

NEWSLETTER



07 Nov 2025 Newsletter No. 09

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 all who attended our Year 6 Book and Brew session on Wednesday. Thanks to Mrs Bunn and Mrs Brown for organising.

The Christmas cards for the competition for Mike Wood MP have been delivered to his office. There were some lovely entries and we will now wait to see if we have any winners this year.

Our School Nurse, Rebecca Ranford, will be in School on Wednesday 12th November, let the Office know if you would like to book in for a chat.

Children in Need is on Friday 14th November. we will be having a mufti day in exchange for a donation to this very worthwhile cause.

The Monster Mash discos were a great success. You helped raise an amazing £1150.00!!

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



Dinner Dates

Starting this term, different members of staff will be spending time in the lunch hall each week, joining the children during their meals. This initiative is designed to make lunchtimes a more sociable and pleasant experience, encouraging positive interactions and a stronger sense of community across the school.

Next week, the following staff will be in the lunch hall:

Miss Reynolds - Wednesday Miss G Thompson (RBDC)- Thursday

It would be wonderful to see as many children as possible joining the teachers in enjoying a school dinner. We hope this helps make lunchtime a highlight of the day!

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 11th Nov 2025

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Wednesday 12th Nov 2025

School Nurse Meetings Parent/Teacher Meetings

Friday 14th Nov 2025

Children in Need Mufti Day

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

Menu*wc 10.11.25 (Week 3)

Monday

Katsu Chicken Steak Chicken Nuggets (H) Quorn Sub (V) Fish Option Rice or Diced Potatoes **Blueberry Pudding**

Tuesday

Chicken Taco French Bread Pizza (V) Fish Option Potato Wedges Cookie Selection

Wednesday

Roast Beef Roast Chicken (H) Veggie Sausage (V) Gravy & Stuffing Fish Option Mashed & Roast Potatoes Vanilla Iced Sponge

Thursday

Meatballs in Tomato Sauce Katsu Quorn Dipper (V) Fish Option **Diced Potatoes or Pasta** Chocolate and Pear 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.dudleyhealthylunchbox.org.uk

Early Years

The children have returned to school brilliantly and we have enjoyed learning about Bonfire Night this week.

Forest school will be on a Wednesday afternoon this term, so please ensure afternoon Nursery children (and Reception) bring their things on this day.

In Reception, we are hoping to start PE in this term, so please ensure PE kits are in School.

Could all children also please ensure they bring their book bag with their sound book and reading book in every day. Thank you.

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-upsl) 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



KS1 News

This week we have started our new Art topic 'Map it out'. The children have made their own imaginary maps in a range of media that we will build on next week by making them 3D.

We have also started our new History topic -' What is History?' The children will look at holidays from the past to the present and think about their own favourite memories.

We are looking forward to meeting with parents next week to discuss how well the children have settled and how they are doing.



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**.

RBDC News

It has been a short but very, very busy week in the RBDC.

In Acorns we have been looking at similarities and differences between people. We have named the different parts of the body and identified how people have different hair colours, eye colours, heights, skin colour and celebrated how this makes us unique.

Conkers Class we have been reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory ready to plan Charlie Bucket's Day and write a diary entry. We have looked at parts of a plant and labelled a sunflower picked from school's garden. It was so much fun.

Year 1/2 PUDs have looked at the story 'Listen how Evelyn Glennie, a deaf girl changed percussion' written by Shannon Stocker. This story explains the barriers faced by a musician who loses her hearing. Year 1/2 RBD children really enjoyed listening to the story.

Star of the Week this week is Muhammad. He has been a fantastic role model to those around him and always volunteers to help his peers and teachers. Thank you for being a super star Muhammad.

This week's signed video is all about 'Food'. Please share with your child. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvtekbhdtQA

Sign of the week: Food





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:

Wednesday, 12th
November

4 09:15 - 10:15

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

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 3. Alfie 3/4I

Well done!

KS2 News

It has been wonderful to see all of the children return refreshed and ready for learning after the half-term holiday.

This week, our Year 6 team hosted a fantastic 'Book and a Brew' event, which was a huge success. It was lovely to see so many children engaged in their reading and speaking so positively about the books they are enjoying. A big thank you to all of the families who were able to join us and share in the event.

Across the school, children have been excited to begin their new **History topics**. In Years 3 and 4, pupils are exploring how children's lives have changed over time, while our Year 5 and 6 classes are delving into the impact of **World War II** on the lives of British people today.

It's been a great start to the new half term, full of enthusiasm, curiosity, and a love of learning!

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 / <u>black joggers</u> 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 <u>Totally Uniform</u> in Kingswinford.



Maths Problem

Square it up

You need six drinking straws each the same length. Cut two of them in half.

You now have eight straws, four long and four

You can make 2 squares from the eight straws.





Arrange your eight straws to make 3 squares, all the same size.



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-languagetherapy-service-dudley

<u>Dudley's Special Educational</u> 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.

<u>Sign up now SEND Improvement Programme - September 2024 (govdelivery.com)</u> 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

<u>Dudley's Local Offer</u> 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-yearsand-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 EREE space is bookable for

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 _{Du} 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

<u>Autism</u>



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/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/

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 <u>Dudley Disability Register page</u> 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: <u>businesssupportcdt@dudley.gov.uk</u>

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.

<u>Happy Helping Hands</u> are based in Upper Gornal. Please email <u>happyhelpinghands@aol.com</u> 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).

<u>Kids</u> 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: <u>enquiries.orchard@kids.org.uk</u> 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.

<u>Deaf Children's Society</u> 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 <u>dudleydeafchildrenssociety@yahoo.com.</u>for information.

<u>Sycamore Adventure</u> 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.*

<u>Dudley leisure centres</u> 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 <u>Planet Play</u> 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

<u>Lifted Spirits</u> provide a safe space for families of children with disabilities and SEN, they meet *term time only* every Tuesday 9.30am to 11am.

The <u>Odeon and Showcase</u> cinemas will both be hosting accessible and autism friendly sessions this Halloween. Showcase cinemas are also running <u>mini movies</u> 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 <u>unheardvoices13@yahoo.com</u> for further information.

<u>Hoult's House</u> 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.

Now run by Dragon Tales Forest School on

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!

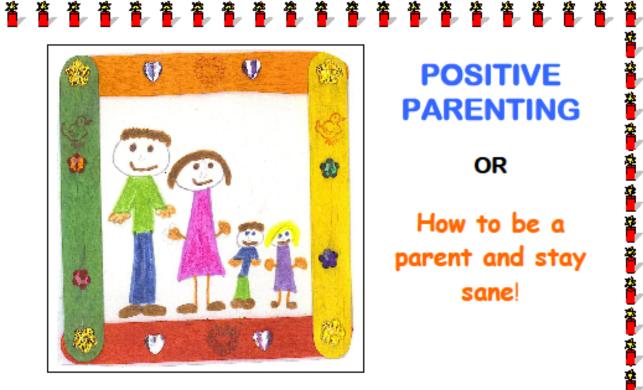
Come and join us at Bells Mill Fisheries for our Bonfire Night (in the day) session for all the family.

Saturday 8th November 2025 9.30 am- 11.00 am

> Bonfire themed crafts Fire Lighting Lantern making Seasonal Snacks and drinks







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 | 21st | 22 nd | 4 th | 21 st | 22 nd |
| Understanding the EHC Needs Assessment request process | gth | 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 | 3rd | 20 th | 26 th |



To book on to a workshop email <u>dudley.sendiass@dudley.gov.uk</u> <u>Dudley SENDIASS Website</u>

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.

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 O-12**, as well as those expecting a baby.



WANT MORE INFORMATION?









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."

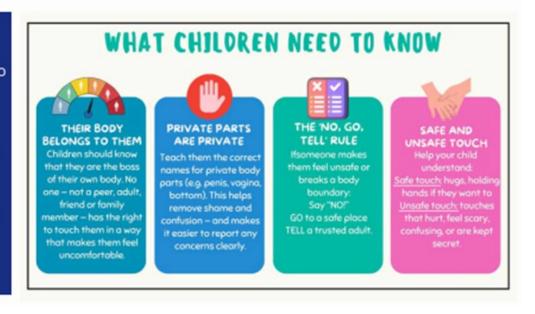
Don't forget the online world

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."

home 1) Use everyday moments to talk about safety. 2) Read books together on body safety.

- Practice naming trusted adults they can go to if worried.
- Reassure them: they will never be in trouble for telling the truth.





We help with anxiety, depression, or stress





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

Video

Online

Workshop

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



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

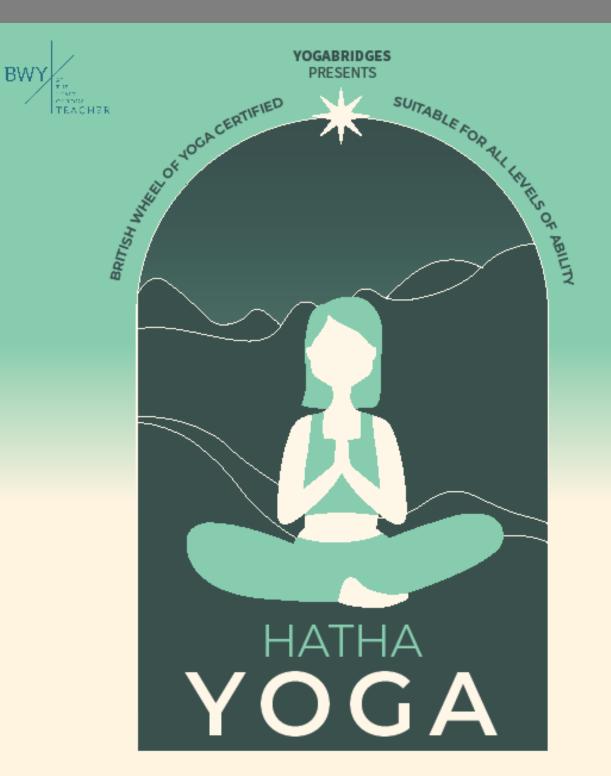


Email - freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk



Visiting – Dudley Council Plus, Castle Street, Dudley between 8.30am and 5pm Monday to Friday, 9am and 12 noon Saturday





EVERYTHURSDAY | 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