

Church of the Ascension CE Primary School

'Learn with love, flourish in faith'



**Thankfulness Generosity Respect
Forgiveness Honesty Perseverance**



Spring Newsletter No. 1 10th January 2025

Dear Family,

Happy new year! I hope that you all had an enjoyable and happy Christmas. It has been great to welcome the children back to school, this week.

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs Bates and Mrs Southall, who have returned to us following maternity leave. I am very pleased to inform you all that Miss Slater is now our permanent Key Stage 1 and Early Years lead, following a successful recruitment process.

Our sincere apologies that the children did not get to watch the pantomime, yesterday. Unfortunately, due to an error in the company's new booking system, they were unable to get to us in time to perform. Mrs Peters has arranged an alternative performance, for later in the term. This will be a theatrical performance as opposed to a pantomime.

Provisional dates for the diary:

14.1.25 at 630pm – HSA meeting, all welcome

28.1.25 parents' evening 3.45 – 6.45

30.1.25 parents' evening 3.45 – 6.15

Week beginning 10.2.25 – good health week

Please may I remind all parents that the school is a no dog site. Please do not bring dogs onto the school site, including carrying them. Many thanks for your cooperation with this.

Mrs L Mason

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Our Collective Worship this week has focused on Epiphany. We talked about what an important time Epiphany is for Christians and the significance of the wise men arriving to visit Jesus and the gifts that they brought. We considered whether a gift had to be expensive to be special and significant.

Mr Bradley also led an assembly on our core value for this term of Respect. Children are considering what respect for ourselves, for others and for our environment looks like.

CLUBS AFTER SCHOOL NEXT WEEK

- Monday - KS2 Choir
- Tuesday – Yrs 5 & 6 Netball
- Thursday - Yrs 5 & 6 Netball
Worship Leaders (Lunchtime)
- Friday - Sportshall Athletics
Ace Coaching Multi Sports (pre-booked and prepaid)

OSCAR HOLIDAY CLUB

We will again be running the OSCAR holiday club during Easter for the first four days, 14th -17th April and also for the first three weeks of the summer holiday, weeks commencing 21st July, 28th July and 4th August.

The holiday club provides a variety of activities for the children each day and is open from 7:45am – 6pm. It costs £23 for the full day and is only open to children who currently attend our school.

If you would like to make a booking, please contact Jacqui the OSCAR manager by emailing jdavies@chur-ascen.dudley.sch.uk

CORRECT UNIFORM

Can we please remind parents that smart watches are not allowed in school. Only small, stud earrings are allowed to be worn, not hoop earrings.

On PE days, earrings must be removed and long hair tied back.

We would appreciate your co-operation by adhering to the uniform policy which can be found here: [Uniform-Policy-September-2024.pdf](#)

BOYS PANTS

We are in desperate need of boys' pants of all ages. If anyone has any they can donate, please send them into school. Thank you.

SCHOOL CALENDARS

We still have a few 2025 school calendars left if you haven't yet purchased one. They are just £5 each – don't miss out! Please pop to the school office if you would like to buy one.

All money raised from the sale of the calendars will directly benefit the children.

PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

CLOSING DATE 15TH JANUARY

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 either online at www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions or by completing an application form from your home local authority by 15 January 2025.

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 please do not assume that your child will automatically gain a place at that school.

If you do know someone who is considering applying for a place but is unsure if they would be successful due to 'catchment area', we believe it may be a low birth rate this year so please encourage them to apply.

LUNCHTIME STAFF

We are currently looking for someone who can join our lunchtime supervisors' team. It would be working every lunchtime, a total of 6.25 hours per week. If this is something you might be interested in, please speak to the school office in the first instance.



LUNCH MENU



WEEK 1

<u>MONDAY</u>	<p>Oven Baked Pork Sausage (V) Vegetable Sausage Served with Mashed Potato, Garden Peas, Carrots Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese Selection of Sandwiches—Ham, Cheese or Jam Freshly Baked Cookie</p>
<u>TUESDAY</u>	<p>(V) Cheese & Tomato Pizza Served with Rice & Broccoli Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese Selection of Sandwiches—Ham, Cheese or Jam Strawberry Ice-cream</p>
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<p>Roast Chicken (V) Mac n Cheese Served with Roast Potatoes, Cabbage & Peas, Green Beans Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese Selection of Sandwiches—Ham, Cheese or Jam Easiyo Fruit Mousse</p>
<u>THURSDAY</u>	<p>Chicken Curry (V) Sweet & Sour Vegetables Served with Rice, Mixed Salad, Sweetcorn Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese Selection of Sandwiches—Ham, Cheese or Jam Strawberry Jelly</p>
<u>FRIDAY</u>	<p>Fish Fingers (V) Veggie Nuggets Served with Oven Baked Chips, Garden Peas, Baked Beans Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese Selection of Sandwiches—Ham, Cheese or Jam Chocolate Cornflake Slice</p>

Daily Items also available during lunch service:-

Meals served with a choice of seasonal vegetables.

Choice of salad and choice of dessert available.

Water available.

TALK TOGETHER
about Respect

We are learning at school about the importance of treating others with **respect** even if we sometimes do not agree with the way they behave or the things they say. We have also been thinking about how we should treat the things that belong to us and to other people **respectfully**.

- Think of some practical ways that you show **respect** to each other in your family.
- Often we show **respect** to someone by the way we speak to them. What does this mean in practice?
- Do you treat one another's possessions with **respect**? What does this mean in practice?

THINK TOGETHER
Words of Wisdom

"Respect - to get it you must give it"
Anon



READ TOGETHER...

Moses and the Burning Bush

Moses led the sheep across the dry and dusty desert to Sinai, God's holy mountain. But in the stillness of the wilderness, while the sheep were grazing, Moses' thoughts were never far from the plight of his people the Israelites, who were suffering at the hand of the cruel Egyptian king. Moses had left Egypt years ago. He felt guilty and wished he could help his people, but what could he do? He was not brave, he was not a **respected** leader. Who would listen to him?

And then in the distance Moses noticed something very strange. A desert bush was on fire. The flames licked hungrily around the branches and yet, strangely, the bush did not burn up. He drew closer and as he did so, he clearly heard a voice call to him from the bush, "Moses, Moses!" "Yes, here I am" stammered Moses. "Take off your shoes", said the voice, "for you are standing on holy ground." Reverently, Moses untied his sandals and fell to his knees. "I am the Lord God of your ancestors and I have seen how my people suffer under Pharaoh. I have heard them call out to me to rescue them and now Moses, I am sending you to lead them to freedom." "But I am nobody, I am nothing. How can I go to the king and expect him to **respect** a simple shepherd? How can I ask him to let the people go?" But God replied, "Do not be frightened, I will be with you." "But what if the people will not listen to me?" said Moses. "What do you have in your hand?" "A stick." Moses replied. "Throw it on the ground." Moses did as he was asked. To his astonishment the stick turned into a writhing, angry snake. "Now bend down and pick it up by the tail." Nervously, Moses did as he was asked. Immediately, the snake once more became a stick. "When you perform this miracle," said God, "the people will believe that I have sent you. Take the stick with you for with it you will perform great miracles. Now go and do as I have commanded."

And so it was that on that ordinary day an extraordinary adventure began for Moses and for the people of Israel. It was a story that the world would never forget.



QUIZ Tangled Strings

Which stick became the writhing snake?



Can you make a 'tangled string' puzzle?

Bible story based on Exodus 3, 4



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

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Friday 3 January

Help us ease NHS pressures this winter

The NHS in the Black Country is asking local people to think which service they need this winter to help ease pressures.

With the onset of colder temperatures, there is typically an increase in health issues such as respiratory conditions, colds, flu, and injuries from slips and falls. This surge, combined with existing winter pressures on hospital services, means that more people are likely to need urgent care.

To ensure that emergency departments are available for those who need them most, local people are being reminded to choose the appropriate NHS service for their need.

People who need medical help that isn't an emergency should contact NHS 111 in the first instance by visiting 111.nhs.uk or by calling 111.

NHS 111 can help direct people to the most appropriate local health service if they aren't sure where to go – this could include an out of hours GP, a pharmacy, a local NHS walk-in centre, or a hospital accident & emergency (A&E) department.

People are also being reminded of the vital line of support that is available in their local pharmacy. Patients can now get treatment for seven common conditions directly from their local pharmacy, without the need to visit a GP.

The Pharmacy First service enables pharmacists to offer advice to patients and supply NHS medicines (including antibiotics), where clinically appropriate, for sinusitis, sore throat, earache, infected insect bite, impetigo, shingles and uncomplicated urinary tract infections (UTIs) in women.

If you have symptoms that suggest you may have one of these conditions, you can walk into a pharmacy and be offered a consultation with the pharmacist. Should the pharmacy team be unable to help, you will be directed to your GP surgery or A&E as appropriate

