

Colley Lane Primary Academy

Never settle for less than your best

Newsletter - 8th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children are settling back into school routines and this week we have been looking at writing, with the children producing their first piece of longer writing for their "Excellent Writing" journals. I have to say that I have been very impressed with the pride that has been shown by children across the school, not only in their presentation but also with the content of their writing. The author's voice is shining through.

It will be great for you to share your child's work next week as we welcome parents back into school for Parents Evenings on Wednesday and Thursday. Bookings close for Parents Evening appointments at 6pm tonight (Friday) so if you have not booked a slot please do so. We have looked at how to accommodate parents back in school and feel with the current Covid rates and procedures that we can do so safely but if you would prefer us to call you, please let us know. Some staff and parents will also be wearing masks, which you might like to consider, but we respect everyone's decision in regards to keeping each other safe.

Thank you if you have signed up to Class Dojo and from next week, staff will be responding to messages. We have agreed as a school that staff will look at Dojo messages between 8am and 6pm, Monday to Friday and get back to you within 48 hours but usually quicker. Staff will not be responding to messages over the weekend. It will not replace ParentMail or telephoning school if you have an urgent message but is another way to strengthen our home/school links. It will be a way for parents and teachers to share messages, queries and concerns. Like all forms of communication, it will need to be used respectfully and responsibly but I have seen the difference that it makes and it is an exciting addition to Colley Lane.



I have been made aware of a few times recently when concerns from within school regarding children have been dealt with by parents outside of school without fully having all the information or making school aware of the issue. Please can I ask that if you have concerns or worries about school or your child, that you approach the classteacher in the first instance to see how it was dealt with or even if your child has made their class teacher or school aware. You will see myself, Mr Dowling and Mr Scarth on the playground at the start and end of the day so please feel free to approach us as well.

The School Photographer is back! Next Friday we will be doing individual and school sibling photographs so please make sure your child wears their school uniform. Year 5 and Year 6 who have PE on that day will need to bring their PE kit in a bag to change into but just for Friday.

Finally we will be supporting Black Country Womens Aid on Friday 22nd October by wearing purple and bringing in a donation. The children can wear non-school uniform with an element of purple or go full on purple if they like. Purple bows, hair, t-shirts, ribbons are all great and it will be wonderful to raise funds and awareness for this very worthwhile charity.

I look forward to seeing you next week at Parents Evenings and have a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards

Mr Dominic Simpson
Headteacher

Colley Lane Primary Academy

Colley Lane, Halesowen B63 2TN Tel: 01384 900450

Email: info@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

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

Key Dates

- 13/14th October 2021 -Parents evenings in school
- 13th October 2021 -Nursery Autumn Walk within the grounds
- 15th October 2021- School photographs
- Friday 22nd October - Go Purple for BCWA.
- Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October - Half term
- Thursday 11th November - School meals Mexican Fiesta Day
- Wednesday 8th December - School meals Christmas Dinner
- Friday 10th December - School closed
- Monday 20th December - Monday 3rd January - Winter Holiday
- 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 25th July - Friday 2nd September - Summer Holidays

Reminders

Parents Evening appointments

Bookings close on Friday 8th October at 6pm.

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

Uniform

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

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

School Photographs

The school photographer will be coming into school on 15th October. Photos will be taken with siblings in school.

If you do not wish for photographs to be taken together, please let the office know. The photographer will also be here in the afternoon for Nursery photographs.

Years 5 and 6 - Please can children come to school in their school uniform for their photographs and a PE kit to change in to.

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.

As a reminder, parents' evening bookings can be made via ParentMail. Bookings close today at 6pm.

General Reminders

Nursery Autumn Walk

Next Wednesday (13.10.21) the nursery children will be going on an Autumn walk within school grounds. As we are not sure what the weather is going to be like, we would ask that children bring some old shoes or wellies with them to their Wednesday session.

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.

School Photographs

The school photographer will be coming into school on 15th October. Photos will be taken with siblings in school. If you do not wish for photographs to be taken together, please let the office know. The photographer will also be here in the afternoon for Nursery photographs.

Years 5 and 6 - Please can children come to school in their school uniform for their photographs and their PE kits to change in to.

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

We have noticed an increase in the number of children arriving at school late over the last couple of weeks, whilst we are aware that sometimes this cannot be avoided, please be aware that your child should be at school, ready to learn at 8.55am, doors open at 8.40am.

A quick reminder;

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
- Reporting their absence via the ParentMail App.

What's been happening in school this week?

Nursery

This week we have been exploring Autumn. We have looked at and labelled lots of different natural items you may find on a nature walk.

The children have also had a lovely time outside exploring autumn and playing in the mud kitchen, creating stories and recipes. This is an area children love to revisit.

If you have any dressing up clothes, pieces of material or bags you would like to donate please bring them into nursery or reception. Thank you

Reception

This week, we have been exploring the seasons, in particular Autumn.. We have looked at autumnal objects and have started to describe how they feel and look like. We have also started to describe the weather using the new words, blustery, gusty, chilly, frosty, foggy and fresh. Have a go at home describing the weather using our new words.

We have rolled conkers down different sized ramps and used magnifying glasses to explore different autumnal items in more detail. We have also used clay and natural materials to make hedgehogs and squirrels.

If you have any dressing up clothes, pieces of material or bags you would like to donate please bring them into nursery or reception. Thank you.

Year 1

This week, Year 1 has been 'getting into shape', not just in PE lessons where they have been improving their skipping skills but in Maths Lessons where they have been learning to name and describe the properties of 2D and 3D shapes! They have been working collaboratively to sort shapes, and to play games where they ask each other questions about shapes to identify them.

In assembly on Monday, Mrs Williams shared the story 'The Lion Inside' which was told through a rap song version. The children were so engaged with the book, we used the text for our Reading Domains lesson. The children were learning how to use Retrieval Rex skills to answer questions. We also practised our 'roars' and thought about how we could unleash our own lion inside!

We have been continuing to share our whole class reading book, The Enormous Crocodile. We discovered some super little actors in Year 1 who love joining our roleplay. They were able to take on the identity of characters and tell us what they might say to each other. They altered their voices, and different facial expressions brilliantly. Well done Year 1!

Year 2

Year 2 had a brilliant afternoon being scientists, exploring different materials that we can find and use in our classrooms. We went on a materials hunt around school, and explored the different properties of the materials that we found. In English, we began learning about another significant individual in history: Amelia Erhart. Over the next few weeks we will be learning more about her achievements in history which will lead to us writing a biography about her life in English. We have loved reading more of our class book: Beegu, and we have been having some brilliant conversations about Beegu's feelings at different parts in the story. We had a fantastic art lesson where we were exploring what happens when we mix together different colours. We discovered that we can make new colours, and we can also change the tone of colours by adding more or less white paint. We will use this knowledge to help us add more detail to our portraits over the coming weeks. In all of the lessons, children are continuing to show their ASPIRE character values and learner traits. Well done Year 2!

Year 3

A busy week in Year Three. We have been using multiples of 10 and 100 this week when rounding two and three digit numbers. We used number lines to help show whether to round up or down. We had fun using actions to remind us; can the children show you?! The children have all worked hard in our writing lessons. They have been writing in paragraphs to describe Sophie from 'The BFG' seeing 'The Iron man' in the forest. Some great descriptions using similes, prepositions and we tried using fronted adverbials too. The children have continued to enjoy their reading time each day, especially if reading the Accelerated reader books. Remember to read daily at home too to work on the comprehension skills ready to do the quiz on the book. Theme this week has been about education in the Victorian era. The children role played being in a Victorian class and we even had a dunce's hat being worn! Luckily the 'Dunce' had agreed to play the role! As you might have seen, the children explored texture in Art and enjoyed using the space outside to do rubbings showing a range of textures. Great work Year Three.

Year 4

In Year 4 this week, we have been using manipulatives to regroup when adding and subtracting 4 digit numbers. We have also been learning our 8x tables this week through games and chanting. Last week's winners on TT Rockstars were 4H again! Well done to all children in 4H! We have had such a fun week this week in our English lessons as we have started a great book called 'Stone Age Boy'. We acted parts of the story as we went back to the Stone Age! We hunted animals, went fishing and made tools around a fire. We then hot seated characters to find out how they felt. In our theme lessons, we have been learning about Skara Brae by visiting Google Earth on our iPads and looking around the stone buildings. We then labelled a house in Skara Brae to show how the people lived. This busy week helped the children in Year 4 to be creative and collaborative within our lessons. Well done Year 4!

Year 5

In Year 5 this week, we started our new Maths Mastery learning block: line graphs and timetables. We explored how data could be presented on a line graph and how to measure at different intervals. Next week, we will be exploring timetables. If you use any public transport over the weekend, it would be worth seeing how information is displayed on timetables.

In science, we discovered that we use the heliocentric model of the solar system. However, this was not always the case. A geocentric model once was believed as the correct model. Ask a Year 5 child about the difference.

In theme, we learned how to carefully select research when exploring what life was like in Ancient Greece. We were shocked to discover how different life was for boys and girls.

Our week long TT Rockstars competition ends at 3pm Friday 8th October. It has been a close contest. Keep up the great work, Year 5!

Year 6

This week has been extremely exciting for the Year 6 children. In theme, the children have been learning all about the mummification process used by the Ancient Egyptians over 3000 years ago. Not only did they write a set of instructions about how to mummify a body, they also had the opportunity to mummify in real life! The

children mummified tomatoes, removing the insides of the tomatoes as the Egyptians did to remove the organs, then filled the tomatoes with salt to dry them out. They are now sitting in the classrooms, transforming into our very own mummies! We did have fun!



Other News....

Family Learning

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](#)

Job Vacancy

We are currently looking to appoint a permanent Lunchtime Supervisor to join our team.

Key responsibilities include:

- Supervising and supporting pupils during the lunchtime period
- Engaging pupils in play at lunchtime in a positive, caring and enthusiastic manner
- Having the ability to work as part of a team
- Managing pupils' behaviour
- Work as part of a team under the guidance of the Lunchtime Supervisor

You will be required to work 1 hour 15 minutes per day between 11.45am and 1.15pm, term time only. If you would like any further information about the role, please contact Sarah Dodd, Interim HR Lead, sdodd@colley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

Secondary school applications for 2022 entry

For those of you applying for Secondary schools for 2022 entry, please be reminded that the applications need to be submitted by 31st October 2021.

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.

Pupil Achievements

This week's Hot Chocolate Friday children:

RDW	RY	1H	1MS	2D	2E	3H	3W	
Louie	Nevaeh	Inaaya	Maysa	Roxanne	Hudayr	Harrison	Muhammed	
4R	4K	4H	5W	5C	5A	6H	6O	6S
Maddie	Ella-May	Zahra	Lydia	Bawen	Braidan	Freya	Jacob	Tammy



Jacob Ward in 2D has had a great weekend. He got a trophy on Saturday morning at football training for good listening, always being on the ball and powerful shots. He also got a trophy on Sunday morning playing for his team Halas Hawks and he was man of the match. Fabulous Jacob!

Mason Bown in 5C received man of the match in his football team this weekend, he scored 3 goals and is very proud of himself and his team members at Cradley DC. Great skills Mason!



Bailey-Joe in 3W got player of the match this week at football. As well as being captain, he set two goals up and the coaches said he played the best he ever had! What an achievement Bailey-Joe!

Maddie in 4R has achieved her 25 metre swimming badge this week at Haden Hill Leisure Centre. Well done Maddie!



Ellis Ryall-White in RY achieved his Duckling 3 award in swimming this week. He's been trying very hard in his lessons. Brilliant Ellis, well done!

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

The Kindness Corner

We are delighted to say that Kayden Jones from 6H, along with his sister Eloise Jones, raised over £500 pounds doing the Race for Life in aid of Cancer Research. You should be very proud of yourselves, what a very kind thing to do.



A message from Black Country Food Bank

Harvest time is one of the most important times of the year for Black Country Foodbank. It's a good time to restock our shelves after the demands of the summer holidays. This year, in the wake of the Covid-19, these donations will be more important than ever.

The past year has been a real struggle for many families and the future looks just as problematic as benefits are about to be cut and furlough is reaching an end. The aftermath of the pandemic means that many families are in debt and are not sure where to turn. As we continue to help people get through these

unexpected times, all the support is very much appreciated.

If you are able to donate any non-perishable food items to the Black Country Food Bank please bring these along to the school office where we will collect them before donating them to help our local food bank and community.



Children are allowed to wear their own clothes to school for Go Purple day. However, please make sure that they are dressed in clothes that are suitable for the school day.

If your child has PE on a Friday please ensure that the clothes they wear are suitable for sports, or that they bring their PE kit with them in to school.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to the parents of Sophie Boaler in 1H for winning the £50 voucher for purchasing a school meal yesterday.

Diary Dates

Autumn Half Term

Monday 25th October 2021 to Friday 29th October 2021

Return to school Monday 1st November 2021

School Closed Friday 10th December 2021

Winter Holiday

Monday 20th December 2021 to January 3rd 2022

Return to school Tuesday 4th January 2022

Spring Half Term

Monday 21st February 2022 to Friday 25th February 2022

Return to school Monday 28th February 2022

Easter Holidays

Monday 11th April 2022 to Friday 22nd April 2022

Return to school Monday 25th April 2022

Summer Half Term

Monday 30th May 2022 to Friday 3rd June 2022

Return to school on Monday 6th June 2022

Summer Holidays

Monday 25th July 2022 to Friday 2nd Sept 2022

Return to school on Monday 5th September 2022

-Bank Holidays

New Year – Monday 3rd January 2022

May Day – Monday 2nd May 2022

Inset days to be confirmed

Sports Clubs

Colley Lane sports club news

The children are really enjoying being back at clubs and learning new skills, there are still places available at the majority of clubs especially morning ones so why not come along and try something new. When collecting children from clubs can parents please come out of their cars, especially now it is getting darker, as the car park is often busy and small children aren't always seen.

There will be no choir next week because of parents evening all other clubs will run as normal.

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.

Sports Clubs

	<i>Before school (Start time)</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>After school (Finish time)</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Monday	Y4 & Y5 Cross Country (8.00)	£1.00	Y3 & Y4 Multi Sports (4.15) Y1 & Y2 Multi Skills (4.30) * JSB	£1.00 £3.00
Tuesday	Y3 & Y4 Tri Golf (8.10)	£1.00	Y5 & Y6 Netball (4.15)	£1.00
			Y3 & Y4 Dance (4.15)	£1.00
			Y5 & Y6 Football (4.30) * JSB	£3.00
Wednesday	Y5 & Y6 Football (8.00) * JSB	£2.00	Y5 & Y6 Tag Rugby (4.15) Y3 & Y4 Dodgeball (4.30) * JSB	£1.00 £3.00
	Y3 & Y4 Football (8.00) * JSB	£2.00		
Thursday	Y5 & Y6 Sportshall Athletics (8.10)	£1.00	Y5 & Y6 Hockey (4.15)	£1.00
			Y3 & Y4 Choir (4.15) <i>cancelled</i>	£1.00
			Y1 & Y2 Football (4.30) * JSB	£3.00
			Y3 & Y4 Football (4.30) * JSB	£3.00
Friday	Y1 & Y2 Football (8.00) * JSB	£2.00	Y5 & Y6 Girls Football (4.30)	£1.00

			<i>Y5 & 6 Squad Football - Invite Only (4.30)</i>	<i>£1.00</i>
			<i>Y5 & Y6 Dodgeball (4.30) * JSB</i>	<i>£3.00</i>

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.