

22nd December 2023  
Newsletter No. 13  
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**Article 28**  
Every child has the right to an education

## Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Thank you for all your good wishes and presents - we all appreciate your kindness at this time of year.

Thanks too for all of you who attended the Christmas productions and Nativities at School and the Carol Concert at the Church.

We are saying a sad goodbye to Mrs Payton who is retiring after 40 years of amazing service at Ashwood Park. We thank her for her dedication to the children at Ashwood Park and wish her all the best as she joins her daughter in New Zealand for a well-earned break! Thank you Sue and we hope your retirement is a long, happy and healthy one!

We are also saying goodbye to Mr Thornton who is leaving us to take up the role of Teacher of the Deaf in our Resource Base for Deaf Children in January. Thank you, Joe, for all you have done at Ashwood Park (and we will see you in January!)

We will be welcoming Miss Bate to Reception in January and Mrs Palika to Nursery.

A huge thank you to all the staff who have worked extremely hard this term - we hope you all have a relaxing break and a very enjoyable Christmas

### Christmas Jumper Day

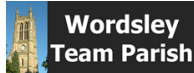
Thank you for your support last Friday, the children looked fantastically festive in their jumpers. We will report how much we raised for "Save the Children" in January.

### INSET Days

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

Children return to School on **Tuesday 9 January @ 8.45am.**

Monday 8th January is an INSET day.



## Holy Trinity Church High Street, Wordsley

- \* Crib Service  
**Christmas Eve 4.00pm**
- \* Midnight Mass  
**Christmas Eve 11.30pm**
- \* Christmas Communion  
**Christmas Day 9.30am**

## 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). Registrations for Christmas close on 21<sup>st</sup> December, but bookings are ongoing.

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



### TT Rockstars

This weeks  
Rockstars are;

**1st** Freya P  
**2nd** Skye P  
**3rd** 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.



## Menu

WC **08.01.24** (Week 1)

**Monday**  
**INSET DAY**

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

**Wednesday**

Traditional roast chicken  
Halal chicken  
Quorn chicken fillet  
Fish goujons  
Roast & boiled potatoes, peas, carrots and green beans.  
Chocolate surprise & chocolate custard

**Thursday**

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

**Friday**

Cheese and tomato pizza  
Battered fish  
Chipped potatoes, baked beans & sweetcorn  
Artic roll & fruit

**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

The children have a lovely last week of term; a trip, party and Santa! We were so proud of the children when they walked to the Glass Cone, they walked brilliantly and loved making Christmas crafts and meeting Mrs Claus.

The first term of Reception is now finishing and the children have all worked so hard. If you get chance in the Christmas holidays, please keep practising all the sounds and your child's reading book to keep everything ticking over!

Finally, we have to say a big thank you and goodbye to Mr Thornton who is going to work for our Hearing-Impaired Unit in January. He will be missed in Early Years and we look forward to welcoming Miss Bate as Hedgehogs' new Teacher!

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year everyone!

### KS1 News

This week in Key Stage 1 we have been celebrating Christmas! The children have enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch and had a lot of fun at their parties. We even had a visit from Santa himself! The children have worked really hard this term and will enjoy a well deserved break over Christmas. We would like to take this opportunity to thank families for all of their support and help so far this year and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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

### Dates for the Diary

#### Tuesday 9th January

School re-opens at 8.45am

#### Wednesday 10th January

Tree Tots Toddlers at 9am

#### Monday 12th February

Half term week—School Closed

#### Monday 19th February

School re-opens at 8.45am

#### Friday 22nd March

Break up at 3.15pm for Easter

#### Monday 8th April

School re-opens at 8.45am

### 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 come to the end of the Autumn Term, I would like to say a huge thank you to the RBD staff who have worked so hard, often giving up their own time, to support the children.

I would also like to say 'Happy Retirement' to Mrs Payton – you have been such a vital part of the team and we will all miss you! Enjoy your adventures and we all look forward to seeing you when you return!

Well done to all of our pupils who have worked so hard this term. Have a wonderful Christmas and we look forward to hearing about your adventures in January.



May I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year!

### Signed Video:



Our sign of the week is 'Christmas' and linked to this is the wonderful story of Stick Man.

Please follow the link below to watch our signed version:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Py2qKJPv4s8&list=PLH3mwo2uz7ozkqjZqAG6QW1bNjg\\_J0ub&index=18](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Py2qKJPv4s8&list=PLH3mwo2uz7ozkqjZqAG6QW1bNjg_J0ub&index=18)

Happy Christmas *mutlu*  
Noeller *veselé* Vánoce  
Priecīgus Ziemassvētkus  
Joyeux Noel *Buon Natale*  
Frohe Weihnachten *Feliz*  
Navidad *God Jul* *Wesoły*ch  
*Świąt* *يد ميلاد سعيد*

### KS2 News

Wow - what a busy and exciting week we have had. All of our children have enjoyed their DT topics this week.

In years 5 and 6, the children have been modifying their Christmas cards to include a copper tape circuit to accommodate a light. All of the children are really proud of their cards and a lot of them have said that they are the best they have ever done! We can't wait for you to see them.

Our years 3 and 4 children have been making castles. As part of this they have looked at how to make 3D structures from 2D nets. They have made some pretty impressive structures.

This week, we are saying a good bye and happy retirement to Mrs Payton. From all of KS2, we hope you enjoy making lots of wonderful, new memories.

KS2 are also sad to see Mr Thornton moving from Hedgehogs class, but we are very much looking forward to continuing to work with him in his new role as a Teacher of the Deaf. Good luck!

To all of our families, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas, a wonderful New Year and a prosperous 2024!

### 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**

### Advent CalenBAR 22nd December Challenge 2:

There are 36 Christmas cards in a box.  
Another box contains three quarters of the cards in the first box.  
How many Christmas cards are there altogether in the two boxes?

Bar modelling:

Number sentences:

# 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