

Messages from Mr Butler

We bid a sad farewell to Mrs Straw today. After six years in charge of the Resource Base for the Deaf she is changing roles. She will still be working with deaf children but won't be based at Ashwood Park. She will be missed and we wish her all the best. We would also like to wish all our children and families a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year from all of us at Ashwood Park.



Christmas Raffle

We have been busy selling tickets for our Christmas Raffle in aid of our annual pantomime (to be performed in School in January). Tickets are just £1 and there will be two child friendly hampers and chocolate prizes for KS1 and KS2. Tickets will be sold in classes so please send your child in with a £1 coin if you would like them to buy a ticket. There will also be an adult hamper filled with Christmas treats. Tickets will be on sale after School in the playground. Winning tickets will be drawn out of the hat on Friday lunchtime.

Big Thank You The Kids Clothes Project would like to thank all of you who donated toys to their Christmas Appeal, your generosity is very much appreciated.

Facebook Do remember to take a look at the School's [Facebook](#) page.

K Butler



Attendance

This Term's top attenders:

KS1: 2W 96.45%
KS2: 4D 94.58%

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.

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

Coffee Morning

School are hosting the charity 'We Love Carers' for a coffee morning at 9.15am on Tuesday 28th January.

<https://www.welovecarers.org/>

We Love Carers is a charity run by carers for carers. They exist to give the thousands of unpaid carers the support, information and advice they need to take control of their lives and live it to the maximum, whether you are a carer of disabled children or carers of an adult.

The charity focuses on the carer, filling in gaps and working hard to empower them so they can lead the happiest, most rewarding and fulfilling lives whilst reaching their full potential. This will help you to be an effective carer for the people you love and look after, be involved in decisions and making choices that affect their lives. Many carers are isolated and don't know where to turn for help. **We Love Carers** aims to change that for carers.

If you would like to attend, please let the office know.



Menu* WC 06.01.25 (Week 1)



Monday INSET DAY

Tuesday
Pork Sausages
Chicken Sausages (H)
Vegetarian Sausages (V)
Fish Fingers
Potato Wedges
Green Beans and Peas
Chocolate Cookie or Flapjack

Wednesday Day

Roast Chicken
Roast Chicken (H)
Quorn Balls (V)
Fish Star
Roast Potatoes
Gravy
Broccoli and Carrots
America Pancake

Thursday

Fish Fingers
Vegetarian Sausage Roll (V)
Diced Potatoes
Cauliflower and Carrots
Marble Sponge & Custard

Friday

Chicken Chow Mein
Pizza (V)
Battered Fish
McCain Chips
Peas and Baked Beans
Blueberry Muffin

Available Every Day

Jacket potato, sandwich, cheese, tuna or ham filling, salad, crusty bread, fresh fruit, yogurt

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

Christmas Support

For those who may need a little support at this time of year:

CALM 0800585858
Mind 03001233393
No Panic 08449674848
Bereavement 08088081677
PAPYRUS 08000684141
Samaritans 116 123
SHOUT Text SHOUT to 85258
Abuse 0808 2000 247
Refuge 020 7395 7700



Stay safe this Christmas

Dates for the Diary

Friday 20th December

Bring a Toy and Wear a Christmas Jumper (MUFTI)

Break up for Christmas holiday 3.15pm

Monday 6th January

INSET Day

Tuesday 7th January

Children Return to School

Wednesday 8th January

Tree Tots Toddlers 9–11 am

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



The children have had a wonderful festive week, they were excellent on their trip to the Glass Cone and really enjoyed Christmas party day! A big thank you to everyone this term for all your support.

PE/Forest School kits will come home this week, please return them the first week back. The children have had a fabulous first term and we are very proud of them. We wish all our families a wonderful Christmas and very happy new year.

Tree Tots Toddler Group

Wednesdays 9.00 -11.00am



Tree Tots Toddlers has now finished for the year, we will return on Wednesday 8th January 2025. Mrs Manville, our nursery teacher, will be joining the Tree Tots Toddler Group team and will be running the group with Miss Reynolds.

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



Toddlers will resume Weds 8th January 2025.

KS1 News

This week in Key Stage One we have been creating our Christmas cards and calendars ready for the holidays. The children were very creative and enjoyed making them their own. We also had fun at our Christmas parties and enjoyed a fabulous toy day!

We wish all of our children, parents and families a very Happy Christmas and we can't wait to welcome you back in the New Year!

Have a wonderful break!



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



What an exciting term we have had! The children have really settled into their new classes well and have worked incredibly hard. Thank you to all RBDC staff for their hard work and commitment to the children. Everybody now deserves a good rest over the Christmas break to be ready for school in January. All the staff in the RBDC would like to say thank you to parents for the lovely messages, cards and gifts we have received. Thank you! May we wish you all a very Merry Christmas!



Well done to all children who are supported by the RBDC for an incredible term. We are so proud of all your hard work and achievements!

Signed Videos:

Merry Christmas

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RSP64woJ71U>



Merry



Christmas

Sports News

Well done to all of the children who participated in the Year 2 Multi Skills Competition at Ellowes Hall School last week. The children took part in a range of events designed to developed their athletic ability. All of the children had a fantastic time and were a credit to our school. Thank you to Miss Webb and Miss Tait for taking the children to the event.



TT Rockstars

This weeks Rockstars* are;

1st Eva-Rose
2nd Keira
3rd Felicity

Well done to everyone!

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

KS2 News



It has been like Santa's workshop in Key Stage 2 this week. The classes have been very busy making cards, calendars, crafting and singing our Christmas songs, whilst still keeping up with our learning.

Our children in Years 5 and 6 have been finishing off their work on discussion texts and have written up their ideas about whether or not we should attempt to colonise Mars in the future. The children have had some very interesting views.

Some of our children in years 3 and 4, and also members of our Ukulele group, performed to our families this week. The children have worked really hard to learn a range of songs and they performed so confidently. Well done everyone.

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

Christmas tree

Rudolph put four stars on a tree. He coloured each star either red or yellow.



In how many different ways can Rudolph colour the four stars?



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

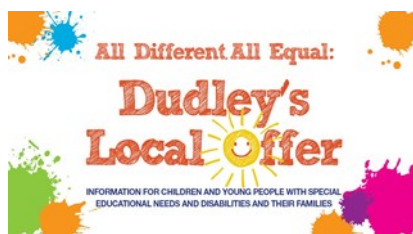
Dudley Public Health and Wellbeing is part of Dudley Council. We support and enable residents, families and communities to make positive lifestyle changes and improve your health and wellbeing. There is lots we can do as individuals to stay healthy and well in Dudley borough. This website is a one-stop 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 is a new one stop shop website for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their parents and carers.

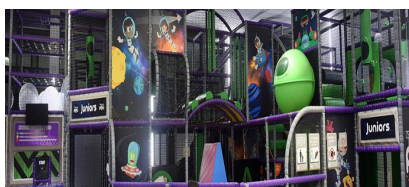
The website contain a wealth of up to date information on areas which include education, training and work, health, leisure and fun, care and moving into adulthood. The website aims to help young people and parents to make individual, informed, positive decisions and choices

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/>



SEN Soft Play Sessions

Dudley leisure centres offer soft play sessions for children with SEN:

At Duncan Edwards Leisure Centre, there is a SEN soft play session **every Wednesday from 5.00pm - 6.00pm**

At Halesowen, there is a SEN soft play session **every Monday from 4.30pm - 6.00pm**.

Both sessions are suitable for children under 11 years of age with disabilities, special educational needs, ASD and their siblings.

New Sensory Room at Coseley Family Hub Parents and carers can now book time in a NEW sensory room at the local family hub in Coseley. The FREE space is bookable for between 30min to an hour and gives the chance for children of all ages to explore a range of sensory activities with their parents/carers.

The sessions are self-led but staff will be on hand to support or answer any questions. To book call the hub on 01384 813096.

Parent Carer Forum Update:

Aiming for Brighter Futures



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 of children with a range of additional needs. It provides supportive environment to engage with your child, and also to gain practical advice for everyday routines.

[See More Details Here](#)

Dudley Parents

There is a one stop shop for parents in the Dudley Borough offering support and information . You can gain free access to guidance and support over a range of topics for parents including First 1001 Days as a Parent, DadPad, Five to Thrive, Solihull Approach, Triple P, Parents in Conflict, The Henry Approach.

www.dudleyparents.co.uk/home

DudleyParents

Urgent Plea

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



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/>



BRIERLEY HILL MUSICAL THEATRE
PRESENTS

Jack AND THE Beanstalk

18th - 25th
JAN 2025

THE GIANT PANTOMIME!
THATS FEE-FI-FO-FUN!

Box Office - 01384 573381
www.bhillcivic.co.uk

WINTER

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

DUDLEY HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES PROVIDES FREE ACTIVITIES IN THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS FOR CHILDREN AGED 5–16 WHO RECEIVE BENEFITS RELATED FREE SCHOOL MEALS.

TO SIGN UP:

1. Register on the Dudley HAF website.
Register as soon as possible as you must be registered to book activities.

2. Once Free School Meal (FSM) status has been verified by Dudley Council, you will get an email with login details.

3. Once winter bookings are open (usually a couple of weeks before the school holiday) you can login and book up to 4 sessions for each of your children.



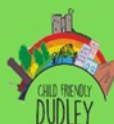
SCAN ME



<https://www.dudleyholidayactivities.org.uk/register>

SuttonCroft

DUDLEY
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES



Dudley
Metropolitan Borough Council

CAMHS Parent/Carer Workshops

Come and join our Parent/Carer Workshops, run by Black Country CAMHS services (on Zoom for 1.5hours)! Groups held 12pm - 1.30pm.

We know that suffering from mental health difficulties does not only affect the person struggling, but also the family around them. Parenting a child/young person with mental health difficulties can create additional challenges for parents.

We are running workshops exploring a range of difficulties that children/young people may experience, that can impact their emotional wellbeing.

10.07.24- Trauma and Attachment

11.09.24 - Autistic Spectrum Conditions

23.10.24 – Speech and Language

20.11.24- Depression / Low Mood

18.12.24 – Anxiety / OCD

15.01.25 – Self-harm

12.02.25– Anger / Conduct difficulties

12.03.25 – Anxiety

To register your interest telephone **Andrea Ehgartner** on **01922 607400**



bchft_camhs



@CAMHS_BCHFT



www.blackcountryminds.com

Dudley SENDIAS Service is hosting a series of SEND Workshops

Dudley SENDIAS Service offers information, advice and support on all matters relating to SEN and disabilities including health and social care to parents and carers of children with SEND and Young People with SEND up to 25 years old.

Are you

- A parent/carer of a child with SEND?
- A young person with SEND?
- Concerned about the support that is in place to help your child in school/college?

To book on to a workshop contact us at dudley.sendiass@dudley.gov.uk

Dudley SENDIAS Service Website

<http://dudleysendiass.org.uk/>

Spring Term 2025 10am – 11.30am on MS Teams

Understanding how to access SEN support within settings

- Thursday 23rd January 2025
- Friday 21st March 2025

Understanding the EHCP request process

- Friday 31st January 2025
- Monday 31st March 2025

How to check a draft plan

- Monday 10th February 2025

Preparing and process for annual review

- Wednesday 5th March 2025

Preparation for key transitions

- Thursday 13th March 2025



How can we help?

- Individual casework
- Preparing, supporting and attending meetings
- Help with writing letters and completing forms
- Help to understand what support can be offered to a child or young person with SEN and/or a disability without an education health care plan in place. This could be in an early years, school or further education setting
- Support to parents and young people during an education health care assessment
- Access to an independent supporter if requested - this is subject to availability
- Advice and support in relation to appeals to the SEN and disability tribunal
- Help if things go wrong and advice on complaints relating to SEN and/or disabilities including those related to health and social care
- Help if your child is excluded
- Providing support to manage mediation
- Explaining the disagreement resolution process
- Access to training and workshops

For more information contact:

Dudley SEND information, advice and support service

An answering machine is in operation, please leave a message and we will return your call.

Tel: 07900 161363

Tel: 01384 817373

E-mail: dudley.sendiass@dudley.gov.uk

Web: www.dudley.gov.uk/dudleysendiass



Dudley special educational needs and disability information, advice and support service (SENDIASS)

(formerly Dudley Parent Partnership Service)

If you're a parent or carer of a child or young person with special educational needs (SEN) or a disability, or a child or young person up to the age of 25 with special educational needs or a disability, we can help you.

We provide legally based advice, information and support on all matters relating to SEN and disabilities including health and social care issues.

- **Free**
- **Impartial**
- **Confidential**

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 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



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

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



Telephone -01384 814988



Email – 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



YOGABRIDGES
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SUITABLE FOR ALL LEVELS OF ABILITY



HATHA YOGA

EVERY THURSDAY | START AT 7.30PM

Ashwood Park Primary School, Bells Lane, Wordsley, Stourbridge, DY8 5DJ

£9 / CLASS OR 10% DISCOUNT FOR FULL TERM

FOR BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL JAN:

07764 404975 | janetcooper@blueyonder.co.uk | www.facebook.com/yogawithjan