Foundation Stage Newsletter
Friday 13th November 2026

RECEPTION

This week has flown by! As always it has been a very busy week, packed with learning new skills, practising skills we've already learnt, having fun with friends and finding out about so many Autumn events that have all happened this week! At the beginning of the week, we found out a little bit about how Diwali is celebrated. We found out about how it is a 'Festival of Light' where fireworks are often part of the celebration. We thought about how many of us have just seen fireworks as part of a different Autumn festival. We have enjoyed decorating hands with mehndi patterns, using dough to make diya lamps, creating rangoli patterns with pattern blocks and listening to the story of Rama and Sita. On Wednesday our thoughts turned to remembrance as we talked about how some people do incredibly brave jobs, particularly in the armed forces. At 11 o clock, the children joined in with the national 2 minute silence. Miss Rubery said the children were so sensible and they observed the silence brilliantly. Throughout the day, the children designed their own medals, collaged poppies and thumb printed a field of poppies. And to round off the week, we have joined in with activities for Children in Need. The children have all enjoyed being in non-uniform or pyjamas along with many Pudsey clothes and accessories! They all made a spotty crown as well as joining in with a Pudsey hunt in the classroom, Pudsey challenges and choosing their cakes at the cake sale. Thank you to everyone who has been able to make a donation to this cause. .As well as Children in Need, today is Kindness Day and School Council have encouraged random acts of kindness. Unsurprisingly, the children have found this a very easy thing to do as they are kind to each other every day! Log on to your Trackit app to see when your child has been awarded a Kindness point worth 5 points!

As well as all of this, we have been to the Daily Mile, been to the hall for games and songs, played inside and outside, filled in our weather chart, shared our photos on EvidenceMe and so much more!

**Next week we will be thinking about how some animals hibernate in the cold winter weather and will be making our own mini dens. Each child will make their own den so could they please bring in a small box, tube, tub etc in ASAP! If you can send more than 1, that would be brilliant, thank you!

VISIT TO LITTLE OWL FARM

I am happy to let you know that we have confirmed our visit to Little Owl Farm for our proposed date! So on WEDNESDAY 21st APRIL 2027, we will get on the coach and head out for a day on the farm! Payment on the My Child at School app will open at the end of November where you will either be able to make a full one-off payment or pay in instalments. Full payment needs to be made by WEDNESDAY 14th APRIL.

LIBRARY BOOKS

3 more sleep until we visit the Library again! I love seeing which books the children choose – some are enjoying a wide variety of books, whilst others are looking out for familiar characters or developing an interest in a type of book. They notice which books their friends have had and often want to borrow the book their friend is returning – some book recommendations happening!

NATIVITY CELEBRATION

This week, we have read the story of the Nativity in readiness for us sharing story telling and songs with you in December. The children have been asked which character they would like to dress up as and I will be sending a slip home next week to let you know what they have chosen! We may have 4 Wise Men, 3 donkeys and 5 Mary's, but as our 'performance' will be a celebration rather than a play, this won't matter at all! Following the singing in the Hall, there will be some Christmas/ Nativity activities for you to join in with the children to finish off the afternoon.

HOMEWORK CHALLENGE

A hibernating challenge! Many animal hibernate through the winter in their homes. Can the children find out one (or more) animal that hibernates and then...can they make their own 'home' to hibernate in – maybe an under the table den, a tent den, a cushion den, an under a chair den...remember to send us a photo of you in your den!

You can email me at kburns@bromhills.dudley.sch.uk and I will get back to you, although it may not be the same day. If you have a more urgent message or more general query, the office will be happy to help.

HAVE A LOVELY WEEKEND, SEE YOU ALL AGAIN ON MONDAY

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – please check Mr Stevens' Newsletter too!

Wednesday 9th December – Christmas Dinner

Thursday 10th December @ 2pm – Reception Nativity Celebration

Thursday 17th December – Christmas Party afternoon

Friday 18th December - Christmas Jumpers SCHOOL CLOSES AT 2pm.

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Pre-School

Well what a busy week! At the start of the week we celebrated Diwali, learning about how we celebrate Diwali and what we might do. For example, cleaning the house, making Rangoli patterns, having fireworks and celebrating with family and friends. We decorated our own Rangoli patterns in different ways. We made individual Rangoli patterns with glue and different coloured sand. We used objects from around Pre-School such as gems, pasta and more to decorate a large Rangoli pattern. We also used paint to decorate them and even used floor shapes to make our own. We looked at Mendi patterns too and decorated our hand prints

We also talk about Remembrance Day. We discussed why we remember Remembrance Day and why it is so important that we do.

We decorated some poppy wreaths, colouring, looking at different pictures and filled a large poppy with red pasta!

And finally, Children In Need! We briefly explained why we give money to Children In Need and why sometimes we need to help others as some children don't have home, or have food as regularly as we do or have regular meals. Thank you so much to those who donated!!

Phonics – From now on in Phonics, we will be learning a new sound a week. This week has been aaaaa amazing apple! Children know when they see the apple to make the correct sound. Please see Evidence Me on the sound, picture and sign we are learning. We will constantly emphasis initial sounds of words beginning with 'a' this week such as aaaaple or aaaalligator etc. Please do this at home too!

Maths – In Maths this week, we have been continuing to look at number 1 and number 2! We have been playing a game where children had to find 2 objects only. So, if we had 1 apple and 2 oranges, which one was correct. Again, recognising and noticing number is something you can continue at home.

Could we please have some more junk modelling? Just make sure they are empty and clean – boxes, plastic tubs, yogurt pots, plastic bottles, etc.

Also because the weather is becoming a lot colder, can you make sure your child brings into school hat, gloves, scarf, as you know we are outside in all weathers – snow, wind, cold - so children need to be wrapped up!

REMINDERS – Please always read the main school newsletter too!

- Contributions are now available on your My Child At School app. Please remember if we do not have enough donations, we will have to cancel our lovely trip. Any problems please come and speak to a member of staff.
- Christmas Inspire letter has now been sent! Please make sure you tick if you can attend on the list in the corridor. Donations will be made available nearer the time. Thank you so much.

EvidenceMe – For the next 2 weeks we will be looking at a new topic of day/light and night/dark. Can your child find items around the house that might be related to day and night – for example pyjamas for nighttime, knives and forks for day night, bedtime stories for nighttime, teddies for nighttime etc Lots of 'when' questions – when do we brush our teeth? When do we go to school? 😊 Please send pictures in! Any questions or if you need support, please just ask or email me on epowis@bromhills.dudley.sch.uk

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Friday 4th December** – Dudley Zoo trip 9.00am
- **Tuesday 8th December** – Pre-School Nativity at 10.30am -
- **Wednesday 9th December** – Christmas Dinner (Wrap around children only)
- **Tuesday 15th December** – Inspire 10.45am
- **Thursday 17th December** – Christmas Party day
- **Friday 18th December** – Christmas Jumper day and HALF DAY. Pre-School finishes at 11.30am – **NO WRAP AROUND**

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Important Information

- **From Public Health** – Please clink on the link for nutrition guidance for healthy lunchboxes https://www.dudleyhealthylunchbox.org.uk/
- **From Public Health** - MMR / MMRV vaccination is vital because measles is highly infectious and can lead to serious complications, including pneumonia, meningitis and, in rare cases, long-term disability. Both vaccines are safe and the MMR provides effective protection against measles, mumps and rubella, and the MMRV vaccine also includes protection against chickenpox (varicella), helping to keep children, staff and the wider community safe.

From Lead For Childcare - It is always important for parents and carers to make sure that children stay up to date with all their routine vaccinations, as these offer important protection against infectious disease outbreaks. Parents and carers should also be aware and alert to the signs and symptoms of invasive meningococcal disease. For more information, visit the **NHS website** https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/meningitis/ or see the information available from two charities who offer free support via their websites and helplines Meningitis B outbreak: what you need to know – UK Health Security Agency

The Meningitis Research Foundation - www.meningitis.org

Helpline UK 080 8800 3344

Meningitis Now www.meningitisnow.org

Helpline 0808 80 10 388 or helpline@meningitisnow.org

UKHSA blog post



Types of MMRV vaccine

The MMRV vaccine contains weakened versions of living measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox viruses. Because these viruses are weakened, they do not spread easily to other people.

There are 2 MMRV vaccines which work equally well: **ProQuad** and **Priorix Tetra**. ProQuad contains porcine gelatine (gelatine from pigs) and Priorix Tetra does not. If you want your child to have the vaccine without gelatine, talk to your practice nurse or GP.

Further information is available in the patient information leaflets.

ProQuad
www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/101444/pil

Priorix Tetra
www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/101321/pil

More information on vaccines and porcine gelatine is available on GOV.UK.



Please see next page.

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Important Information

The closing date for Reception 2026 applications is approaching. Therefore, if you have a child born between 01/9/2021 – 31/8/2022, an application form for Reception September 2026 needs to be completed by 15th January 2026. Parents can make their application via the following link: www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/learning-and-school/school-information/school-admissions/primary-reception-intake/

Starting primary school in September 2027

Why not apply for a place online?

If your child was born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023 they will be due to start primary school in September 2027.

You **MUST** complete an application form either online at **www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions** or by completing an application form from your home local authority by **15 JANUARY 2027**. You can include five school preferences on the application; there is nothing to gain by only putting one preference.

Applications will be available from **1 October 2026.**

Benefits of applying online

- E-mail decision received by 2pm on day of offer
- It's quick and easy to use
- You can apply 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- There's no risk that your application will be lost in the post
- You will get email confirmation that your application has been received
- It's safe and secure

The online system will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from 1 October 2026 until the closing date for applications on **15 January 2027**.

Please note: Even if your child already attends a school nursery or has an older sibling at school, do not assume that your child will automatically gain a place at that school. This is a common misconception and often the biggest cause of disappointment for parents who believe otherwise.

For further information please contact Dudley School Admissions Service on **0300 555 2345**.

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

one click . . . makes it quick

www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions

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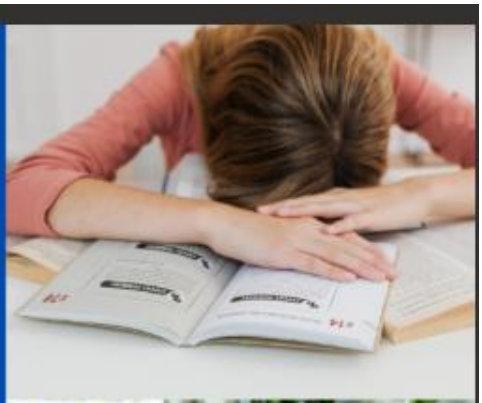
Are you seperated or divorced ?

WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS / CARERS

If you are struggling with managing Seperation / Divorce and coparenting, then Family transitions is for you. You do not have to attend together with your ex. You are welcome to bring a friend / relative for support

Workshop Highlights:

- Relaxation techniques
- Reduce conflict
- How to talk to children about seperation / divorce
- How to support children through their emotions / behaviour
- Coomunication with ex - if applicable
- Manage stress, anxiety and a new way of life







COME & GET YOUR FREE GOODY BAG & VOUCHER

WE MEET EVERY WEDNESDAY 12: 30 - 2: 30 PM

AT DUDLEY FAMILY HUB - DY2 8LJ

STARTING 28TH OCTOBER 2026 FOR 5 WEEKS

YOU CAN ALSO ATTEND VIA TEAMS : EMAIL PARENTING@DUDLEY.GOV.UK

YOU CAN BRING A FRIEND/RELATIVE FOR SUPPORT

BEST START IN LIFE

Dudley family hub network

Triple P

