



Newsletter November 2024

A Message from Mrs Harvey, Head Teacher

What an interesting few weeks we have had, especially with the extremities of the weather! As stated before, the DFE expect schools to open whenever possible as education is so important. I will always do my best to take all things into consideration when making my decision - safety is paramount balanced with keeping the school open. I also have to make decisions in time for parents to set about their day, I cannot predict what will happen after that decision has been made but will respond accordingly.

We have had many visitors to the school over the last month to do reviews and check the progress of the school - here are some of the highlights.

'Staff relationships with pupils are exemplary. Transitions are seamless. Pupils with additional needs are managed well due to a consistent approach to strategies across the school.'

'The delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum is given a high priority by senior leaders and subject leaders. Pupils speak highly of the provision on offer.'

'Pupils feel safe and well looked after. There are many enrichment opportunities which pupils love. Pupils in the Nest and Hive speak positively about their experiences.'

'Staff demonstrate good subject knowledge across the curriculum. There was a consistent approach to all lessons seen.'

'This is a happy and vibrant school. Leaders are clear of the strength and next steps and are aware that outcomes and attendance need to improve. The leaders and staff are relentless in their pursuit for excellence.'

I am so proud of our school family and can continually see improvements. I am lucky to have an amazing Team Netherton.

Mrs K. Harvey

Inset Days

6th January 2025
25th July 2025
1 more to be confirmed

Christmas Break

Mon 23rd Dec - Fri 3rd Jan

February Half Term

Mon 17th Feb - Fri 21st Feb

Easter Break

Mon 14th Apr - Fri 25th Apr

Whitsun Break

Mon 26th May - Fri 30th May

Autumn Term Dates

Christmas Dates

Weds 11th Dec - EYFS Nativity
Thurs 12th Dec - Christmas jumper
Fri 13th Dec - Carols in the Play-ground & Christmas Fair
Tues 17th Dec - Disco
Weds 18th Dec - Christmas Dinner
Weds 18th Dec - KS2 Panto trip
Thurs 19th Dec - Christmas parties
Fri 20th Dec - Y1&2 Nativity at the church
- Break up for Christmas

Spring Term Dates

Mon 6th Jan - INSET - School closed to pupils
Tues 7th Jan - school reopens
Mon 17th Feb - Fri 21st Feb - Half term
Fri 11th April - break up for Easter

Please join your children on

Friday 13th December



for

Carols in the Playground 1:30pm

followed by our

Christmas Fair 2-3:30pm

Bottle Tombola

Sponge the Teacher

Pin the nose on the snowman

Play Your Cards Right

Lucky Dip

Christmas Novelties

Chocolate Tombola

Book Stall

Refreshments

Filled Jar Tombola

Reindeer Hoopla

Christmas Photo Opportunities

Toystall

Guess the name of the cuddly polar bear

Raffle – Black Country Museum Tickets, £20 Starbucks Voucher,
£10 Amazon Voucher, Bottle of Gin, L'Occitane en Provence gift set,
Brioni Bag & Water Bottle, Christmas Goodies Hamper, Children's
Stationery Bundle

Lots of learning, every day

The children have been incredibly busy this month, here is a taste of what's been going on...

Reception

Reception had fun in the snow during their outdoor play sessions.



Year 1 - DT

Well parents, your children are trained and ready to help you out in the kitchen!!

They had a 'grate' time practicing their chopping, slicing and grating skills as part of their DT lessons.

Year 2

Year 2 have been practising and perfecting their sewing skills—in particular running stitch – ready to make their own Christmas tree decorations.



Year 3 - DT

The children in Year 3 followed instructions to make jam tarts and savoury tarts.

They had so much fun, they forgot to take any photos!



Year 4 - Geography & Science

Year 4 have been learning all about Volcanoes and have even created art work based on their knowledge and learning.

And it looks like they had great fun learning about the digestive system in Science



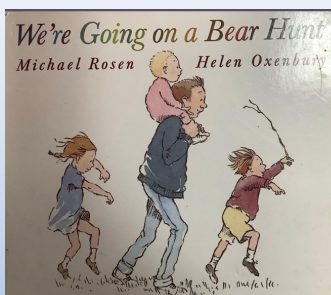
Year 5 - Geography

As part of their learning about Rivers, Year 5 acted out the journey of a river, to help gain a clearer understanding of the middle course of a river, ox-bow lakes and meanders. After drawing a meandering river on the playground, they linked arms, in groups of 4, and followed the river's path. They found that the people on the outside of the bend had to move more quickly. This represented the fast flowing waters that cause river banks to erode over time. The person on the inside of the bend moved more slowly and dropped bean bags to represent the deposition of soil, sand and other debris that slow moving water leaves behind.



Year 6 - Science

Y6 investigated what happens when sunlight enters a prism. They learnt that the white light is refracted, due to the material (glass) being denser than the air. This results in the light splitting into the 7 pure colours of the visible spectrum: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet.



The Hive

The children in The Hive have been reading 'We're Going on A Bear Hunt', they made bear pancakes.

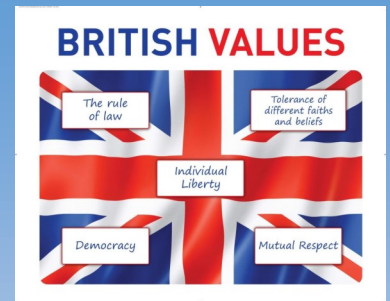
They've also made hedgehog bread!



Focus Day

The first day back after each half term is a focus day.

On Monday 4th November, each class learnt about one of the British Values: Tolerance & Respect.



Remembrance Day

Once again, our pupils made us incredibly proud with the respect they showed on Remembrance Day and in the run up to it.

As well as making donations for the poppy items from the Royal British Legion, the pupils could buy Poppy Pack which the Well-being Ambassadors created and sold.

On Monday 11th November, Year 5 led an assembly for KS2, explaining the importance of Remembrance Day and the work of the Royal British Legion.



Skipping Challenge

Because the children have got really into skipping at lunchtime, Ms Harrold organised a skipping challenge!

103 children signed up to take part and on Wednesday 13th November, the sports leaders helped Ms Harrold & Mr Ludlam count the number of continuous skips, each contestant could do.



Parents Supporting Learning

We always like to invite parents in to school and on 12th November, we were delighted to welcome the parents of pupils from Reception to Year 3, to find out how phonics is taught and to sit in on a phonics lesson.

On 18th November, the parents of Year 6 pupils were invited to a meeting to find out about the KS2 SATs that the pupils will take next May.

Thank you to everyone who attended.

Netball

A massive well done to our newly-formed netball team who played their first game on Thursday 28th November.

This was the first game ever for the school so it was a special evening.

The team did really well and should be proud of the way they played and represented the school. Unfortunately we didn't win this one, losing 9-3 to Christchurch.



Sleep Workshop

Thursday 5th December

If your child ^{isn't} does not sleep well or you are struggling to establish a bedtime routine, join us for our Sleep Workshop led by Nisha, from Reflexions.



Online Safety

Keeping our children safe in a world of technology continues to be a priority.

Look out each Wednesday, on Dojo, as we will be sharing #Wake Up Wednesday from The National College.

This is a weekly guide which focuses on an aspect of technology; the risks and tips to keep your child safe. The guides are in an easy-to-follow format.

Recent ones have focused on Roblox, Snap Chat and Tik Tok.



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>



Focus on ...Dudley Family Hubs

Dudley's family hub network includes five local family hubs, along with online resources and community services which support children and families across the borough. The local family hubs are located at Brierley Hill, Coseley, Dudley, Lye and Stourbridge.

Where is my local family hub?

There are currently five local family hubs around the borough that can offer support to you and your family. They are open Monday - Friday, 9am-5pm. They are located at:

Dudley - Selborne Road, Dudley DY2 8LJ, [01384 812440](tel:01384812440)

Stourbridge - Forge Rd, Stourbridge, DY8 1XF, [01384 818780](tel:01384818780)

Lye - Lye By-Pass, Stourbridge, DY9 8HT,

Brierley Hill - 18 Parkes Street, Brierley Hill, DY5 3DY,

Coseley - Bayer Street, Bilston, WV14 9DS,

What is the family hub network?

The network is a one-stop shop, offering advice and support for families in Dudley with children aged 0-19 (25 if the child has special educational needs and/or disabilities). It includes an online offer and five local family hubs. The network includes key Start for Life services. These cover the period from conception to age two. Core Start for Life services such as midwifery, health visiting, and early years support are included.

What can people expect from Dudley's local family hubs?

The hubs are welcoming places where parents-to-be, parents, carers, families and young people can get help all from one place.

Family hubs are local and accessible, linking families to the right services for them, when they need them.

What do the local family hubs currently offer?

The local family hubs aim to provide expectant parents and families with children up to the age of 18 (25 with additional needs and/or physical or learning disabilities) with advice, practical support and information, as well as support from other parents.

They offer help to ensure babies, children and young people get the best start for life and meet their full potential and that parents and carers receive any help they need to raise their families.

The hubs provide a broad range of support services across the borough. These currently include:

- midwives
- health visiting
- parenting and baby groups
- baby Clinics
- Citizens Advice
- pre-natal support
- signposting to services and groups
- family support
- and much more

For more information and to see what's on, visit...

<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/early-years-and-childcare/dudley-family-hub-network/>

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.