

Newsletter April 2024

A Message from Mrs Harvey, Head Teacher

As we enter the final term of the year, we have so much to look forward to, including the pop-up pool which will be back in May, and I am looking forward to sharing a real community plan for our Summer Fayre on July 19th. I am always looking for ways to support the community and the school together - ideas are always welcome. We will send all our Summer Term dates to you soon, so you can organise your diaries.

We are very proud that our pupils get involved in school life - once again, our children have represented Netherton C of E, in a number of sporting events and have done us proud - thank you to all the parents who have supported this. Our various Pupil Leadership teams continue to meet regularly, for example, the School Council share ideas which the pupils have to further improve the school - their suggestions are always well received and listened to. As a result, in the Summer Term, the toilets will be having a make over, and ketchup will be available at lunch times; and the Well-being Ambassadors are creating toy boxes for the playground so the children have more to do at breaktimes.

We are really working hard to embrace our school vision and values, ensuring that pupils feel 'cared for, accepted, loved and inspired to believe they can do it', and are so proud when we see our pupils demonstrating the vision & values in action.

Mrs K. Harvey

Netherton C of E's Vision and Values

At Netherton C of E, our vision and values are at the heart of all we do.

Our Vision

Our vision for all of the children at Netherton C of E Primary is to believe ...

*** I am loved**

*** I am accepted**

*** I can grow**

*** I can do it**



Our Values

*** Acceptance * Fairness * Forgiveness * Perseverance * Positivity * Respect***

Whilst we already do a lot to share the vision and values with the pupils, for example they are on display around school and each year groups leads a Values Assembly, we are having a big focus to ensure the children know and understand them. Staff will talk to the children about these, around school, and may give pupils a sticker.

Thank you to Mr Willets for creating the stickers and display materials for our classrooms, as well as the video shared on Dojo and our website.

School dates:

02.05.24 Voting Day - school closed to pupils,
work provided via Class Dojo

27.05.24 - 31.05.24 - Whitsun half term

05.07.24 - INSET - school closed to pupils

06.05.24 Bank holiday - school closed

19.07.24 Summer Fair & last day of term

13.05.24 - 17.05.24 Y6 SATS Week

The School Year

The school year is **190 days**. This is split into 3 terms;

Autumn term (Sept—Dec) Spring Term (Jan—Apr) Summer Term (Apr—July).

Everyone should aim to **attend school every day, 100% of the time, 190 days of the year.**

What is good attendance?

However, children are genuinely ill at times, so at Netherton C of E we consider good attendance to be 97% and above and we reward those children achieving this each term with an Excellent Attendance Certificate.

But what is 97%?

Over the school year, to achieve 97% attendance, a pupil cannot be absent for more than 5 days out of 190 days (5 days across the whole school year). However, this is still 25 hours of learning lost.

What is the whole school attendance?

As a school, the government expects that 94% of our pupils are present every day. Sadly, our daily attendance sits at around 90%; that means that **42 pupils are absent every day.**

That is a class and a half of pupils absent every day.

Why does it matter?

Attending every day is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances.

The law entitles every child of compulsory school age to an efficient, full-time education.

It is the **legal responsibility of every parent to make sure their child receives that education.**

If parents have decided to register their child at a school, they have **an additional legal duty to ensure their child attends that school regularly. This means their child must attend every day that the school is open**, except in a small number of allowable circumstances such as being too ill to attend or being given permission for an absence, in advance, from the school.

Please ensure your child attends school on time, every day. They should not be missing school because they don't feel like it or are tired; because it is their birthday, because a sibling is off; to go on holiday or because their parent is ill or has an appointment.

The school day

The school day is 8:55—3:15pm.

Pupils may arrive from 8:40am but should arrive no later than 8:55am.

Pupils should not be collected before 3:15pm.

If a parent needs to collect their child/children early, they will need to request this in advance and may be asked to provide evidence.

Lots of learning, every day

The children have been incredibly busy already this half term...and we're only 3 weeks in!

Here is a taste of what's been going on...

Anti-bullying Focus Day

On Monday 8th April, the whole school had a second day focusing on bullying. Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors led an assembly talking to the children about the importance of reporting any incidents which involve them, or someone else.

Activities during the day, asked pupils to think about how they could encourage each other to 'speak out', who to tell and what to say.



1 D.Tking

Reception—Spring Walk in Saltwells Woods

On the 19th April, Reception went on a walk to Saltwells Woods again, as part of their Science work to observe changes across the seasons.

After a wet start, the sun eventually came out and it felt very Spring-like. They observed lots of changes in the woods—it really was much greener than when they went on their winter walk.

Ask your child what changes they noticed.

Heritage Project

During the Summer term, each year group's History & Geography learning combines as the Heritage Project. This is when they learn about the geography and history of the local area. This is so important and the children learn and develop a wide range of historical and geographical skills, such as using and comparing maps to consider how the area has changed and developed; and using the census to find out about significant people from Netherton, what life was like and how the past has shaped the present.

We are extremely proud of our heritage Project and Mrs Powell and Mrs Ryall-Whyte are now inspiring other teachers in the DOWMAT Trust to develop a Heritage Project for their school, having led a presentation to them at a recent meeting.

We hope you will join us at the Heritage Showcase 27th June, to see what your child has been learning about this term.



Y4 - Multiplication Check Parents Workshop

On Wednesday 17th April, the parents of our Y4 pupils were invited in to a workshop which explained the Multiplication Check that all pupils have to take in year 4. As well as explaining how the test is taken, Miss Griffiths, Miss Mitchell and the pupils demonstrated a variety of songs, games and tips for helping the pupils to learn their times tables.



Y2 Forest School

Despite a LOT of April showers, our pupils have managed to enjoy time outdoors in the Forest School with Mr Hamblett.

Year 2 were particularly lucky, last week to enjoy a dry sunny day—the joy on their faces shows how much they enjoy Forest School and how important spending time in nature is for our well-being.

We are grateful to Mr Hamblett for all he does to manage our Forest school site, particularly during the particularly bad weather we had in March.



Y3 - PE - Netball

Y3 showed off the netball skills they have been learning this half term. They practised passing and movement and showed good communication and fabulous shooting.

Mars Balloon 2024

Netherton CofE has been selected to take part in the MARSBalloon 2024 project.

Our pupils have suggested items to be put in a capsule which will be attached to a large helium balloon and launched to an altitude of 30km where the conditions of air pressure, temperature and radiation are similar to those on the surface of Mars.

The aim is to discover what effects these conditions have on things that humans or robots could take to Mars in the future.

The winning suggestions were some sunflower seeds, a piece of chewed chewing gum & a miniature mars bar.



Y4 Assembly

On Monday 22nd April. Y4 led an assembly about their chosen charity - Macmillan.

They shared some interesting facts about the amount of people who are supported by Macmillan and the ways in which the charity helps people.

They also reminded us what charity means—not just donating money, but being kind and giving your time.

KS1 - Marvellous Monkey

We have a new friend at Netherton C of E - Marvellous Monkey. Marvellous likes to spend the weekend with pupils who have marvellous manners and exemplify the school's values. So far he has spent a weekend with James Neal, Isla Bird and most recently, Lillie who has lovely manners and always greets everyone kindly around school.

We love reading Marvellous' diary, about what he gets up to, and seeing the pictures.



Dance Showcase

On Wednesday 10th April, our dance club went to Stourbridge Town Hall to take part in the Windsor Easter Dance Celebration. We were just 1 of 3 primary schools invited to take part.



Swimming Experience

Active Black Country invited some of our most proficient swimmers to a Swimming Showcase at Sandwell Aquatic Centre.

There, our pupils had a go at dry-side diving, a swimming lesson, diving from a 3m board, water polo and synchronised swimming.

They also met Perry the Bull, the Commonwealth Games mascot!

Football Tournament

On Tuesday 16th April, our Year 3 & 4 football team took part in the Y3&4 football tournament which was organised by our school. 17 primary schools attended.

Team A topped their group.



Basket Ball

On Tuesday 23rd April, a Y5 & Y6 team took part in a Basketball tournament at The Link.

Our Year 5 team finished 3rd and our Year 6 team finished 1st. Well done, everyone!

Safeguarding Spotlight

Ensuring the safety and well-being of our pupils is our first priority and naturally, this extends to their families. Part of this role is to share the latest information on issues that may affect our young people; share guidance; and signpost support.

There is a wealth of information on our website under Key Information ~ Safeguarding.

<https://www.netherton.dudley.sch.uk/key-information/safeguarding>

Family Hubs

Dudley's family hub network provides families living in Dudley borough with easy access to the support they need, at the right time, in the right place. The network is made up of five local family hubs, along with online resources and community services which support children and families.

The five local family hubs are located in Stourbridge, Dudley, Brierley Hill, Coseley and Lye. Each hub is a warm and welcoming, one-stop shop offering information, advice and practical support, as well as health related services for people who are pregnant, parents/carers, babies and children up the age of 19 (25 if the child has special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)). Some services will also be offered from local community venues.

The Family Hubs can provide support with



Midwives



Health visitors



SEND



Parenting support



Birth registrations



Citizens advice



Infant feeding support



Support with emotional health and wellbeing



Stay and play sessions

Our local Family Hub is: Dudley - Selbourne Road, Dudley DY2 8LJ 01384 812440

Please see the flyer below, for workshops which the hubs are running, on Sleep or Meal times

Online Safety Focus

Following on from last month's newsletter and our recent letter, about online safety, we have decided to have a regular focus on a different aspect of online safety, each month.

This month, we are focusing on parental controls.

Technology is interwoven and firmly embedded in our lives. As much as we might want to completely prevent our children from using it in order to keep them safe, this will only lead to secrecy and resentment. Our children **can** use technology and the internet safely, we just need to teach them how.

Using technology together is a good first step and regular monitoring is important. But this is not always practical. Parental settings can help - they can provide a layer of safety, preventing your child from accessing age inappropriate sites, games and material. Parental controls can be set on phones & devices; through your internet provider; and for your television.

For information about parental settings for your **Television**, see <https://www.sky.com/help/articles/sky-go-parental-settings> or <https://www.virginmedia.com/broadband/parental-control>

For information about parental settings for apps on **mobile phones**, see the leaflets below

Safeguarding: If you have any concerns or need support, please call the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) between 9am & 5pm on telephone 0300 5550050 or telephone 0300 555 8574, if out of hours.

How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS for APPS iPhone

Apple devices come with built-in apps already available: Mail, FaceTime and Safari, for example. However, you can choose which apps and features appear on your child's device and which ones don't. You can also manipulate the features in Game Centre to enhance your child's safety and privacy when playing games, as well as blocking iTunes or App Store purchases if you wish.



How to Restrict Built-in Apps/Features

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Allowed Apps (you may need to toggle this to 'on' at the top)
- 5 Enable or disable the apps you wish to appear (or disappear) on your child's device

How to Restrict Game Centre

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Content Restrictions (you may need to switch the toggle at the top to the 'on' position)
- 5 Scroll down to Game Centre
- 6 Choose between Allow, Don't Allow, or Allow with Friends Only in the settings for each feature

How to Restrict iTunes & App Store Purchases

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap iTunes & App Store Purchases
- 5 Select Allow or Don't Allow for each feature (you can also lock these settings with a password)

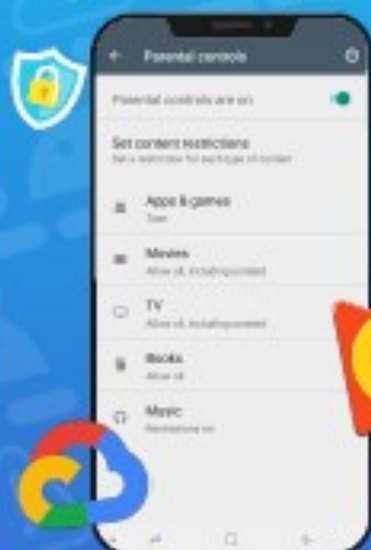


NOS
National
Online
Safety

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS for APPS Android Phone

On Android phones, restricting access to particular apps usually requires going onto Google Play. From there, it's fairly easy to navigate your way through these settings to manage the parental controls and authentications relating to any apps on the device. These features can prevent your child from downloading or buying anything unsuitable for their age. Updated versions of apps or games that your child has already installed may occasionally contain something inappropriate, so we've explained how to stop those, too.



How to Block App Downloads (This Also Disables In-app Purchases):

- 1 Open Google Play Store
- 2 Tap the profile icon in the top right
- 3 Tap Settings
- 4 Scroll down to the Family section and tap Parental controls
- 5 Toggle Parental controls are off to Parental controls are on
- 6 Create a PIN and tap OK
- 7 Confirm your PIN and tap OK again
- 8 Tap Apps & Games
- 9 Set the age limit you wish to set
- 10 Tap Save to apply your changes

How to Stop Auto-updates

- 1 Open Google Play Store
- 2 Tap the profile icon in the top right
- 3 Tap Settings
- 4 Tap Auto-Update Apps
- 5 Select 'Don't auto-update apps' and then tap Done

Restricting Apps Through Google Family Link

- 1 Open Google Play Family Link for parents
- 2 Tap the three horizontal lines in the top left
- 3 Select your child's account
- 4 Tap Manage
- 5 Tap Controls on Google Play
- 6 Tap Apps & Games
- 7 Select the age limit you wish to set



NOS National Online Safety
www.nationalonlinesafety.com



Dudley family
hub network

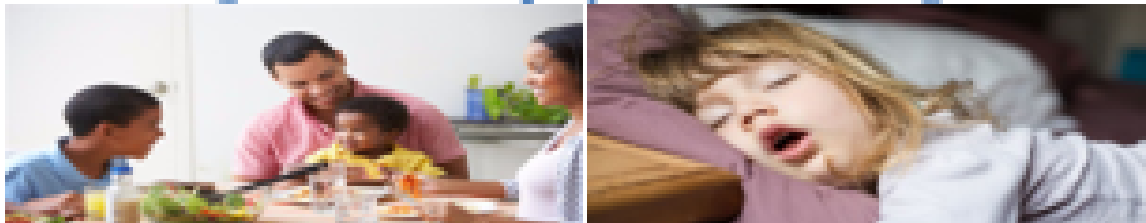


Sections can be attended
face to face or via [TEAMS](#)
Please email to book:

parenting@dudley.gov.uk

Two hours is all you need for a Triple P discussion group/workshop for
Developing good bedtime routines or Hassle-free mealtimes with children.

🕒 Perfect for adding to your tool kit of ideas 🕒



SLEEP and MEALTIME WORKSHOPS

Would you like your child to sleep in their own bed? ~~Not call~~ ~~and~~ Sleep longer?

Does your child have nightmares/fears? Is your child a picky eater? Do they refuse to sit at a table
or eat well? Is your child aged 1-11 years? **Then these could be for you!**

Day	Date	Time	Venue	Workshop type
Wednesday	10/4/24	9:45 to 11:45 am	Lye Family Hub-DY9 8HT	Sleep-Developing good bedtime routines
Tuesday	21/5/24	12:30 to 2:30 pm	Stourbridge family hub- DY8 1XF	Sleep-Developing good bedtime routines
Monday	10/6/24	12:30 to 2:30 pm	Brierley Hill Family Hub- DY5 3DY	Food- Hassle free mealtimes with children
Thursday	18/7/24	9:45 to 11:45 am	Coseley Family Hub- WV14 9DS	Sleep-Developing good bedtime routines
Wednesday	25/7/24	9:45 to 11:45 am	Dudley Family Hub- DY2 8LJ	Food- Hassle free mealtimes with children
Wednesday	25/9/24	9:45 to 11:45	Dudley Family Hub- DY2 8LJ	Sleep-Developing good bedtime routines