

25th Oct 2024  
Newsletter No. 08  
Tel: 01384 818545 email: info@ashwood.dudley.sch.uk

Article 28  
Every child has the  
right to an education

## Messages from Mr Butler

Wishing everyone a very happy Half Term break! School reopens Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

As we are now in the season for fireworks, please stay safe while you enjoy the beautiful displays. Have a look at the Firework code on page 4.

**Reminder**—Please don't allow your child to ride bikes, balance bikes and scooters on the School site. We have had a near collision recently would hate to see anyone injured.

**Good Luck**—Some of our Year 6 pupils are competing in the School Games Bocchia Tournament on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October at David Lloyd Leisure Centre. We are sure the children will enjoy representing our school in this exciting event.

**Rags2Riches Collection**—Your donated bags of clothes were collected this week and weighed 301.4kg which raised an amazing £120.56 for School funds.

**Harvest 2024**—Thank you all for your generous donations to this year's Harvest Collection for The Black Country Food Bank. See page 5 for details.

**Autumn Raffle**—Congratulations to the winners: Amelia in Squirrels and Chloe G in Chestnut. Over £200 was raised for School funds.

**Monster Mash**—What a fantastic time we all had at the Monster Mash discos. The children looked "gruesome" in their costumes and helped raised over £1000 for School funds.

**Odd Sock Day**—Please encourage your child to come to School in their brightest and oddest socks on Tuesday 12 November to celebrate anti-bullying week and highlighting that everyone is different.

## Parent/Carer Consultation Sessions

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Nov 3.30-7pm  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 3.30-6pm

Details and booking forms will be sent home after half term.

**Reflexions**—Matt from Reflexions will be attending our Parent/Carer Consultation Sessions on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> November. Parents can stop by for a chat and find out more about the Reflexions service. Matt will also have a Drop-in Session on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November between 9 and 11am, please contact the Office to book a 10-15 minute drop-in appointment with Matt.

## Attendance

Last week's (14/10–18/10) top attenders were:

**KS1: 1/2D Moles 98.26%**  
**KS2: 5/6B Holly 96.90%**

As a School we have a responsibility to monitor the attendance of all children in School. Attendance is vital to a child, children who have better attendance are proven to achieve more.

New National guidance was released for all schools on 19<sup>th</sup> August. Follow this link for the full details:

[Fines for parents for taking children out of school: What you need to know – The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](#)

## Praise Awards

W/C 14.10.24

### Key Stage One

RR Foxes	Laila
RT Hedgehogs	Jackson
1/2B Squirrels	Savannah
1/2D Moles	Scarlett
2W Badgers	Billy

### Key Stage Two

3/4H Elder	Amber
3/4R Oak	Muhammad
4D Chestnut	Freddie
5P Beech	Hoor-Ain
5/6B Holly	Joe
6RB Rowan	Madison

## Dates for the Diary

### Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October

Break up for half term 3.15 pm

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Return to School

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November

E-safety for Yr 5/6 Parents

### Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November

School Photos

### Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November

Odd Sock Day

### Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November

Parent/Carer Teacher Consultations

### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November

Parent/Carer Teacher Consultations

### Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

Break up for Christmas holiday 3.15pm

## Menu\*

WC [04.11.24](#) (Week 1)



### Monday

Fish Cake  
Pizza Naan  
Quorn Dippers (V)  
Jacket Potato with Choice of Filling  
Potato Crunchies  
Wafflemeister Waffle

### Tuesday Bonfire Special

Fish Fingers  
Hot Diggedy Dog  
Bonfire Night Banger (V)  
Warming Jacket Wedges  
Sparkler Slaw  
Firework Salad  
Rocket Lollies  
Ginger and Orange Sponge  
Custard

### Wednesday

Fish Star  
Big Breakfast  
Veggie Breakfast (V)  
Jacket Potato with Choice of Filling  
Cornflake Cake

### Thursday

Fish Fingers  
Chicken in a Bun  
Cheese & Onion Roll (V)  
Jacket Potato with Choice of Filling  
Diced Potatoes  
Shortbread Selection

### Friday

Battered Fish  
Pizza Selection  
Veggie Burrito (V)  
Jacket Potato with Choice of Filling  
Chips  
Fruity Friday Desserts

All dinners must be booked through School Money the day before they are needed. Please contact the school office if you are having any issues.

\* Subject to change

## Lunches from Home

If you are sending your child with a packed lunch, can we ask that you cut grapes, cherry tomatoes and similar in half please. Also, as a **nut free** school please do not send in Nutella sandwiches or any other nut products. Please do NOT send drinks in cans or glass bottles.

## EYFS News

We are so proud of all our Early Years children completing their first half term at School! Well done and a big thank you to all our families for your support.

After half term we will begin PE on Thursdays and Forest School on Fridays. If you haven't already, please send in your child's PE kit and a pair of wellies, all fully labelled. A pair of waterproof trousers or a puddle suit for Forest School is very useful, but not essential. For ease of dressing and to encourage independence, please put children in polo shirts if you have one (less buttons!) on PE days, and girls ideally can wear school trousers on a Friday, to keep warm at Forest School.

Happy half term!

## Tree Tots Toddler Group

**Wednesdays 9.00 -11.00am KS1 Hall**

Toys, activities, songs, stories and crafts available. Refreshments included – adults please bring a lidded cup!



## KS1 News



This week the children have enjoyed the story of What Made Tiddalick Laugh! They have done some role play and descriptive writing about it in English.

We have also enjoyed designing our own characters in Art using a range of materials.

Everyone had a wonderful time at the Monster Mash and the costumes were simply amazing! We really enjoyed having a dance to spooky music.



We hope you all have a restful half term and enjoy the break and we will see you when we return from the holidays.

## Urgent Plea

The Kids Clothes Project has been running for 4 years and has so far helped over 1500 children in families in need across the Black Country, including some from Ashwood Park. They are in **desperate** need of jumpers; T-shirts, trousers, new underwear, shoes, coats, pyjamas, dresses, swimwear, books and soft toys if you have any items spare.

There is a donation bin for The Kids Clothes project in our School Reception so please donate what you can. Many thanks.



## RBDC News

RBDC staff would like to thank all parents for their support over the last half term. We can really see the difference when you read with your children and support them with their home learning. Thank you.

May we wish you all a restful half term and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

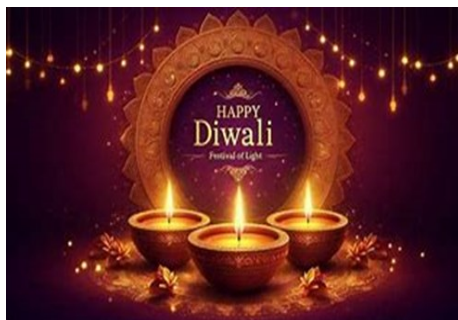


Well done to Lillianna for amazing writing this week. We are very proud of how determined you are to up level the vocabulary in your work. The descriptive poem you wrote this week was beautiful.

## Signed Videos:

Our signed video this week is to celebrate Diwali which is celebrated next week. May we wish all our families who celebrate a 'Happy Diwali'.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=FoooayXH0ps>



## KS2 News

We have all had a spook-tacular week this week. All of our children were very excited about our Monster Mash Disco and they seemed to have a really great time. Well done children for behaving so well and enjoying yourselves. A massive thank you to everyone who has helped out in some way.

In years 5 and 6 this week, we have been completing our DT project on 'Navigating the World'. The children have used the laptops to complete some very technical activities - programming a micro:bit and also using CAD software to design a new product. They have had some absolutely amazing ideas! Our year 3 and 4 children can look forward to their DT unit after the half term where they will also be using the laptops to think about wearable technology.

We were all very excited to hear about how our children got on at Hickory's on Tuesday and the news did not disappoint! Check out the recount from the children on Page 3.

We are holding an E-safety meeting for Yr 5/6 Parents on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 3.20pm. Please come along.

### PE Lessons:

- \* 5P and 6RB - Monday
- \* 5/6B - Swimming on Monday
- \* Years 3 and 4 - Friday
- \* Years 3 and 4 can come to school in their kit on **Thurs only**
- \* Years 5 and 6 can come to school in their kit on **Wed only**

### REMINDER

When the children come to school in their PE kit they must wear their yellow PE top, green shorts / black joggers and their green Ashwood Park jumper or cardigan. Hoodies and gilets are **not** permitted. Please support us to ensure that all of our children are in the correct uniform and feel part of our Ashwood Park team.

## Maths Problem

### Monster

Alesha bought a monster using only silver coins. It cost her 45p.



There are nine different ways to pay 45p exactly using only silver coins. Find as many as you can.

What if the monster cost 50p? How many different ways are there to pay now?

## TT Rockstars

This weeks Rockstars\* are;

1st Harry C  
2nd Keira  
3rd Felicity

Well done to everyone!

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/>





### **Our Trip to Hickory's**

On the 22nd October, children from Year 1 to year 6, winners of the Raffle Ticket Draw were invited to go to Hickory's Smokehouse in Wall Heath. We were taken to a room to be informed of the upcoming activities which we were going to participate in.

#### **Our Activities**

We started striding over to the Bean Bag Toss and Movie Theatre. After this we went over to the Meat Station. This included covering some pork with "Magic Dust", which was seasoning, or you could get some cabbage and mix it up with some sauce. We next went to do some crafts. We made some bats for Halloween. Last but not least, we made some milkshakes. They had millions of flavours plus toppings!! They tasted delicious!!

#### **At the End**

We went back to the private room and had some delicious, scrumptious pancakes. We were given some goody bags and then came back to school.

We rated the day 9.5 out of 10!

**Seb, Ava and Josh**





### Children's Speech and Language Service (Dudley)

Advice for parents and carers can be found at:

<https://www.blackcountryhealthcare.nhs.uk/our-services/childrens-speech-and-language-therapy-service-dudley>

### Dudley's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Bulletin

The Dudley Special Educational Needs and Disabilities e-bulletin's aim is to keep parent carers, education settings and stakeholders informed about Dudley's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Improvement Programme as well as news and events.

As a system we are working hard to improve our SEND offer across the borough. A lot is happening and we are gathering pace to better support our children, young people and families with SEND.

Our latest bulletin provides:

- updates of our improvement journey including our progress of our Delivering Better Value Programme in SEND
- SEND news from the Dudley Parent Carer Forum, Health, the council and partners
- details of useful events for parent carers and practitioners
- SEND Education Settings News which includes information about free SEND training Resources.

**Sign up now** [SEND Improvement Programme - September 2024 \(govdelivery.com\)](https://www.govdelivery.com) to receive this e-bulletin direct to your email inbox

### Health Choices

Dudley Public Health and Wellbeing is part of Dudley Council. We support and enable residents, families and communities to make positive lifestyle changes and improve your health and wellbeing.

There is lots we can do as individuals to stay healthy and well in Dudley borough. This website is a one-stop place for up-to-date public health information and news, from pregnancy and early life to healthy ageing.

<https://healthydudley.co.uk/>

### Healthy Lunchboxes

The Healthy Lunchbox Resource is available to support children & families to make healthy, yummy and tooth friendly food choices for their children's lunchbox.

<https://healthydudley.co.uk/lunch/>



[Dudley's Local Offer](https://dudleyci.co.uk/send-local-offer) is a new one stop shop website for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their parents and carers.

Dudley's Local Offer is part of the Dudley Community Information Directory – an online directory which offers people quick and easy access to information on local services.

The Local Offer webpages contain a wealth of up to date information on areas which include education, training and work, health, leisure and fun, care and moving into adulthood.

The website aims to help young people and parents to make individual, informed, positive decisions and choices

<https://dudleyci.co.uk/send-local-offer>

The Dudley family hub 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.

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

### Peanut Allergy Advice

Allergy UK has received an urgent statement from the Foods Standards Agency (FSA) regarding a potential allergen contamination issue affecting anyone with a peanut allergy. The FSA is advising people with a peanut allergy to avoid consuming foods that contain or may contain mustard, mustard powder, or mustard flour due to potential contamination with peanuts. These mustard ingredients are often found in food such as dips, sauces, salads and pre-packed sandwiches. The FSA is taking a precautionary approach and is advising any individual living with or caring for anyone with a peanut allergy, to avoid eating any product that contains or may contain mustard until the specific affected products are identified.

[Urgent Peanut Allergy Advice | Allergy UK | National Charity](https://www.allergyuk.org/urgent-peanut-allergy-advice)

### Reflexions

Matt from Reflexions will be attending our Parent/Carer Consultation Sessions on the 12th and 13th November. Parents can stop by for a chat and find out more about the Reflexions service. Matt will also have a Drop-in Session on Thursday 21st November between 9 and 11am. If you have a particular query or concern related to your child or you want to find out more about what Reflexions can offer, please contact the Office to book a 10-15 minute drop-in appointment with Matt.

### Parent Carer Forum Update:



Dudley Parent carer Forum welcome registrations for membership from parent/carers and also offer associate memberships to wider family members or practitioners working within Dudley. Joining up means you will be kept up to date on all the latest news, information and events doing on in Dudley. Parents/Carers will also receive a FREE gift when they sign up!

[Sign Up Here](#)

### Integrated Early Years Service Parent Support Group



This group offers support to parents and carers

your child, and also to gain practical advice for everyday routines.

[See More Details Here](#)

### Dudley Parent Carer Annual Survey SEND Services 2024

This survey is for parent carers of children/young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) between the ages of 0-25 and living in Dudley.

We want to hear about your recent experiences with a range of different services. To keep this information up to date and relevant we will sometimes ask you to think about your experiences within a certain timeframe (eg previous 12 months).

We understand that if you have more than one child your experiences may vary for each child. Therefore we ask that you **complete a separate survey for each child with SEND that you have.**

We will use the information provided to ensure we focus our work on the areas that are most important to you. We will share the results of this survey with our members and wider networks as well as local services. We will also share the results of this survey with Ofsted or the Department for Education (DfE) during any inspections of SEND services. We will never share any identifying information.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QFYQL2J>

### Happier Minds

Whether you are a young person, a parent/ carer or a professional working with young people we hope this site will be helpful to you and those you care about.

<https://happierminds.org.uk/>

# Firework Code

1. Only adults should light and hold fireworks.
2. Stand well back when watching fireworks and bonfires.
3. Never approach a firework that has not gone off or is used.
4. Enjoy sparklers safely by wearing gloves and holding them at arms length.
5. When a sparkler goes out put it straight into a bucket of water.
6. Keep your pets safely indoors.
7. Have a great time!

Free poster from [www.schoolstickers.co.uk/firework](http://www.schoolstickers.co.uk/firework)  
Corresponding stickers available.





# THANK YOU

## Ashwood Park Primary School

Thank you so much for collecting food for your local community.  
We will use all the food you have donated to make emergency food parcels for people in crisis.

You have donated **102.8kgs** of food and **9kgs** of toiletries, enough to provide **206** meals and **9** toiletry packs.

This is absolutely wonderful, and we are so thankful that you have supported us in this amazing way.



# Starting secondary school in September 2025

## Why not apply for a place online?

If your child is due to start secondary school in 2025 then you will have to apply for a school place before 31 October 2024.

You **MUST** complete an application form either online at [www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions) or by completing the application form provided by your home local authority. You can include six school preferences on the application form; there is nothing to gain by only putting one preference.

### Benefits of applying online

- E-mail decision received by 2pm on day of offer
- It's quick and easy to use
- You can apply 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- There's no risk that your application will be lost in the post
- You will get email confirmation that your application has been received
- It's safe and secure

The online system will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from 1 September 2024 until the closing date for applications on **31 October 2024**.

You should not assume that your child will get a place at a secondary school without you having to apply, even if you have an older child already attending the same school. This is a common misconception and often the biggest cause of disappointment for parents who believe otherwise.

For further information please contact Dudley School Admissions Service on **0300 555 2345**.



one click ... makes it quick  
[www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions)



# Starting primary school in September 2025

## Why not apply for a place online?

If your child was born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 they will be due to start primary school in September 2025.

You **MUST** complete an application form either online at [www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions) or by completing an application form from your home local authority by **15 JANUARY 2025**. You can include five school preferences on the application; there is nothing to gain by only putting one preference.

Applications will be available from **1 October 2024**.

### Benefits of applying online

- E-mail decision received by 2pm on day of offer
- It's quick and easy to use
- You can apply 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- There's no risk that your application will be lost in the post
- You will get email confirmation that your application has been received
- It's safe and secure

The online system will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from 1 October 2024 until the closing date for applications on **15 January 2025**.

**Please note:** Even if your child already attends a school nursery or has an older sibling at school, do not assume that your child will automatically gain a place at that school. This is a common misconception and often the biggest cause of disappointment for parents who believe otherwise.

For further information please contact Dudley School Admissions Service on **0300 555 2345**.



one click ... makes it quick  
[www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions)





# Dudley Parent Carer Forum Annual Survey - 2024



Dudley Parent Carer Forum are currently running their annual survey regarding SEND (Special Educational Needs or Disabilities) services in Dudley.

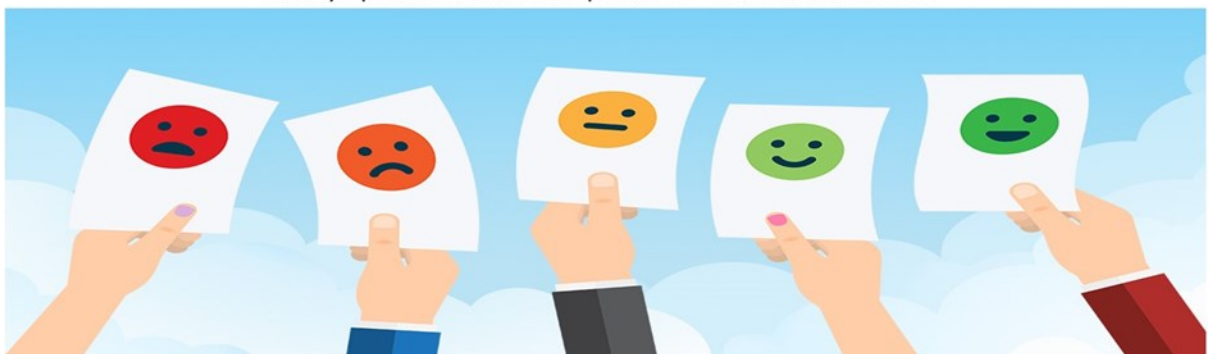
The survey is designed for parent carers of children/young people with SEND between the ages of 0-25 and living in Dudley. The results are completely independently evaluated by the parent carer forum.

The survey takes around 10-15 minutes to complete and enables us to capture the true feelings of parent carers in the borough. The results of this are vital to our work and to ensure that we focus on the things that really matter to you.

Scan the QR code to complete:



Survey open between 1st September - 3rd November 2024





**ACE COACHING  
PRESENTS**

**WIN A  
PRIZE  
FOR BEST  
DRESSED  
FOR HALLOWEEN  
Thursday 31st**

# OCTOBER HALF TERM SHOOT & SCORE SPOOKTACULAR

## WHEN

(Open to boys & girls aged  
Reception to Year 6)

**MONDAY 28<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER -  
FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER**

(Focusing primarily on the sports Football,  
Dodgeball, netball and Handball)



## ACE OFFER 1

Bookings & payments received by  
Friday 25th October will receive a

**£20 DISCOUNT!**

Offer only applies when booking  
a full week on an Ace Coaching  
football & invasion games  
course.

## WHERE

**CRESTWOOD SCHOOL &  
6<sup>th</sup> Form, Bromley Lane,  
Kingswinford, DY6 8QG**



## ACE OFFER 2

Family & friends - Enrol two  
children for the week, bookings  
received by Friday 25th October

**FOR ONLY £140**

Offer only applies when booking a full week  
on an Ace Coaching  
football & invasion games course.  
Please note that the £20 discount in  
Ace offer 1 is not available to use in  
conjunction with Ace offer 2.

## COST

**ONLY £100 FOR ALL WEEK  
OR £25 PER DAY**



## ACE BIRTHDAYS

Did you know that we offer birthday  
parties for your rising stars?

For more information, please email us at  
[AceCoaching.CourseEnrolments  
@hotmail.com](mailto:AceCoaching.CourseEnrolments@hotmail.com)



## TIME

**Each day 9.00am - 3.00pm**

PLEASE ENQUIRE IF YOUR CHILD IS 4 YEARS OLD AS SESSION TIMES MAY DIFFER

Is your child neurodivergent?  
Do they have SEND?  
Then please come along to our

# Parent Carer Coffee Morning

Aiming for Brighter Futures



19th  
November  
9:00 am



We want to  
hear your  
views and  
experiences

Be part of an  
amazing  
project about  
neurodiversity

This group is being hosted by Dudley Parent Carer Forum as part of the PINS project (Partnerships for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools). We are independent parent carers of SEND children in Dudley. We want to hear your views on all things SEND and Neurodiversity in your child's school. Your individual contributions will be kept confidential but the key themes will help guide the PINS project and Ashwood Park to support neurodiverse children.



For more information contact us at  
[pinsdudleypcf@dudleyparentcarerforum.co.uk](mailto:pinsdudleypcf@dudleyparentcarerforum.co.uk)

# Free School Meals

If you receive any of the following support payments your child may be entitled to Free School Meals

- 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

If you currently receive free school meals but have now moved into the area, you will need to complete a new Free School Meals Application form

If you wish to apply for Free School Meals, please go to

[www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals)

If you need further information, you can contact the Free School Meals Team by:






Telephone -01384 814988



Email – [freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk)




Visiting – Dudley Council Plus, Castle Street, Dudley  
between 8.30am and 5pm Monday to Friday, 9am and 12 noon Saturday



# SPOOK YOUR WORRIES AWAY

MONDAY 28TH OCTOBER KS1  
TUESDAY 29TH OCTOBER KS2  
WEDNESDAY 30TH OCTOBER KS1  
THURSDAY 31ST OCTOBER KS2  
**1PM - 3PM**



**BOOK ON TO AVOID  
DISSAPOINTMENT!**

To book please email:  
[bchftreflexions@nhs.net](mailto:bchftreflexions@nhs.net)

**28th & 29th:** St Thomas Church, Market  
Street Parish Church Of Street, Stourbridge,  
DY8 1AQ

**30th & 31st:** DY1 Building, Stafford  
Street, Dudley, DY1 1RT



