointment that we have been made aware of beforehand and we have been given or shown a letter/medical card/medical appointment text.
- if school has asked you to collect your child early due to them being ill in school.

## Attendance;

If your child is ill with any of the following 3 symptoms they need to self-isolate immediately and you must carry out a Lateral flow test or book a PCR test as soon as possible:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste.

Please let school know any test results, or if your child is going to be absent for this or any other reason by;

- Calling 01384 900450 and speaking to a member of staff or leaving a message.
- Sending an email to [attendance@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk](mailto:attendance@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk)
- Reporting their absence via the ParentMail App.

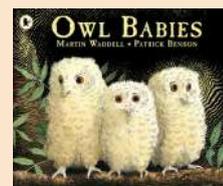
Please note if someone in your household has tested positive, children must still attend school as long as they have no symptoms or have tested negative.

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

### Nursery

This week children have started to learn about different celebrations. They have been focusing on Diwali, the festival of light. Children have had fun exploring and playing with coloured rice making rangoli patterns and also firework pictures using paint and stencils. Next week they will be learning about another celebration, Bonfire Night.

They have started to explore their new whole class reading text, Owl Babies, and will continue with this next week. In phonics, they have been passing sounds around the circle developing turn taking and listening skills by copying the pattern they heard.



### Reception

Reception children have also been exploring celebrations and in particular Diwali. They have learnt the story of Rama and Sita, used masks to retell the story and also sequenced using pictures. Children have made their own diya lamps in the playdoh area and made their own bracelets and jewellery in the creative area. In maths we have started to explore the concept of addition through part part whole diagrams and we have also learnt more sounds in phonics (please see class stories on class dojo for the letter formation rhymes).

Next week they will be learning about another celebration, Bonfire Night, and continue learning about their new whole class reading story What the Ladybird Heard Next.

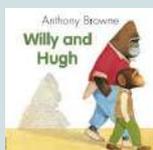


### Year 1

What a busy week we have had in Year 1! We began by sharing our super firework pictures in our assembly on Monday. We read a Firework poem and then explained how to stay safe around fireworks.

As part of our Mutual Respect and Tolerance Day we took part in activities such as 'Friendship Bingo' and shared stories such as *Willy and Hugh*. We thought about what it is like to feel 'left out' or 'different' and what makes each of us special.

In Science, we had fun sorting animals into different groups such as 'swimmers' or 'climbers'. We used ipads to take photos to record our ideas. Then we learned about the 5 different ways to group animals such as 'mammals'. This linked with our new class story *The Koala Who Could*. We were finding facts out about Koalas and discovered that they are marsupials!



In English we loved joining in with the rhymes when sharing the book *What the Ladybird Heard*. We then made 'Wanted Posters' describing the two robbers and made maps of the farm. This linked nicely with our Geography Theme work when we made maps of our routes from home to school! They were fantastic!

## Year 2

Welcome back! Year 2 have had a brilliant first week back following the half term break. It was lovely to see the children's enthusiasm when they came into school on Monday, and this positivity has continued all week. We had a great start to the week where we were exploring the British Value of Mutual Respect. We thought about how we were similar and different to each other, and celebrated that each of us is unique. We also looked ahead to Remembrance day where we created some poppy art, using a range of different techniques including finger painting and collage. In maths we have begun to look at measure this week, measuring things in the classroom and comparing the length of different objects. In English we have been collecting nouns and adjectives which we will use to help us write a setting description. We also began our new Geography theme this week. Over the coming weeks, we will be exploring the human and physical features of our local environment and then comparing it with a city on another continent! Keep up the great work Year 2, and keep earning those Class Dojos!

## Year 3

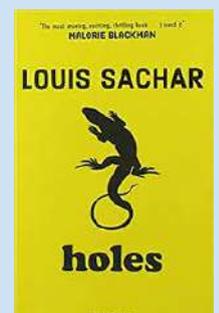
Welcome back Year Three. We have had a very creative week; as you know we've been finding out about Remembrance day and produced a collaborative piece of poppy art. You may have seen we've designed our own rangoli patterns for Diwali and also written cinquain poems reflecting on respect, tolerance and friendship. In P.E the children have been combining a jump, roll and two different balances, again showing their creativity. We have begun our new Geography theme this week and have been recapping which countries make up the U.K and their capital cities. The children enjoyed using an atlas to locate the cities. We will be comparing where we live to Wales over this half term and looking at rivers and mountains. This week the children have found out our new class book is 'The Nothing To See Here Hotel'. It's set in Brighton so we've been finding out on our map where Brighton is and what it looks like. In Maths we are adding and subtracting when regrouping is needed. The children have been using equipment to make the numbers to physically be able to regroup when needed before recording the calculations using the column method. A good first week back. Have a lovely weekend everyone.

## Year 4

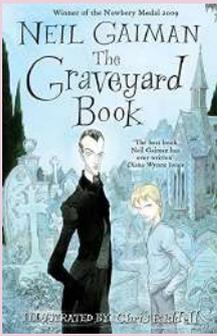
Welcome back to the Autumn term! We hope you had a lovely break. The children have enjoyed being back at school this week. On Monday we participated in a British Values day where we talked about mutual respect. The children identified ways in which they can show respect with friends, family, at school and at home. Many children commented that they would complete more chores at home and keep their rooms tidy to show their respectful nature so look out for this at home! On Monday, we also spent a few hours finding out about remembrance and why poppies are important. We then used watercolours to paint poppies after we had sketched them. The main highlight of this week was introducing the children to our new book 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. We used our iPads to make the pictures of the characters talk using Chatterpix. We are really excited to read this firm favourite this term.

## Year 5

It's been a great first week back to the second part of the Autumn term. On Monday, we started our week by reminding ourselves of the British values, mutual respect and tolerance. We have made links with our ASPIRE character virtues and kept these at the forefront of our mind throughout the week. In Science, we have continued with our Earth and Space topic. Using globes and torches, we have investigated day and night. Additionally, we have created some fantastic Remembrance Day artwork, using watercolours and silhouettes. Check out Class Dojo to see some photos. We started our new class reader, *Holes* by the author, Louis Sachar. The setting of our story is at Camp Green Lake, where there is no green...and no lake!



## Year 6



We have had a lovely first week of our second half term in Year 6. This week, we began our new theme, 'Vanishing Rainforests'. The children have started to research where the rainforests are around the world and have begun to understand about the environment that can be found there. In reading, Year 6 have started their new whole class reading text, 'The Graveyard Book' by Neil Gaiman. We have completed lots of activities relating to graveyards, ghosts and ghouls and of course, Halloween itself.

In Art this week, we have been creating our own individual poppies as part of our Remembrance Wall. Each child has used their own style (including paint, collage and paper art) to create their designs. They look fabulous!

## *Other News....*

### Active Autumn - Family Learning, Dudley Council

Family Learning are encouraging parents to spend time with their children, explore the great outdoors and embrace community cohesion and sustainability through a series of six challenges in the autumn months. The short course entitled Active Autumn is available to anyone who has access to the Internet and parents can find out more and register an interest by telephoning 01384 818143. There is also the option to upload comments and photographs of their achievements. As with all Family Learning courses, there is no charge to participate.

### Family Learning free courses

Family Learning are offering free courses every Monday 1pm-3pm at Our Hive, formally known as Little Colliers. We have attached some details of the courses on offer. If you are interested in joining us, please contact the office with the name of the course you are interested in.

### Netflix Age Ratings

You will be aware that Netflix is hugely popular across all ages but there have been concerns in relation to age ratings and the type of content that is recommended to viewers. Like many other services, Netflix uses algorithms to determine what you might like to watch based on viewing history, what you have liked etc. Since last year, Netflix has been working with the BBFC and 100% of the content on Netflix is now age-rated to BBFC classification standards. It is the first UK streaming service to accomplish this. Here is a guide on how to set up a child account and choose maturity ratings. [Parental controls on Netflix](#)

### Colley Lane Website

If you haven't already, please take the time to look at our new website at <https://www.colley.dudley.sch.uk/> You will be able to find all the information that you need about our school including key information, news and dates and parent information.

### Mexican Fiesta Day



Thursday 11th November is school meals Mexican Fiesta Day. There will be Chilli (beef and veggie option) nachos and chipotle potato wedges on the menu.

## *Pupil Achievements*

This week's Hot Chocolate Friday children:

RDW	RY	1H	1MS	2D	2E	3H	3W	
Akram	Jaxon	Armaan	Zaynab	Charlie	Lacey - Mai	Louie M	Oliver	
4R	4K	4H	5W	5C	5A	6H	6O	6S
Isabelle	Mohammed	Adam	Fozzy	Jake	Riley	Alana	Summer	Nabeel



Congratulations to Jack Ward in 5C who plays football for Cradley Town. He won man of the match on Sunday - Well done Jack!

Alyssa Hadley from 3W passed her Level 2 Swimming at Haden Hill Leisure Centre last Friday earning a certificate and a badge - Well done Alyssa!



We would like to celebrate our pupils' achievements both in and out of school. If your child has achieved something out of school that they are proud of whether it be learning a new skill, sports or club certificates or overcoming a fear or obstacle for example, we would love to know.

Please email them to [info@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk](mailto:info@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk)

## *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.

### **Poppy Appeal**

The Poppy Appeal merchandise has arrived in school and year 6 children have been going round school selling the following: zip pulls, poppy reflectors, silicon wristbands, snap bands, poppy pins and poppies. Thank you to all those who have donated and bought items already, these will still be available next week. Please can children bring in some change if they wish to purchase an item. Prices range from 50p - £1.50, depending on the item.



The Royal British Legion will hold an Armistice Parade and Memorial Service on Sunday 14th November - everyone is invited to take part in the Annual Parade at the Parish Church of St Peter, Cradley. More information is attached.

## ***Diary Dates***

### **Autumn Half Term**

School Closed Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### **Winter Holiday**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021 to January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2022

Inset day - School closed Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Children return to School - Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022

### **Spring Half Term**

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022 to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Return to school Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### **Easter Holidays**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022

Return to school Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022

### **Summer Half Term**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022 to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022

Return to school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022

### **Summer Holidays**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022 to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2022

Return to school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022

### **Bank Holidays**

New Year – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022

May Day – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022

Inset days to be confirmed

## ***Sports Clubs***

### **Colley Lane Sports Club News**

All clubs are running again this half term, tag rugby has changed into basketball for years 5 and 6 and places are still available for anyone interested. Don't forget to bring warm clothing as we will be outside as much as possible at all clubs. Well done this week to the year 4 dancers who went to Windsor to represent us in a dance festival, where they learnt a new dance to share with the other children in the dance club.

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 JSB clubs.

<i>Sports Clubs</i>				
	<i>Before school (Start time)</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>After school (Finish time)</i>	<i>Cost</i>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Y4 &amp; Y5 Cross Country (8.00)</b>	<b>£1.00</b>	<b>Y3 &amp; Y4 Multi Sports (4.15)</b> <b>Y1 &amp; Y2 Multi Skills (4.30) * JSB</b>	<b>£1.00</b> <b>£3.00</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Y3 &amp; Y4 Tri Golf (8.10)</b>	<b>£1.00</b>	<b>Y5 &amp; Y6 Netball (4.15)</b>	<b>£1.00</b>
			<b>Y3 &amp; Y4 Dance (4.15)</b>	<b>£1.00</b>
			<b>Y5 &amp; Y6 Football (4.30) * JSB</b>	<b>£3.00</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Y5 &amp; Y6 Football (8.00) * JSB</b>	<b>£2.00</b>	<b>Y5 &amp; Y6 Basketball (4.15)</b> <b>Y3 &amp; Y4 Dodgeball (4.30) * JSB</b>	<b>£1.00</b> <b>£3.00</b>
	<b>Y3 &amp; Y4 Football (8.00) * JSB</b>	<b>£2.00</b>		
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Y5 &amp; Y6 Sportshall Athletics (8.10)</b>	<b>£1.00</b>	<b>Y5 &amp; Y6 Hockey (4.15)</b>	<b>£1.00</b>
			<b>Y3 &amp; Y4 Choir (4.15)</b>	<b>£1.00</b>
			<b>Y1 &amp; Y2 Football (4.30) * JSB</b>	<b>£3.00</b>
			<b>Y3 &amp; Y4 Football (4.30) * JSB</b>	<b>£3.00</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Y1 &amp; Y2 Football (8.00) * JSB</b>	<b>£2.00</b>	<b>Y5 &amp; Y6 Girls Football (4.30)</b>	<b>£1.00</b>
			<b>Y5 &amp; 6 Squad Football - Invite Only (4.30)</b>	<b>£1.00</b>
			<b>Y5 &amp; Y6 Dodgeball (4.30) * JSB</b>	<b>£3.00</b>

## *Free School Meals*

If your child is in Reception, years one or two, you will automatically be entitled for free meals under the new 'Universal Infant Free School Meals' criteria.

However if you do meet the criteria listed below then you will need to submit an online claim in order for your child's school to receive Pupil Premium funding.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit Run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit (you must have less than £616.67 a month net earned income (after tax - and not including any benefits))

Children who receive a qualifying benefit in their own right are also allowed to receive free school meals. Children under the compulsory school age who are in full time education may also be entitled to receive free school meals.

#### Infant free school meals in England

Your child will be able to get free school meals if they're in a government-funded school and in: reception class, year 1 and year 2 Tell your local authority if you also get any of the qualifying benefits. Your child's school can get extra funding if you do. If you wish to apply for Free School Meals click here [Free School Meals](#) or collect a form from the office.



Please see the below information with links to a host of really important safety advice.

With many organised displays cancelled again this year, many families will be thinking of having displays at home.

But do we all know how to buy safely and avoid unlicensed sellers?

Do we know what precautions to take to avoid a serious accident?

And would we know what to do if the worst happened?

Our new [fireworks advice hub](#) makes it easy for you to share safety messages with families. You'll find:

- [Fireworks buying guide](#) – to help families avoid dangerous fireworks.
- [Fireworks safety tips](#) – essential tips for families doing their own display.
- [Lessons for little ones](#) – a downloadable resource to help you teach children about safety.
- [Warning to parents](#) – a real story to share.
- [In an emergency](#) – good first aid will reduce the likelihood of lifelong scarring.