Colley Lane Primary Academy

Never settle for less than your best

Newsletter - 26th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all had a lovely week and it is hard to believe that it will be December next week. Preparations are underway for Christmas Productions and Carol concerts and the children are enjoying learning the songs. Whilst it is good to be able to put on these events this year, we are still mindful of Covid and have put in place procedures to ensure everyone is safe and follow guidance from Dudley Public Health, some of which you will have seen in a letter sent out this week. All of our events are subject to Covid rates and if they rise, we may have to consider whether they go ahead, which would be very sad. Please see the information below regarding performances:

Year Band	Date and Time	Location	Tickets per child		
Nursery & Reception	Wednesday 15th December - morning and afternoon	School Hall	2		
Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Production	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		2		
Year 3 & Year 4 Carol Concert	Monday 13th December 2pm	St Peters Church	1		
Year 5 and Year 6 Carol Concert	Thursday 16th December 2pm	St Peters Church	1		

The Church has only a capacity for 1 parent per child due to the state of the top gallery and ask that parents wear a mask and use hand sanitizer when entering and leaving the church. As a school we are strongly recommending the use of masks for performance and good hand hygiene. We will be sending out a Google booking form next week for parents to obtain tickets. Thank you for your understanding in regards to these measures.

Next Friday, the photographer is returning to school to take individual and sibling photographs for pupils who were absent the first time around. We are also very pleased with how the new dinner arrangements are working and are seeing more children trying a hot school dinner which is great.

Please could I make a request to all parents who drive to continue to park considerately around school to ensure the safety of all pupils and not to block our neighbours drive. I have had a couple of complaints this week.

Finally, we know that our pupils are incredible but a special mention has to go to Zachary in Year 2 this week. When his little brother was poorly last week and Mum had to phone 999, Zachary was incredibly responsible, watching out for the ambulance, opened the door to the paramedics and said where Mum and his brother were. We are very proud of him for following these important instructions and being a superstar! Well done! Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Dominic Simpson Headteacher

Colley Lane Primary Academy

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Key Dates

- Friday 3rd December School photo retakes
- Tuesday 7th December Reception RY Trip to MAC Cannon Hill Park Birmingham
- Wednesday 8th December School meals Christmas Dinner
- Thursday 9th December Reception RDW Trip to MAC Cannon Hill Park Birmingham
- Friday 10th December School closed
- Friday 17th December Christmas Jumper Day for Edwards Trust.
- 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

Please make sure that children bring all their items to school that they need that day, e.g PE kits, lunch boxes etc as the school office cannot guarantee getting them to class on time.

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. Please note we only have limited sizes available (3-4/11-12/12-13/13-14/14-15/15-16)



Raincoat side

Fleece side

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.

Reception Theatre Trip

If you have not yet filled in the ParentMail consent form or made payment for this trip, please contact the school office and they will be able to help you.

Iris Parent Mail

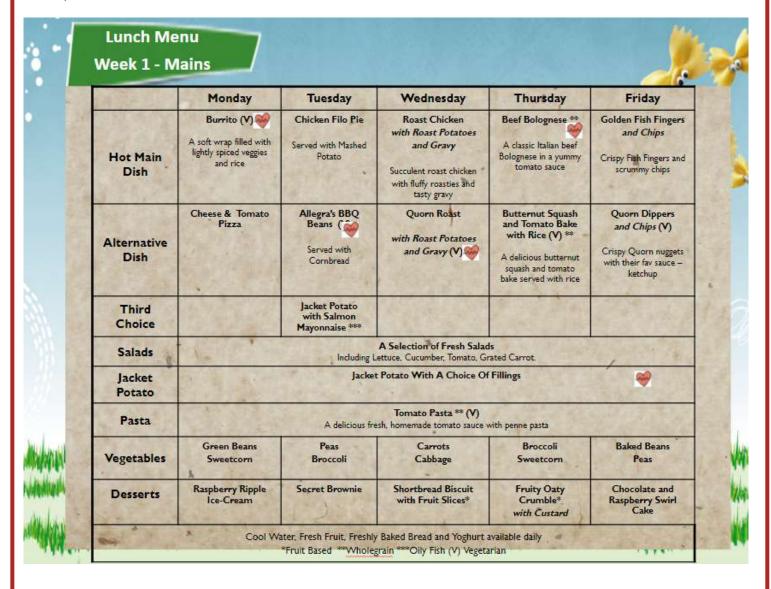
ParentMail is our main communication platform where you will receive emails from Mr Simpson, the office and teachers keeping you informed of school events, trips and class news. You can also report absences, book and pay for Breakfast and After School Clubs and purchase uniforms.

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. You will get notification when we send out forms for trips, all payments will be via Parentmail. Please contact the school office if you need any assistance.

General Reminders

School Dinners

Starting Monday 22nd November, you no longer need to book meals in advance, children can choose what they would like to eat on the day at the counter. This will give greater flexibility for parents who might want their child to have a hot dinner on that day. Parents will still need to ensure that there is money in their child's Parent Mail account but children will indicate they are having a hot dinner on the day in registration. Next week is Week 1 Menu, please see below:



The menus rotate on a 3 week cycle and all menus can be found on the website under 'School Life' then 'Essential Information'. You can also pick up a copy from the school office.

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. Last week, we sent out the annual Asthma forms if your child has Asthma could you complete and return these to school by **Monday 22nd November**.

Class Dojo

Please sign up to Class Dojo this weekend using the letter provided from school. For more information please see your child's class teacher or the school office.

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

Updated Government Guidance - Please read

If your child is ill with a cough which is **not** new or persistent or if they have cold/Flu symptoms **please be aware that your child should still attend school.** If they require Calpol or an equivalent medication whilst in school we can administer this over a period of 48 hours. If this is required please fill in a medication form at the school office.

If you child is ill with any of the following 3 symptoms you must carry out a Lateral flow test before bringing them in to school 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.

If the Lateral flow test is **positive** your child must self isolate immediately, book a PCR test and notify the school office as soon as possible.

If the Lateral flow test is **negative** your child can then attend school as normal, if you would still like your child to have a precautionary PCR test your child can still attend school whilst waiting for the PCR result.

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.

Please let school know if your child is going to be absent for any other reason by;

- Calling 01384 900450 and speaking to a member of staff or leaving a message.
- Sending an email to attendance@collev.windsoracademytrust.org.uk
- Reporting their absence via the ParentMail App.

Please be aware you **must** report your child's absence every day that they are unable to attend school.

What's been happening in school this week?

Nursery

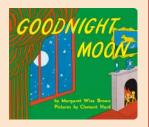
This week children have been learning new songs for their Christmas production. They have worked hard to learn the words and dance moves! They will be continuing to learn more songs over the next few weeks.



In maths they have been exploring 2D shapes and have applied their learning in play.

Their new whole class reading book was Goodnight Moon with the focus being on rhyme.

Next week the children will be learning about Oral Health and the importance of brushing their teeth.



Half full

Full

Empty

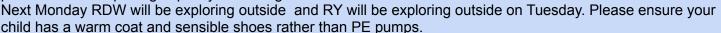
Reception

This week the children have been practising songs and words for their Christmas production. Miss Yousaf has posted a class story on dojo with links to the songs they have been learning.

Encourage your child to have a go at singing at home!

In phonics children have been working on spelling three letter words and also captions. They have also been focusing on writing their name using the kinetic letter formation rhymes.

In maths they have been learning about capacity. They have been using the star words full, half full and empty. They have used sand, water, rice and beads to explore capacity. Have a go at home and post photos on your child's dojo profile of them exploring capacity and using the new star words.



Next week they will be learning about Oral Health, the importance of brushing their teeth and how they can make healthy choices to look after their teeth and gums.





This week the Year 1 children have been comparing the characters of the Easter Bunny and Santa whilst sharing this funny story. They have been learning to use the prefix 'un'. For example, in this story Santa is kind and friendly but the Easter Bunny is unkind and unfriendly. You may wish to share it at home using this link:

Santa Claus vs The Easter BunnyThe children have also been investigating and recording number bonds using Numicon.

In our Geography based Theme lessons, the children were making comparisons of the capital cities in the four countries of the UK such as 'Edinburgh has a castle.' and

'The Titanic was built in Belfast.' We were amazed at how well they did! They have also been comparing the weather, something which you may continue at home if watching weather reports on the television.





Year 2



Year 2 have had another fantastic week of learning! At the start of the week, we were being scientists and exploring the properties of materials, checking if they were stretchy, bendy, squashable and twistable. The children loved investigating how some materials changed shape. In maths, we have started to explore multiplication a little deeper through making arrays and writing the matching equations. We have worked collaboratively to discuss mathematical problems and worked together to solve them.

In WCR this week, we have continued to read 'The Bear and the Piano'. The children have really enjoyed developing new vocabulary and acting these new words out. We have had wonderful discussions about the bear's feelings and we have started to make predictions about the end of the book. The children have all been working hard in our Geography

lessons. This week we have learnt about the 7 continents and 5 oceans in the world and located them on a map. As part of our theme, we have also compared Halesowen to Nairobi. The children showed respect and interest when exploring another place to live, asking super questions and listening careful when learning new facts. Rehearsals for our Christmas play are well underway and it has been lovely to see the children showing off their singing and acting skills. Please can we ask that costumes are in ASAP to ensure we can get the additional accessories ready.

Year 3

Year Three has shown resilience across the week. They have tackled their assessment papers with confidence and a little bit of courage has also been needed at times! Well done all of you.

We have also been busy in Theme over the week. The children have researched the River Severn using iPads, finding out its source is in mid Wales. They have also been learning about the features of mountains and facts about Mount Snowdon. Can your child tell you how tall it is in metres?

In English we have been continuing to read our class book and the children have chosen a character from the book to pretend to be when writing their final independent diary entry. They are rightly very proud of themselves. In Maths we have continued working on arithmetic skills and applying them to fluency and reasoning questions. Keep working on your times tables and number bonds at home.

As the weather has got colder this week we used Dance in PE to show getting dressed for the cold, making snowballs and rolling them with a friend to get bigger and bigger. It ended with a silent snowfight! Super expressive movement children.

As you might have seen, the children are trying hard to carry out acts of kindness each day. Showing compassion and respect towards others whatever our differences. We talked about this in our assembly on Inter faith on Monday where some of the children shared their strengths, weaknesses and differences. We are all unique and important. Have a lovely weekend everyone.

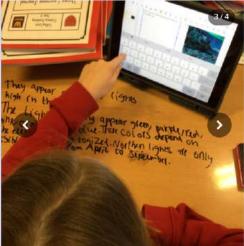
Year 4

This week has seen the children in Year challenge themselves and persevere with demanding tasks as it has been assessment week. Well done to all children for really honing in on the skills on the ASPIRE Mountain. Children have shown resilience when tackling test materials, been courageous when having a go at questions they may not know and finally they have tried to become unstuck throughout the week!

In our Geography theme, 'Italy or Iceland', we have focused on the topography of Iceland. We discovered that topography is the study of physical features on the land. So, using the ASPIRE mountain virtues we were very creative this week by using plasticine to help show elevation and a variety of physical features. We also studied the physical features of Iceland on our iPAds and created a Google Slide for each feature!

We have also been creative in music this week as we have started practising for the LKS2 Carol Concert. Children can practise these songs at home via Class Dojo!







Year 5

It has been another busy yet successful week in Year 5. We have given our assessment tasks our best efforts and are going to keep up our positivity.

We have taken part in a Pupils 2 Parliament survey, sharing our thoughts and concerns on the topic - defending plants and trees. Our feedback will be collated with other other schools and then taken to parliament. We are proud to be part of this process.

In science, we discovered the terms for the different phases of the moon. We were particularly shocked when we found out that the first quarter actually looks like a half moon in appearance.

In theme, we have researched the geological differences between Japan and New Zealand. As part of this project, we have worked in small teams and researched using our iPads. In RE, we have started our focus on Christianity and began with the question: is the Christmas story true?

Year 6

Year 6 have had another fantastic week this week:

Our new Prefects have shown responsibility and organisation in undertaking key roles around the school. It has been a pleasure to see the children demonstrating leadership qualities and having the chance to show their commitment to our school ethos.

We have been impressed with the children's writing. They were challenged to show empathy towards our protagonist's mourning mother in our whole class reader The Graveyard Book. Stepping into her shoes, they were tasked with writing a formal letter to some graveyard ghosts requesting that they care for her most beloved possession: her son. If you get a chance to read it, we highly recommend this fantastic book by Neil Gaiman. Let's just say the plot is full of twists and turns and all is not as it first seems!

We had a fantastic time on our trip to the Botanical Gardens. The children thoroughly enjoyed meeting the rainforest animals and experiencing the hot houses and the gardens.

Finally, please can we remind you to ensure your son or daughter brings a coat to school every day. Likewise, please ensure that children are wearing smart PE kits on Wednesday and Friday each week (navy or black tracksuit with no logos).

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

Commencing Monday 10th January 2022, Family Learning is offering parents the opportunity to achieve a Caring for Children Award at Level 1 at The Hive (formally known as Little Colliers). The session will run weekly 1 pm - 3pm. The qualification usually costs £450 but the course and materials will be provided free of charge. The course will last for approximately 12 weeks and will be assessed by the production of a written portfolio of evidence. Consequently, parents will need to have English skills at Entry 3 or above.

The course is excellent for those parents who want to learn more about parenting and the theory behind it, or those who are thinking of a career with children and want to find out more. Places are limited so it is important that you reserve a place with the school by the 10th December at the latest. Places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

ESOL Classes

Colley Lane is now in the position to offer ESOL classes (English for speakers of other languages) to adults via Halesowen College. These classes will run every Wednesday afternoon from 1:00- 3:00 at our Hive (formally Little Colliers).

Enrolment will be on Wednesday 24th November 2021. If you are interested please ring the school office with your contact details and come along with some form of ID eg passport.

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.

Pupil Achievements

This week's Hot Chocolate Friday children:

RDW	RY	1H	1MS	2D	2E	3H	3W	D
Kerem	Amelle	Alice	Ekrem	Cain	Laila	Finley B	Amal	
4R	4K	4H	5W	5C	5A	6Н	60	6S
Hala	Pippa	Phoebe	Nehan	Mason	Clara	Aliya	Grace	Eleanor

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

Year 4 - Maddie

Maddie did a tapathon today for Children in Need. You may have seen some people doing it on Children in Need on Friday. Her dance school raised £710 and attempted the World record for the most people tapping at the same time all across the country.





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.

Christmas Jumper Day 17th December 2021 to raise money for Edward's Trust



Edward's Trust is a specialist provider of holistic family bereavement support for the West Midlands area. We are based in Edgbaston, Birmingham. The Trust was founded in 1989 by Peter and Hilary Dent, in memory of their son, Edward, who died when he was 7 years old.

We support over 600 families per year which equates to around 3,000 family members. We are here for as long as our families need us. We offer a holistic approach through

counselling and play therapy and run a 'wellbeing in bereavement' service in order to support our families during their most difficult times.

Visit their website at; www.edwardstrust.org.uk

Diary Dates

Autumn Half Term

School Closed Friday 10th December 2021

Winter Holiday

Monday 20th December 2021 to January 3rd 2022

Inset day - School closed Tuesday 4th January 2022

Children return to School - Wednesday 5th 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

A great week saw our first tournament since Covid. Our boys football team went to represent us at the EFL cup in West Bromwich. We were drawn in a really hard group but the boys did us proud with some amazing individual performances but more importantly great teamwork and respect for the other teams and officials. Well done boys hopefully it's the start of many tournaments to come.

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 the JSB club.

Sports Clubs					
	Before school (Start time)	Cost	After school (Finish time)	Cost	
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	A/5 0 A/0 0 (£1.00 £3.00	
	Y3 & Y4 Football (8.00)* JSB	£2.00	Y5 & Y6 Basketball (4.15) Y3 & Y4 Dodgeball (4.30) * JSB		
Thursday	Y5 & Y6 Sportshall Athletics (8.10)	£1.00	Y5 & Y6 Hockey (4.15)	£1.00	
			Y3 & Y4 Choir (4.15)	£1.00	
			Y1 & Y2 Football (4.30)* JSB	£3.00	
			Y3 & Y4 Football (4.30) * JSB	£3.00	
Friday	YI & Y2 Football (8.00) *JSB	£2.00	Y5 & Y6 Girls Football (4.30)	£1.00	
			Y5 & 6 Squad Football - Invite Only (4.30)	£1.00	
			Y5 & Y6 Dodgeball (4.30) *JSB	£3.00	

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 <u>Free School Meals</u> 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.
- <u>Fireworks safety tips</u> 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.



