



# Roberts Primary School Weekly Newsletter 08.11.24

## A message from the Leadership Team

Dear Parents/Carers,

It was lovely to welcome everyone back to school today after the half term break. I hope you all had a safe and restful half term.

Hopefully you received the class newsletters this morning. We listened to some of the feedback that parents and carers gave us at the coffee morning/afternoons we did last term. You said it would be helpful to have improved communication around what children are learning in class. Teachers will send these class newsletters out at the beginning of each half term.

As we are now entering the colder months and with the cost of living constantly increasing, we are aware that some families might need some additional support with food, energy costs and general living costs. Please do speak to us if you are finding things difficult as we have access to food bank vouchers and funds to support with the cost of living.

**Nativities- We are beginning to organise our Christmas performances and will shortly get details out to you to book your tickets. Reception are by themselves so we won't have any issues fitting all the parents/carers in the hall.**

**For Year 1 and 2, we have looked at our seating capacity in the hall and we can fit in 250 seats for parents and carers with all the children in there and on stage. We have now added an additional performance in for Years 1 and 2 on Tuesday 17th December at 2pm so that over the three performances, parents/carers and other family members will hopefully have the chance to attend. We will give all families two tickets initially to book onto the performance of your choice (with a maximum booking of 250). We will then release spare tickets so you can book places for other members. We will get booking on the school life app ASAP.**

This week I shared the Junior PCSO programme with Year 5 (this is where they work with local police officers to learn what it is like to be a PCSO as well as learning life skills). We do only have 10 spaces available for this and we look forward to reading all the applications.

Christmas is just around the corner and in the diary we have all of our nativities and performances. For most performances we have a morning and afternoon slot for parents/carers to watch.

**We look forward to seeing lots of you at parent's evening next week. Please enter school through the main entrance. Nursery, Reception and key stage 1 teachers will be upstairs in the small hall. Key stage 2 teachers will be in the main hall. Our catering company will be there by the front doors to provide you with some samples of our school lunches. Please do visit them and give the food a try.**

Mr Watkins, Mr Hughes, Miss Beddoes, Miss Gregory

## Starting primary school in September 2025

### Benefits of applying online

- E-mail decision received by 2pm on day of offer



### Why not apply for a place online?

**If your child was born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 they will be due to start primary school in September 2025.**

You **MUST** complete an application form either online at [www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions) or by completing an application form from your home local authority by **15 JANUARY 2025**. 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 2024**.

- 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 2024 until the closing date for applications on **15 January 2025**.

**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**.



**one click . . . makes it quick**

**[www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions)**

## Attendance



Our goal for each week for attendance is 96% and above for every class.

At the end of this week our attendance for each class is:

Reception Red attendance is 86.90%

Reception Yellow attendance is 94.32%

Reception Blue attendance is 92.90%

Red 1 attendance is 94.83%

Yellow 1 attendance is 91.52%

Blue 1 attendance is 94.17%

Red 2 attendance is 88.33%

Yellow 2 attendance is 90.09%

Blue 2 attendance is 90.09%

Red 3 attendance is 89.66%

Yellow 3 attendance is 89.11%

Blue 3 attendance is 92.24%

Red 4 attendance is 95.97%

Yellow 4 attendance is 93.33%

Blue 4 attendance is 90.83%

Red 5 attendance is 96.09%

Yellow 5 attendance is 97.84%

Blue 5 attendance is 90.52%

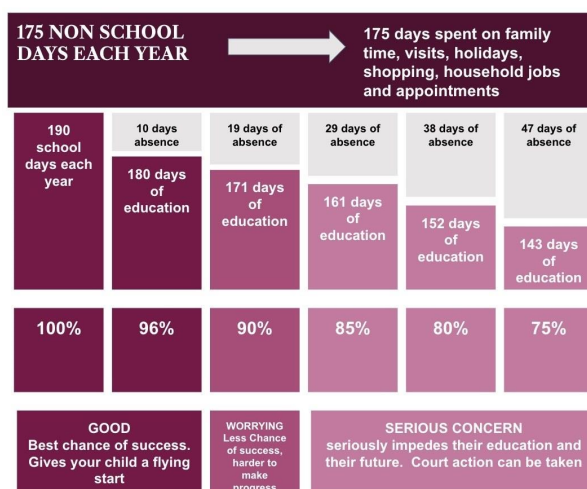
Red 6 attendance is 92.34%

Yellow 6 attendance is 97.50%

Blue 6 attendance is 97.84%

Overall whole school attendance is 92.42%

Unfortunately, our persistent absence is 19.10%



## January Start and Finish Times

As previously shared, we will make some changes to our start and finish times from January.

From January, our new times will be as follows:

### Nursery

Morning session: 8:45 am - 11:45am

Afternoon session: 12:30pm-3:30pm

### Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Morning: Doors open at 8:40am and close at 8:50am

Home time: 3:20pm

### Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Morning: doors open at 8:50am and close at 9am

Home time: 3:30pm

We have kept a slightly staggered start to the morning and home time to ease congestion and foot traffic around the site. It will also give families time who have to drop off/collect multiple children.

## A message from Communications and Public Affairs

**UKSPF People & Skills programme is providing thousands of opportunities for individuals to gain a brighter future through upskilling and/or gaining employment.**

**No job? No benefits\*? Need support?**

**We can help.**

*\*Support is available for individuals in receipt of health-related benefits*

- Upskilling/ development opportunities
- Education opportunities
- Routes into training and qualifications
- Support in securing a job

The programme is designed to support people who are economically inactive, meaning those who are without work and not in receipt of benefits, or those out of work but in receipt of certain health-related benefits. It's for adults aged 19 right up to retirement.

Do you know someone who could benefit from the programme? Contact the team on 01384 813567 or email [UKSPFPS@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:UKSPFPS@dudley.gov.uk)

For more information visit: [www.dudley.gov.uk/ukspf-people-skills](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/ukspf-people-skills)



No job? No benefits\*? Need support?  
**WE CAN HELP.**

\*Support is available for individuals in receipt of health-related benefits

**Are you looking for?**

**Upskilling/development opportunities**

**Education  
opportunities**

**Routes into training  
and qualifications**

**Support in  
securing a job**

**UKSPF People & Skills is providing thousands of opportunities for individuals aged 19+ to gain a brighter future through upskilling and/or gaining employment.**

Build your future in a way that is tailored to you, through:

- 1-2-1 support • Development opportunities
- Customised training • Coaching • Apprenticeships
- Work placements • Self-employment advice...and more

**Who are we and how can we help?**

Through specialised services ranging from coaching to managed work placements, our work will ultimately give you the best employability prospects for the future, benefiting you and the wider communities. Taking those first steps

UKSPF People and Skills is in a unique position to have a wide range of influence with local employers across the Dudley borough.

We can help you overcome the barriers to employment. We provide:

- a programme to support employability and skills
- a Key Worker/Mentor trained to support you throughout your journey
- advice and guidance, along with customised support tailored to you. We may even be able to help with travel, childcare and equipment
- brokering between you and the opportunity you decide upon, making it simple for you to start





Funded by  
UK Government



Contact us on 01384 813567, email [UKSPFPS@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:UKSPFPS@dudley.gov.uk) or visit [www.dudley.gov.uk/ukspf-people-skills](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/ukspf-people-skills)

Regards,

Communications & Public Affairs Team

Chief Executives Directorate

## Polite Reminders



Please can we remind all parents to park and drive safely around the school community. It is also important that our gates are not blocked as this is preventing emergency access. We will shortly be putting barriers out to prevent the gates from being blocked. Thank you for your support with this.

Can we also remind all parents/carers of our expectations for anyone who is on the school site regarding the language we are using. As we have young children around, please do not use any inappropriate language as we do not want children overhearing this and using it on the playground. Many thanks for your understanding.

## Dates for your Diary



Monday 11th November- Remembrance Parade- School Council. Taking place in Gornal Village- parents/carers welcome to attend.

**Tuesday 12th November- 3:30pm-6pm- Parent's evening**

**Wednesday 13th November- 3:30pm-6pm- Parent's evening**

**Friday 15th November- Children in Need- £1 donation to wear own clothes/Pudsey related clothing**

**Thursday 28th November- School photographer- individual photos (sibling photos taken before school)**

Friday 29th November- Non-uniform day- bring an item for the raffle (more details to follow)- Handy helpers event

Friday 13th December- Christmas Jumper Day and Santa's Grotto (more details to follow)- Handy Helpers event

Thursday 5th December- 5:30pm- Music Recital

Tuesday 17th December- Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity Performance- 2pm- This will be in the main hall. More information to follow regarding tickets.

Wednesday 18th December- Nursery Carol Service- 11:30am and 3pm- Parents/carers to go to Nursery during the session your child attends.

Wednesday 18th December- Reception Nativity Performance- 9:30am and 2pm- This will be in the main hall. More information to follow regarding tickets.

Wednesday 18th December- Christmas lunch for children

Thursday 19th December- Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity Performance- 9:30am and 2pm- This will be in the main hall. More information to follow regarding tickets.

Friday 7th February- Valentine's Disco- Handy Helpers event



## After School Clubs



Our extra-curricular clubs this half term are as follows:

Monday - Year 3 and 4 Dodgeball run by Ace Coaching Club (3.30pm - 4.30pm)

Monday - Year 4, 5 and 6 Recorders (3.30pm - 4.15pm)

Tuesday - Year 6 Commando Joe's (8.00am - 8.45am)

Tuesday - Year 4, 5 and 6 Choir (3.30pm - 4.15pm)

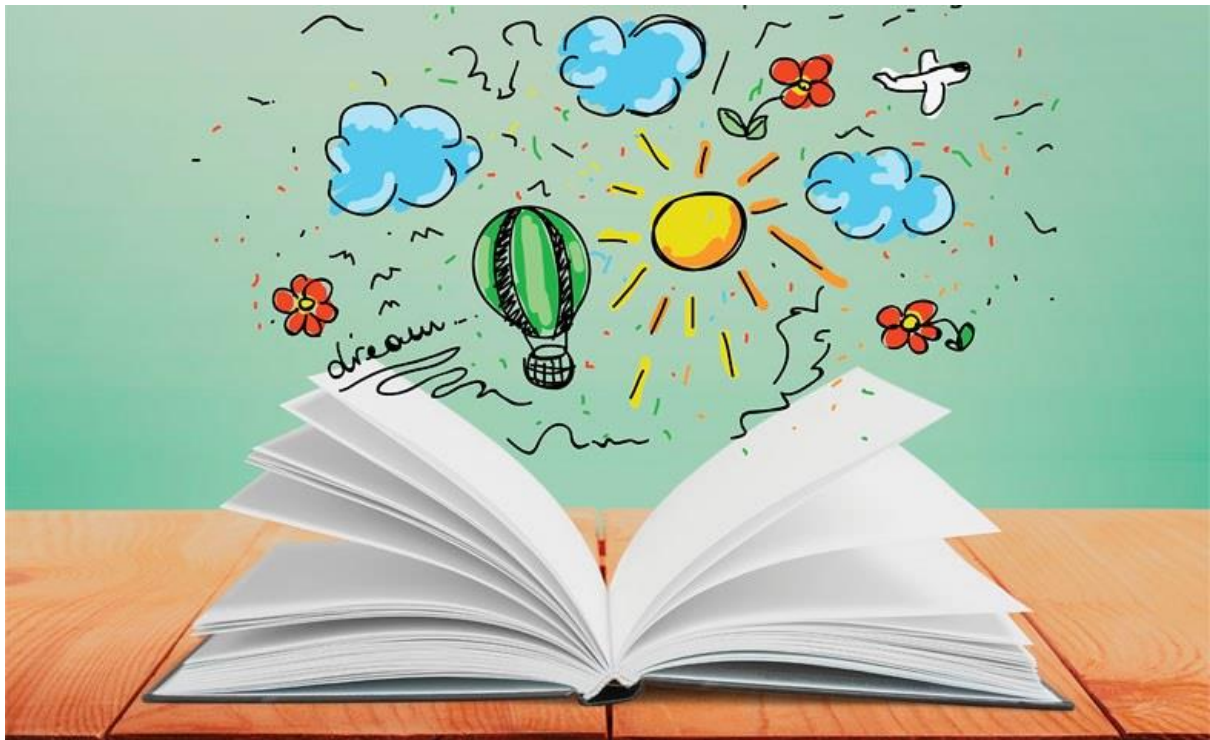
Tuesday - Year 3 Commando Joe's (3.30pm - 4.30pm)

Wednesday - Year 1 and 2 Multi Sports run by Ace Coaching Club (3.30pm - 4.30pm)

Thursday - Year 6 Tag Rugby Club (3.30pm - 4.30pm)

Thursday - KS2 Orchestra (3.30pm - 4.15pm)

## Reading at Roberts!

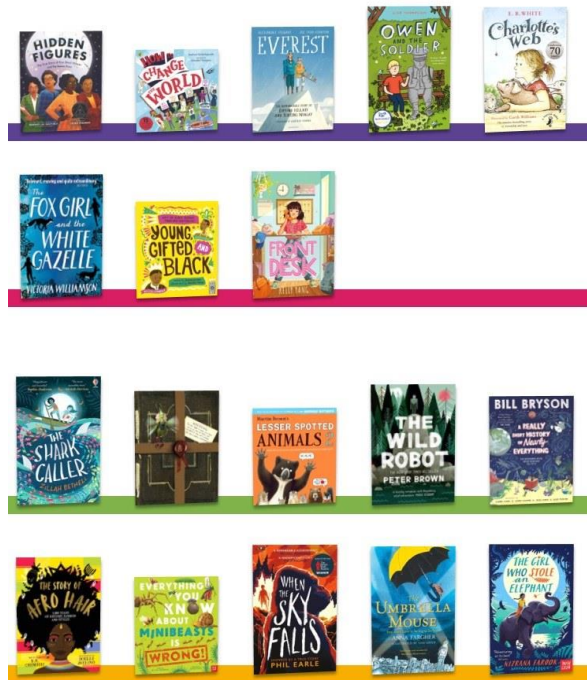


This week the adults in school have been very excited! There has been a special delivery of over 650 books to school!

We have launched a new reading curriculum and have lots of exciting books we will be using to teach reading throughout school.

Here are some of the titles on our new reading curriculum, we are very excited to share them with children and start reading them next week!





## Class Information



1 - Nursery - Important Information









# Year 1

This week in English, the children have enjoyed making bird feeders. The birds around school are already enjoying their special treats. The children used these experiences to order, retell and record simple instructions for the other classes to follow. In phonics, the children have been reading longer words by chunking sounds and have been reading words with the Phase 5 digraphs **oy ay ou** and **ea**. They are trying really hard and it is pleasing to see progress in their reading. In Science, we have been discussing seasonal changes and made posters. Year 1 team would like to say thank you for the poppy donations and we are looking forward to meet parents and carers next week on Tuesday and Wednesday Parent's Evenings.





## Year 2

# Year 2

We hope you had a wonderful half term. It is great to be back: this week has already been very busy! We are very excited for this half term and are already looking forward to Christmas!

This week children have been busy in English learning a story off by heart - see if they can retell it to you - in order to help them make changes to it and write their own version. Children have been learning about different sentences structures they can use in their writing.

As always, children have loved their music lessons with our specialist music teacher.

Children have also loved having lunch times altogether. All of Year 1 and 2 are out on the playground together at lunch now. Children have said they love getting to play with each other. Some children told us it was the best day of their lives having more people to play with!

Please ensure reading books are in school every day so that we can listen to children read their books. Also, please ensure P.E. kits are in school and if children can't take their earrings out, you have removed them before school on P.E. days.

Many thanks

Year 2 Team

Year 3

# Year 3

It has been lovely to be back in school after a week off. We hope everyone had a good half term break. This week in English we have been looking at sentence types and different punctuation we can use, when modelling these sentences. We are looking forward to sharing the new text 'The Door' with the children and see where the next story journey takes us.

In Geography we have looked at a variety of maps and located the continents and found the United Kingdom too. We have talked about how we use different maps to find a route or a location. It was nice to hear what facts the children know about the world where we live.

Year 3 have really enjoyed going to have lunch together and sharing the playground with new friends and playing with a variety of equipment.

Children have been reminded about bringing their PE kit back to school so they can participate in P.E. Children are allowed to wear black jogging bottoms for outside PE lessons.

Year 3 Team

# Year 4

*2 - Year 4 - Important Information*

We hope everyone had a good half term. This week in English we have started reading a short story called 'Elf Road', the children have been really engaged and loved re-telling the story. We have also introduced the children to a new format for reading, next week we will start a new text 'The Legend of Podkin One-Ear'.

Year 4 have done really well this week adapting to the new timetable. The children have enjoyed seeing peers from the other Year 4 classes at break and lunch-time. Some children have even commented that they have made new friends.

This week Red 4 won the attendance trophy for KS2, well done!

Please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school at the start of the week.

Red and Blue classes: Wednesday and Thursday

Yellow class: Monday and Thursday

Year 4 Team

# Year 5

It's been fantastic to have Year 5 back in school after half term! All of the children have come back looking super smart and really excited for our next chapter of learning.

In Maths, we have been learning about fractions, we have been working out equivalent fractions and using our times tables knowledge to do this. In Reading we have started our new book which is called 'Floodland' By Marcus Sedgwick. 'Floodland' is set in the near future where most of the United Kingdom is covered by water. It follows the story of the brave and resilient main character, Zoe and how she copes with how her new life looks. It is great to hear the buzz and excitement of the children talking about this new book.

The children were very excited this week when Mr Watkins visited our classrooms and explained the they could apply to be a junior PCSO. Don't forget if your child would like to be a part of this they have until Monday 11th to apply, please hand in all applications to the class teacher.

Have a lovely weekend and don't forget to try to support your child with their reading and look on teams for this week's home learning which is linked to Maths.

# YEAR 6

*3 - Year 6 - Important Information*

Year Six appear to have come back after half term refreshed and ready to learn.

They have just started their new class novel, "When the Sky Falls" by Peter Earle. A story set in war time Britain about an evacuee and a silverback gorilla...

We really enjoyed our poetry learning too. We wrote in the style of a Pie Corbett poem about a pencil that isn't very happy about how it has been treated. Have a look at some of our work so far.

## My life AS AN iPhone

The Evening came and loads of messages came <sup>through</sup>.  
There was no one to check them!  
Lying down on the desk with nothing to do,  
Not a soul to speak to, not being used,  
I'd been waiting for my owner,  
In the most painful way on charge.

Hoping I'll be used gently and will be loved,  
When I saw the door open I felt a rush of joy,  
When she unplugged me I felt a relief,  
As soon as she picked me up  
I was filled with joy that warmed me down to my <sup>lead</sup>.

I've learned that moments like this never last,  
The girl chilled on her bed and threw me,  
I felt unloved and my heart went cold,  
My battery started getting low,

I fell off the bed and hit my head off the radiator,  
The girl didn't care,  
I scraped my leg and it stung,

Learning  
Objective



## My life as a book

The hand reached and I felt <sup>human</sup> skin again!  
My life was on pause, just gathering dust,  
Feeling squished, my pages feeling as cold as ice,  
But Boy was it good to be held again,  
My pages awake, being flicked,  
My hard work is noticed finally,  
But I should've known the old days have past,  
Hope has already left me a long time ago.

She threw me on her bed,  
Reached into her pot pocket and pulled out  
a book mark,  
Opened mine, slotting each and every one in,  
Then the ~~invis~~ horrors upon horror come true,  
She pulled my pages too hard and ripped me,  
I already knew what was coming, Sellotape.

And sure enough she came back with the  
Sellotape,  
She taped my pages back to me,  
But, it felt different, like they weren't apart of  
me,  
As I got shut I knew it wasn't long,  
I still ~~go~~ <sup>go up</sup> where all books end up,  
The charity shop!!!

Learning  
Objective





## My life as a pair of shoes

The door opened and light came in, I have been sitting here for almost four months, I don't even know if they would fit them anymore I don't like how they abandoned me. It's not fair I'm a brand new pair of shoes. What is the matter with me?

It was really good to see light again. I will like when some one wears me. When she looked down of course she picked another pair of shoes, my smile dropped.

I learnt like that moments like this never last,

Learning  
Objective



## My life as shoes

Feeling fresh air at last,  
Not cramped and in the dark,  
The best feeling of being used,  
Finally sunlight hit's me,  
My days might be limited,  
This might might be the last time we speak.  
As I speak to you im getting muddy,  
~~It's~~ It's time for me to face my fear,  
THE WASHING MACHINE,  
It's span and span I wondered when it would end.

I'm out at last,  
Oh no I might be saying bye,  
I've SHRUNK,