

24 Oct 2025

Newsletter No. 08

Tel: 01384 818545 info@ashwood.dudley.sch.uk



Article 28 Every child has the right to an education

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you to everyone who attended our Year 6 SATs meeting on Thursday. Great turnout and we hope you found it useful!

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the **Black Country Food Bank** collection, all donations will make a big difference.

The **Monster Mash** discos were a great success. The children looked amazing! Thanks to the PTA for organising. We'll let you know the total raised after half term.

Drone Survey On Wednesday 5th November, Severn Trent will be conducting a drone survey on the school site to assess an area immediately adjacent to the school grounds. This activity is part of routine environmental monitoring and will be carried out safely and professionally. We kindly ask parents to reassure their children that there is nothing to be concerned about. Teachers will also remind pupils on the day and ensure they feel comfortable and informed.

Safety Please read West Midlands Police [Parent's Guide](#) to keeping children and teenagers safe this Halloween and Bonfire Night.

Mike Wood MP will be in school on Friday 24th October to deliver an assembly to the children. We look forward to welcoming him into school.

Privacy Notice Please take a moment to read our [Privacy Notice](#).

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

Mr Butler and Mr Perkes



Praise Assembly

Children who gained badges and certificates deserve our special congratulations:
22/10/2025

Key Stage One

RR Foxes - Billy R
1CB Moles - Joseph
1/2JB Squirrels - Arlo
2W Badgers - Amelia

Key Stage Two

3/4D Chestnut - Layla H
3/4R Oak - Ryan
4H Elder -
5/6D Beech - Harvir
5/6E Holly - Harrison
6BB Rowan - Harry

Dates for the Diary

Monday 27th to Friday 31 Oct 2025

Half Term

Monday 3rd Nov 2025

INSET Day

Tuesday 4th Nov 2025

Children return to School

Wednesday 5th Nov 2025

Year 6 Books and a Brew

Tuesday 11th Nov 2025

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Wednesday 12th Nov 2025

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Wednesday 19th Nov 2025

Whole School Photographs

Wednesday 3rd Dec 2025

PTA Xmas Craft Session

Tuesday 9th Dec 2025

KS1 Xmas Production

Wednesday 10th Dec 2025

EYFS and KS1 Xmas Productions

Xmas Carol Concert 6pm

Thursday 11th Dec 2025

EYFS Xmas Production

Friday 19th Dec 2025

End of term

Monday 5th Jan 2026

INSET Day

Tuesday 6th Jan 2026

Children return to School

Monday 16th to Friday 20 Feb 2026

Half Term

Friday 27th March 2026

End of term

Monday 13th April 2026

Children return to School

Thursday 7th May 2026

Voting Day

Friday 8th May 2026

INSET Day

W/C Monday 11th May 2026

Year 6 SATs

Monday 25th to Friday 29th May 2026

Half Term

Monday 1st to Friday 5th June 2026

Health Week inc Sports Days

Monday 8th to Wed 10th June 2026

Y6 Residential Trip

Thursday 16th July 2026

Y6 Leavers Party

Friday 17th July 2026

Y6 Leavers Assembly

End of term

Monday 20th July 2026

INSET Day

Please note INSET days are provisional and are subject to change

Year 6 Books and a Brew

Wednesday 5th November

09:00 - 09:45 am

We warmly invite Year 6 parents and carers to our "Books and a Brew" event in the Key Stage 2 Hall. Come along to enjoy a warm drink, share a book with your child, and discover some top tips on how to support their reading journey at home.

We look forward to seeing you!



Menu*wc 03.11.25 (Week 2)

Monday

INSET DAY

Tuesday

Mac 'n' Cheese (V)

Fish Option

Potato Wedges

Strawberry Mousse

Wednesday

Roast Chicken

Roast Chicken (H)

Quorn Balls (V)

Gravy & Stuffing

Fish Option

Mashed & Roast Potatoes

Waffles

Thursday

Chicken Tikka Masala

Country Veg Bake (V)

Fish Option

Rice

Raspberry and Apple Cake

Friday

Pizza Party (V option available)

Fish Option

Chips

Fruity Friday

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.

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

Early Years

We are so proud of our children in **Early Years** for completing their first half term! Thank you so much for all your support!

The children have finished stage 2 phonic sounds and will begin level 3 after half term, if they are ready. Please keep practicing the sounds learned so far and reading word box words and reading books.

Reception will begin PE after half term so please ensure kits are in school.

Have a wonderful half term and we look forward to seeing you Tuesday 4th November.

Tree Tots Toddler Group

We're really sorry that our toddler group isn't able to run right now. We know how much the children (and grown-ups!) enjoy coming together, and we're continuing to look for solutions. Thank you for your patience and understanding—we truly hope to be back up and running, and we can't wait to see you then.

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KS1 News

This week in Key Stage One we have been writing our own animal poems. The children tried hard to identify rhyming words and rhythm patterns. We create some great poems about elephants.



We have also designed a Christmas card for our local MP! Next week we are wishing you all a well-deserved rest.



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Positive Parenting Sessions

We will be offering a free workshop held at School on **Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 2.00pm until 3.15pm**. The course will be delivered by staff from Dudley's Behaviour Support Team. It is designed for anyone who is a parent or cares for children. We look at how to manage adult's and children's anger.

We will include:

- * Effects and triggers
- * Losing your temper
- * Family anger rules
- * Coping strategies

If you would like to attend please book via the **school office**.

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- * Losing your temper
- * Family anger rules
- * Coping strategies

RBDC News

In Acorns we have continued our work on the Very Hungry Caterpillar. We have enjoyed making collages for the character and setting. We have also ordered and identified key language for our story.



Conkers have watched a documentary about Antarctica and researched the animals found there. We have planned our expeditions ready to go and explore places like Ernest Shackleton did.



Year 3/4 PUDs have been exploring how people who are deaf and blind communicate.

Star of the Week this week is **Jeremy**. He has tried really hard with his communication. He has had a fantastic week.

This week's signed story is the 'Can bears ski?'. Please share with your child.



Bear



Parent Sessions with Our School Nurse

We are pleased to announce that our new School Nurse, **Rebecca Ranford**, will be offering a regular **termly parent session**.

The first session will take place on:

 Tuesday, 12th November

 09:15 – 10:15

If you would like to attend, please **book a timed appointment** via the **school office**.

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1. William 3/4R
2. Freddie 3/4D
3. Kobie 3/4R

Well done!

KS2 News

It's been a busy and rewarding week for our **Key Stage 2** pupils, who took part in Carbon Monoxide workshops to learn about the dangers of this silent threat and how to stay safe.



We also welcomed Year 6 families into school for a SATs workshop, offering valuable insights into the upcoming tests and ways to support children at home. A big thank you to everyone who attended.



As we wrap up a half term full of learning and lasting memories, we wish all our families a restful and well-deserved break.



PE

Years 3/4 - Monday (bring your kit) and Thursday (come to school wearing your kit)
Years 5/6 - Friday (bring your kit) and Wednesday (come to school wearing your kit)

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.

You can buy the Ashwood Park Primary School PE Kit from **Totally Uniform** in Kingswinford.

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Maths Problem





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.gov.uk/government/news/send-improvement-programme-september-2024) 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://www.dudleyhealthylunchbox.org.uk>

DudleyParents

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

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 contains 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.

[Soft play | DB Leisure](#)

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

[See More Details Here](#)

Autism



Autism Central is a website for parents. It aims to ***"signpost you to information on a wide range of topics around autism and support that is available from Autism Central, our partner organisations and other trusted sources"***

<https://www.autismcentral.org.uk/resources>

SEN Help

Kids are a charity who create life-changing opportunities by providing a wide range of support to families. They run playscheme days at their centre alongside community days for signed up families. Parent/carers wishing to refer or register with Kids for care planned services can do so by requesting a referral form via the enquiries email: enquiries.orchard@kids.org.uk or via telephone: 01384 897489.

Sassy Sensory surprises are launching 'Wellbeing Walks', they will take place in a different location each month.

Contact toni@sassysensorysurprises.co.uk for further details. Information can be found on their website regarding their recently launched sensory lending library.

Happier Minds

Whether you are a young person, a parent/carers 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/>

Dudley's Disability register

Dudley Council have **revamped its Disability Register** to better support children and young people with disabilities and their families. The register is a **voluntary and confidential list** that helps the council plan and deliver better services, tailored to local needs. It's quick and easy to register! **Benefits include** families who register can request a **free day pass** for entry to **Dudley Zoo** when attending with their child, receive updates about local services, events, and consultations, help shape services and your registration helps Dudley Council understand the needs of families and improve support.

Visit the [Dudley Disability Register page](#) to complete the online form. **For help completing the form or to request your Dudley Zoo pass, contact the Children with Disabilities Team: 0300 555 0050 (press option 1) or email: businesssupportcdt@dudley.gov.uk**

[We love Carers](#) provide support for carers and their families all year round. Information, advice, signposting, advocacy, help with form filling and much more. Weekly play sessions and holiday play sessions for children with disabilities and additional needs are available. **Their Autumn and Winter timetable can be found [here](#).** Contact them via email hello@welovecarers.org or telephone **01384 396626** for further information on any of the above.

[Sassy Sensory Surprises](#) invite you to their Family Autumn Wellbeing Walk on **Saturday 25th October 2025** at the Walsall Arboretum (Broadway N, Walsall, WS1 2QB), meeting at the Children's Play Area. It runs from 11:30am to 1:00pm; The SASSY team will be there from **11:20am** to welcome you and sign families in. Previous wellbeing walks for parents and carers have been a huge success with great turnouts and events are now extended to the whole family! [Book your spot here](#). Contact toni@sassysensorysurprises.co.uk for further details. Information can be found on their website regarding their sensory lending library.

[Happy Helping Hands](#) are based in Upper Gornal. Please email happyhelpinghands@aol.com to be added to the mailing list for information on their services. **Family play sessions will be run at Sycamore Adventure on Sunday mornings 9.30am to 12pm throughout October. (£4 per child).**

[Kids](#) are a charity who create life-changing opportunities by providing a wide range of support to families. They run playscheme days at their centre alongside community days for signed up families. Parent/carers wishing to refer or register with Kids for care planned services can do so by requesting a referral form via the enquiries email: enquiries.orchard@kids.org.uk or via telephone: **01384 897489**.

The Beacon centre are hosting a Children's Halloween spooky craft and activity club on Tuesday 28 October at Cherry Street SEND hub in Wolverhampton a Halloween Party/Quiz on 29 October and a Railway walk in Wombourne on Friday 31 October . Please email: enquiries@beaconvision.org for full details of all events.

[Deaf Children's Society](#) run a **Youth club for children aged 10 to 18 years**, held monthly at Queens Cross Network for information or this or on any events they run, email dudleydeafchildrensociety@yahoo.com for information.

[Sycamore Adventure](#) will be **open** for their inclusive play, family play and bookable Pedal Go Kart sessions this October. *See website for full dates and how to book.*

[Dudley leisure centres](#) are all-inclusive, encouraging everyone to access as many sessions as possible. Our centres offer quiet and disability sessions for children and adults. Accessible facilities are available throughout each of the leisure centres, family fun disability swimming sessions run throughout the holidays, details below:

Halesowen LC: Saturday's from 2.15pm to 3.30pm

Crystal LC: Friday's 2pm – 4pm

Duncan Edwards LC: Wednesday 2.45pm to 4.30pm or Saturday's 1.15pm to 2.15pm

SEN sessions can be accessed at [Planet Play](#) suitable for children under 11 years of age with disabilities, special educational needs, ASD and their siblings. Sessions take place during the holidays at Duncan Edwards Leisure Centre every Wednesday 5pm to 6pm and at Halesowen Leisure Centre, every Monday 4.30pm to 6pm.

Activezone run disability sports for children, young adults and siblings. (sessions takes place for children aged 5 to 8yrs or 9 to 18yrs) Children can take part in various sports, see the below web pages for dates available at each leisure centre:

[Crystal Leisure Centre](#)

[Duncan Edwards](#)

[Lifted Spirits](#) provide a safe space for families of children with disabilities and SEN, they meet *term time only* every Tuesday 9.30am to 11am.

The [Odeon and Showcase](#) cinemas will both be hosting accessible and autism friendly sessions this Halloween. **Showcase cinemas are also running [mini movies](#) sessions for toddlers to let your little ones discover the magic of cinema with a selection of tot friendly movies.**

Unheard Voices are a SEND carers support group run by parents to help other parents and carers. They meet up term time on **Fridays 10.30am to 12pm** at Jubilee Hall, Ladies Walk, Sedgley. DY3 3UA or Thursday evenings (term time) at Humbugs café in Sedgley 6pm to 7.30pm. Email unheardvoices13@yahoo.com for further information.

[Hoult's House](#) based in the Rye Market Stourbridge run SEND Sessions on Monday and Tuesdays from 2.245pm to 4.15pm, low level sound and limited numbers.



October Half term

This is a message from West Midlands Police for parents and carers about robbery, antisocial behaviour, and personal safety for young people.

Police and schools across the West Midlands are committed to working together to protect our young people from becoming victims of robbery and violent crime. We also want to reduce antisocial behaviour around fireworks, especially in the darker nights.

As we head into October half term, we are urging everyone to talk to their child about staying safe over Halloween and Bonfire Night.

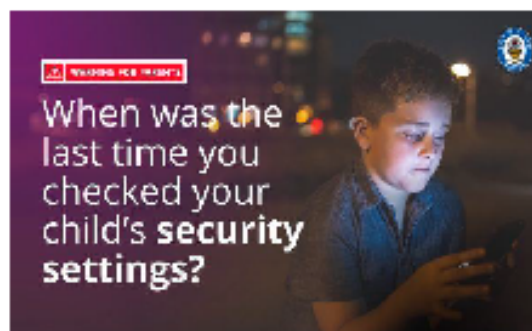
We have seen an increase in criminals targeting young people who carry iPhones, wireless headphones or digital devices. Thieves are forcing young people to log out of their iCloud to prevent the phone being tracked after it's stolen. By enabling two-factor authentication on iCloud or your child's phone, can make thieves lose interest in taking their phone.

Increasing the security on your child's iPhone and iPad:

1. Firstly, talk to your child about enabling two-factor authentication on their devices to help keep them, and their phones, safe from theft and exploitation.
2. Reassure them that turning on location and enabling better privacy settings allows them to communicate with their friends and family safely and securely.
3. Turn on two-factor authentication for your child's Apple Account: On your iPhone or iPad: Go to Settings > [your name] > Sign-In & Security. Tap Turn on Two-Factor Authentication. Then tap Continue and follow the onscreen instructions.
4. Discuss with your child who they would like to add to their 'trusted contact list' and encourage them to save these numbers in their emergency contacts list in case they get into trouble.
5. Add your child's devices to your 'Family' by heading to your Apple ID settings and adding the devices.
6. From the 'Family' group you can enable content and privacy restrictions and two-factor authentication, as well as location sharing.

For further information visit: [Use parental controls on your child's iPhone and iPad - Apple Support](#)

If your child has an Android phone there are additional security settings, you can put in place to make sure the location of their phone and data is secure. Visit your phone provider website for further crime prevention advice.

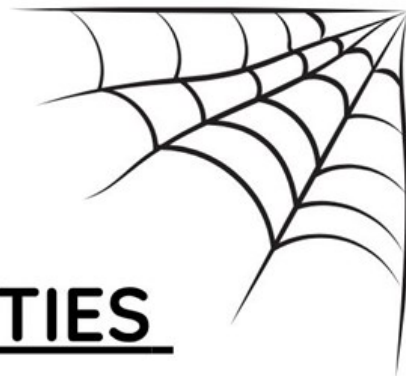


Staying safe around Halloween and Bonfire Night:

We want everyone to go out and enjoy the festivities of Halloween and Bonfire Night, but this can be a worrying time for those most vulnerable in our communities. Before your child heads out with their mates, be sure to talk to them about how to respect others and how to get help if they find themselves in trouble.



LIBRARY NOTICE



HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

AT

WORDSLEY LIBRARY

Saturday 25th October - Saturday Family Craft - 10am-1pm
(Suitable for ages 4+)

Monday 27th October - Lego Spike Session - 2pm-3pm / 3.15pm-4.15pm
(Suitable for ages 7+)

Tuesday 28th October - Flying Witch Craft - 10.30am-11.30am
(Suitable for ages 4+)

Wednesday 29th October - Rattle & Rhyme - 10.30am-11.00am
(Suitable for ages 0-4 years)

Wednesday 29th October - Halloween Cat Mask - 2pm-3pm
(Suitable for ages 4+)

Thursday 30th October - Story & Craft with Author Grace Cotterell-Moore
- 10.30am-11.30am (Suitable for ages 5+)

Friday 31st October - Witch's Cauldron Craft - 10.30am-11.30am
(Suitable for ages 4+)

Saturday 1st November - Saturday Family Craft - 10am-1pm
(Suitable for ages 4+)



BOOKING ESSENTIAL

PLEASE RING OR VISIT THE LIBRARY
TO BOOK A SPACE.
SUITABLE FOR AGES 4+

BETTER

FOR MORE INFORMATION, SPEAK TO A
MEMBER OF STAFF, RING 01384 812765 OR
EMAIL wordsley.library@gll.org

Dudley
Metropolitan Borough Council

Now run by **Dragon Tales Forest School**

Email: maddie@dtforestschoo.com

Facebook: Dragon Tales Forest School

Bells Mill Fishery, Prestwood Dr, Stourbridge DY7 5QT



Bells Mill Fishery Forest School

PUMPKIN PARTY!

Come and join us at Bells Mill Fisheries for our
Halloween session for all the family.

Friday 31st October 2025

9.15 - 11.00 am

A pumpkin hunt

Pumpkin crafts

Seasonal Snacks and drinks

and a Halloween story

All children must be accompanied by an adult

**Halloween costumes
are *NOT* allowed at
this session**

**But arriving with facepaint
and excellent hats are actively
encouraged!**

• **£16**

***£8 PER SIBLING**



**ACE COACHING
PRESENTS**

OCTOBER HALF TERM SHOOT & SCORE SPOOKTACULAR

(Open to boys & girls aged 4-12)



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

**MONDAY 27th OCTOBER -
THURSDAY 30th OCTOBER
9.00AM - 1.30PM**



**CRESTWOOD SCHOOL &
6th Form, Bromley Lane,
Kingswinford, DY6 8QG**



**£80 FOR THE WEEK
or £25 per day**



CAMP INCLUDES

'skills, shootouts, games and ghouls. Daily awards
and an end of course tournament day with medals,
star of the week trophy
and certificate for all zombies'



**MONEY SAVING
EARLY BAT
DISCOUNT CODE
AZW407**



**SCAN
ME TO
ENROL**



Free Bus Travel During October Half Term

Transport for West Midlands is offering parents free bus rides to help cut the cost of keeping children busy this half-term.

Parents and carers can apply for a Swift travel card pre-loaded with free bus travel between Monday, October 27 and Sunday, November 2 as part of the region's on-going campaign to get more people to try buses.

Those who take up the free deal will also be offered a 25% discount on a further week's free travel.

The offer is part of a £20 million passenger incentive programme, funded by Government through the Bus Service Improvement Plan, to encourage more people to use the bus.

The offer is available for new and lapsed bus users travelling with a child. Applications will be open from Monday, October 6 through the [TfWM website](#)



Please see below our Autumn activities and what's going on over October half term holiday, taking place at DB Leisure!

We have our usual offerings of:

- Family Fun Disability Swims
- Intensive swimming lessons
- Free swimming for children
- Float Fest at Duncan Edwards
- Fun activities for under 5s including Splash Time at Halesowen LC and Stay and Play at Crystal LC.
- Quids In football over at Dell Stadium
- Quids in badminton at Duncan Edwards and Crystal LC
- Planet Play (soft play) at Duncan Edwards and Halesowen LC
- Soft play area at Crystal LC
- Waikiki Waves family disco (takes place in leisure pool) at Crystal LC
- SEN soft play sessions at Duncan Edwards and Halesowen LC, plus SEN family swimming sessions at all leisure centres.
- Badminton and Table-tennis
- Pickleball

If you have any questions or queries in relation to this newsletter please email us at revolution-forschools@dudley.gov.uk



Wolfie's Halloween Ball

Wednesday 29th October – 11am-1pm & 2-4pm

Step into the spookiest night of the year as the Wolves Museum transforms for

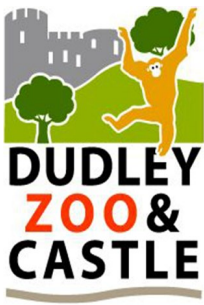
Wolfie's Halloween Ball!

Enjoy a hauntingly good mix of themed décor, dance performances, a haunting story from author Carolyn Ward, and special prizes for the best fancy dress.

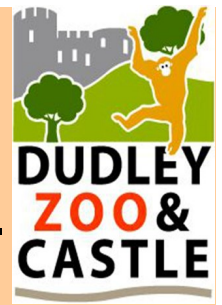
Perfect for families and young kids looking for a frightfully fun day out.

£8.50 per person





Planning to visit us at Dudley Zoo this Autumn?



Join us from **October 25** through to **November 2** for some spooky shenanigans!

New for 2025, we bring you **'Haunted Hunters'** a fangtastic bird of prey display in the eerie undercroft of the 11th century castle. Elsewhere on site, visitors will be urged to turn detective to help solve a terrible **crime as they navigate clues around the zoo's 40-acres** for the chance to win an animal adoption of their choice.

Hop on board the **ghost train** up to **Castle Creatures** to see **creepy critters** including bats and rats and take part in **Halloween crafts** or head to the Discovery Centre to help identify a collection of donated **animal skulls and skeletons**.

And with **castle history and ghost talks** running each day visitors can find out more about those who once lived within the castle's walls – which is reported to be one of the most haunted places in the UK.

Plus, we're encouraging guests to don their best **Halloween fancy dress** as our zoo keepers will be giving away **spot prizes** each day for the best spooky costumes, including trick-or-treat goodie bags, family tickets and discounted vouchers for the zoo shop.



Now run by **Dragon Tales Forest School**

Email: maddie@dtforestschool.com

Facebook: Dragon Tales Forest School

Bells Mill Fishery, Prestwood Dr, Stourbridge DY7 5QT



Bells Mill Fishery Forest School

BONFIRE NIGHT

IN THE DAY!

Come and join us at Bells Mill Fisheries for our
Bonfire Night (in the day) session for all the
family.

Saturday 8th November 2025

9.30 am- 11.00 am

Bonfire themed crafts

Fire Lighting

Lantern making

Seasonal Snacks and drinks

...and a seasonal story



All Children must be accompanied by an adult

Please bring a clean jam jar with the label removed

• **£16**

*£8 PER SIBLING



POSITIVE PARENTING

OR

How to be a
parent and stay
sane!

We will be offering a free workshop to be held at School on Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 2.00pm until 3.15pm. The course will be delivered by staff from Dudley's Behaviour Support Team.

It is designed for anyone who is a parent or cares for children. We look at how to manage adult's and children's anger.

We will include:

- Effects and triggers to anger
- Losing your temper
- Anger rules for the family
- Coping strategies for handling angry children.

Dudley SENDIASS Workshops

For parents/carers of children with SEND and young person with SEND up to 25 years old seeking further information about SEND support and processes in education.

Academic Year 2025 – 2026	SEPTEMBER	NOVEMBER	JANUARY	MARCH	APRIL	JUNE
All workshops 10am – 11.30am on Teams						
Understanding how to access SEN support within settings	8 th	21 st	22 nd	4 th	21 st	22 nd
Understanding the EHC Needs Assessment request process	9 th	17 th	23 rd	5 th	22 nd	23 rd
How to check a draft plan	10 th	18 th	19 th	6 th	23 rd	24 th
Preparation and process for annual review	11 th	19 th	20 th	2 nd	24 th	25 th
Preparation for key transitions	12 th	20 th	21 st	3 rd	20 th	26 th



To book on to a workshop email dudley.sendiass@dudley.gov.uk

[Dudley SENDIASS Website](#)

Dudley SENDIASS 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.

Dudley Parent Carer Forum Annual Survey 2025



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 - 2nd November 2025



Secondary school admissions



For children due to start secondary school in September 2026

one click ... makes it quick
www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions

Applications for secondary school admissions opened on **1 September 2025**.

Schools are holding [open evenings](#) throughout September and October and you are advised to attend these to help inform your decision.
You can apply for up to six schools.

The closing date for applications is **31 October 2025**.

Your allocated school will be shared with you on **2 March 2026**.

Visit the admissions page for guidance and information about the application process and for open evening dates.

school admissions

Helping Children Get the Best Start in Life

Free Programmes & Workshops

HENRY supports families to **build healthier habits and routines** that support children's physical and emotional wellbeing, right from the start and as they grow.

A range of **free, friendly and practical** sessions are **available to parents and carers** in Dudley with children aged 0-12, as well as those expecting a baby.



WANT MORE
INFORMATION?

or visit www.dudleyparents.co.uk



Dudley
Metropolitan Borough Council


henry
Healthy Start, Brighter Future

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Body safety matters

Helping your child understand boundaries and personal safety

Keeping children safe starts with conversation

Talking about body safety can feel uncomfortable – but it's one of the most powerful ways to protect children. Children who understand their bodies, boundaries and rights are more confident and better equipped to speak up if something feels wrong.

You don't need a big formal talk – short, everyday chats work best.

Here are some simple conversation starters you can use:

- “Do you know what parts of your body are private?”
- “If someone made you feel uncomfortable, who would you tell?”
- “Has anyone ever asked you to keep a secret that made you feel funny or unsure?”
- “You're allowed to say ‘no’ to hugs or kisses, even to family – how do you feel about that?”
- “What would you do if someone touched you in a way you didn't like?”

Use natural moments (e.g. bath time, getting dressed, bedtime stories, a walk in the park) to bring up the topic gently. Keep your tone calm and reassuring. The goal is to help children feel safe, heard and empowered.

Reassure them: “You can always talk to me about anything – I'll always listen and help.”

Don't forget the online world

Even at primary age, many children play games or watch content online. It's important they know that body safety rules apply online too.

- Teach them never to share photos of their body, especially private parts.
- Make sure they know: if anyone asks them to do something that feels odd, secret or confusing online, they should tell you straight away.
- Talk about how some people online might pretend to be children when they're not.
- Use privacy settings and supervise young children during screen time.
- Remind them: “If something online makes you feel uncomfortable or unsure, it's never your fault. Just come and tell me.”

How you can support at home

- 1) Use everyday moments to talk about safety.
- 2) Read books together on body safety.
- 3) Practice naming trusted adults they can go to if worried.
- 4) Reassure them: they will never be in trouble for telling the truth.

WHAT CHILDREN NEED TO KNOW

 THEIR BODY BELONGS TO THEM Children should know that they are the boss of their own body. No one – not a peer, adult, friend or family member – has the right to touch them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable.	 PRIVATE PARTS ARE PRIVATE Teach them the correct names for private body parts (e.g. penis, vagina, bottom). This helps remove shame and confusion – and makes it easier to report any concerns clearly.	 THE 'NO, GO, TELL' RULE If someone makes them feel unsafe or breaks a body boundary: Say “NO!” GO to a safe place TELL a trusted adult.	 SAFE AND UNSAFE TOUCH Help your child understand: <u>Safe touch</u> : hugs, holding hands if they want to <u>Unsafe touch</u> : touches that hurt, feel scary, confusing, or are kept secret.
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**We help with anxiety,
depression, or stress**

NHS
Dudley
Talking Therapies

FREE

confidential, and tailored for you

Our experts have helped lots of people in
Dudley become happier and healthier



For anyone aged 16 or over registered with a Dudley GP

Support available via...



In-person



Phone



Video



Online



Workshop



Call 0800 953 0404 or self-refer by visiting
www.blackcountryhealthcare.nhs.uk/talking-therapies

**SCAN
ME**

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

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

£8.50 per person