



## Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

This week we have welcomed you to several wonderful performances at School. The year 3 and 4 Ukulele band put on a fantastic show on Tuesday, thanks to Mrs Tobin from Dudley Performing Arts, we look forward to more classes having the opportunity next year. KS1 were amazing in their show on Tuesday and Wednesday, and the Early Years show on Thursday and Friday was super. Thank you to all for your support with costumes and applause. We also had our KS2 Carol Concert at Holy Trinity Church, Wordsley and we were very proud of all the children, they put on a wonderful performance.

### Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 15 December we will be supporting "Save the Children" and invite the children to wear a Christmas Jumper in return for a donation to this very worthwhile charity. Please can they wear their uniform with their Jumper.

### Additional INSET Day

Children break up from school on **Thursday 21st December @ 3.15pm.** Friday 22nd December is an INSET day.



## Praise Awards

Children who gained badges and certificates in Praise assembly deserve our special congratulations:  
**W/C 11.12.23**

### Key Stage One

RR Foxes	Riley G
RT Hedgehogs	Summer J
1/2B Squirrels	Kayla M
1/2D Moles	Maisy B
2W Badgers	Amber W

### Key Stage Two

3/4H Elder	Thomas H
3/4R Oak	Tyler-Jai G
4D Chestnut	Harry C
5E Beech	Oliver M
5/6SB Holly	Joshua F
6RB Rowan	Ayesha B



## Farewell



We will be bidding farewell to Mrs Payton who is retiring after 40 glorious years of service at Ashwood Park and the Hearing Impairment Service!! She has worked tirelessly over her career supporting School initially as a TA and then becoming a Teacher of the Deaf where she has been committed to ensuring every child she supports achieves their very best. She has been an exemplary member of staff, giving time, support and training on Deaf Awareness to college / university students, trainee teachers and colleagues. We also know that the families she has worked with over the years are very grateful for her input and support at challenging times. She has always been a committed member of the school community and will often be seen supporting on Pioneer trips, at HSA events and out of school events such as the Christmas Carol Concert.

We wish her all the very best for the future and hope the trip to New Zealand to spend time with her daughter goes really well. Thank you from all of us and Bon Voyage!

## Dudley Holiday Activities



You're eligible to register for the holiday activities programme (HAF) if the following applies: You live in Dudley or your child goes to school in Dudley Borough, your child is aged between 5 and 16 years and your child is eligible for benefits related free school meals (FSM).

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## TT Rockstars

**This weeks**  
**Rockstars are;**

<u>1st</u>	Freya P
<u>2nd</u>	Ayden P
<u>3rd</u>	Dylan N



## Battle of the Bands

There will be a TTRS tournament starting 27.12.23 and running until 7.1.24 for years 3 and 4.

Practise your times tables and compete against the other classes in years 3 and 4.

The winning class will be announced when we return to school.

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## Menu

WC 18.12.23 (Week 1)

### Monday

Cheese and tomato pasta bake  
Quorn Nuggets  
Salmon Nibbles  
Baby new potatoes & sweetcorn  
Fruity flapjack

### Tuesday

BBQ chicken wrap  
Halal BBQ chicken wrap  
Cheese & Onion lattice  
Fish finger  
Wedges, carrots & peas  
Fruit crumble & custard

### Wednesday

Christmas Turkey Dinner  
Halal Turkey Dinner  
Christmas Quorn Dinner  
Stuffing  
Roast & boiled potatoes, peas, carrots and sprouts.  
Arctic Roll and Ice Cream

### Thursday

Chicken curry, rice and naan  
Cheese & potato pie  
Fish nuggets  
Saute potatoes, broccoli and carrots  
Lemon Drizzle & custard

### Friday

## INSET DAY

### Available Every Day

Grab bags which contain a sandwich either cheese, tuna or ham filling. Salad bag. One from a cake, biscuit or yoghurt. Fresh fruit. Water Jacket Potato with a choice of cheese, beans or cheese and beans. Fruit jelly, yoghurt

**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.**

## Tree Tots Toddler Group Wednesday 9.00 - 11.00am

Tre Tots Toddlers first session of the New Year will be **10th January.**

### EYFS News

Wow what wonderful Christmas Shows! We are so proud of the children for all their wonderful singing and dancing and very grateful for all your support with costumes and learning lines etc. We hope you enjoyed the performances as much as us!

Next Tues is our trip to the Glass Cone. We will walk to the Cone from School to meet Santa and do some crafts. Please ensure you have paid £6.50 at the School Office. Children are to wear school uniform and please ensure they have good shoes to walk in and a coat. Thank you!

### KS1 News

This week in Key Stage 1 we have enjoyed showing our parents our Christmas Show. The children worked so hard and we are so proud of their performances. They sang and danced beautifully and the parents were a fantastic audience. We would like to thank you for all of the effort you put into all of the fabulous costumes for the show.

Next week we will be making our Christmas cards and calendars and enjoying our Christmas party. A festive filled week!

**Please can we ask that children do not wear earrings on PE and Sports Club days.**

### Dates for the Diary

#### Friday 15th December

Christmas Jumper Day

**Uniform with Xmas Jumper**

#### Wednesday 20th December

Christmas Dinner and Party Day

**Mufti**

#### Thursday 21st December

Toy Day, Break up at 3.15pm

**Mufti**

#### Tuesday 9th January

School re-opens at 8.45am

#### Wednesday 10th January

Tree Tots Toddlers at 9am

#### 2023-2024 INSET Days\*

Monday 4th September 2023

Friday 22nd December 2023

Monday 8th January 2024

Thursday 2nd May 2024 (VOTING)

Friday 3rd May 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024

*\*Please note these are provisional.*

### RBD News

As we are nearing the end of the Autumn Term, we see ourselves saying 'Goodbye' to Mrs Payton who is retiring after 40 years service at Ashwood Park and the RBD. She has been such an important and valued member of the team and it will be sad for us all to see her leave. We would like to thank Mrs Payton for her commitment, hard work and many achievements over her career and wish her a very happy retirement. We hope she will pop in and tell us of her many adventures!

Mr Thornton will be joining the RBD in January as a Teacher of the Deaf. Mr Thornton has worked at Ashwood Park for 5 years as a class teacher and has a lot of experience with working with Deaf / HoH children. We are excited to welcome him to the team in January 2024 and will let parents know of any changes to their child's support next week.



Well done!

Well done to Cicero for his beautifully signed performance at the church service. We are so proud of you!

Our sign of the week is 'Christmas'. Please use the link below to see the video we have filmed about Christmas:

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



### **Challenge 2:**

**Advent CalenBAR | 15<sup>th</sup> December**

Jamal has made triple the number of gingerbread as Ruth.  
Jamal has made 64 more gingerbread than Ruth.

How many gingerbread has Ruth made?

**Bar Modelling:**

**Number Sentences:**

### KS2 News

Fa, la, la, la, laaa, la, la, la, laaa!  
We have had a wonderful time rehearsing for our Carol Concert this week and we thoroughly enjoyed performing for you all. Thank you to everyone who attended. We hope you are feeling truly festive now!

Our year 5 and 6 children have prepared their Christmas cards this week, ready to use them as part of their DT project next week where we will be adding a flashing star to their cards, using an electronic circuit.

Our year 3 and 4 teachers have also been thinking about DT this week and our children have an exciting DT day planned for them next week. The children will be thinking about structures, with a focus on castles. We are all looking forward to our exciting DT projects next week.

As the weather gets colder please ensure the children come in with appropriate clothing for play times – coats, hats and gloves are definitely a good idea! **Thank you!**

### PE and Swimming in the New Year

Next half term, **swimming will move to 5/6SB.**

The children will have the following PE days:

- ◆ Years 3 and 4 - Friday
- ◆ Years 5 and 6 - Monday (with 5/6SB bringing their swimming kit)
- ◆ Years 3 and 4 can come to school in their kit on **Tuesday only**
- ◆ Years 5 and 6 can come to school in their kit on **Wednesday only**



# MEASLES

## Don't let your child catch it

– get them vaccinated with the MMR vaccine

- measles outbreaks happen when not enough children have been vaccinated
- measles can be a very serious disease, leading to ear and chest infections, fits, diarrhoea, and damage to the brain. Measles can kill
- your child is at risk of measles if he or she hasn't had the MMR vaccination
- 2 doses of MMR vaccine are needed to get the best protection
- if your child is due to have had 2 doses of MMR but has not yet received them, no matter what age they are, you should contact your GP to get them vaccinated as soon as possible\*
- if you can't remember if your child has had any, 1 or 2 doses of MMR vaccine, check his or her personal child health record (the Red Book). If this doesn't help, speak to your GP
- if you don't know how many doses your child has had, it's better to have 2 doses of MMR vaccine now rather than risk leaving them unprotected

\*In response to a local outbreak then the 2 doses can be given one month apart from the age of 18 months.





## Answers to some common questions about measles and the MMR vaccine

### **Why are we seeing these outbreaks of measles?**

Measles is a highly infectious disease, spreading quickly from person to person, especially in schools. A child with measles will infect almost all unprotected children they have contact with. Since the end of 2017 there has been an increase in measles globally which has affected the UK. This has resulted in some spread into wider communities, in particular in undervaccinated groups.

### **When are the MMR vaccinations usually given?**

The best times are between 12 and 13 months of age and again at 3 years and 4 months, with one dose on each occasion. But, if your child wasn't vaccinated then, they can be vaccinated at any age with 2 doses one month apart.

### **Will there be any side effects to the vaccination?**

Your child may get the symptoms of measles, mumps and rubella for up to 6 weeks after the vaccination but in a very much milder form. This proves that the vaccine is working and your child is building up resistance to future contact with the viruses that cause the 3 diseases. Not all children show these symptoms but that doesn't mean the vaccine isn't working.

### **Should parents in outbreak areas get vaccinated against measles?**

As with many diseases, once you have had measles, you don't catch it again because you have built up a natural resistance to it. So, if you've had measles or 2 doses of MMR vaccine you do not need to get vaccinated now.

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For more information about measles and MMR go to  
[www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/)

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**NHS**

Immunisation Information