

General Messages

REMINDERS

We all have a duty to ensure children and young people are kept safe from harm.

If you have any Safeguarding or Child Protection concerns including during the school holidays you should contact the following:

MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub)
0300 555 0050

For Out of hours
Emergency Duty team 0300 555 8574

IN AN EMERGENCY contact the Police on 999 or 112

If you require safeguarding support during school closure please contact school on safeguarding@kates-hill.dudley.sch.uk

Have a safe and happy break

Wonde FSM vouchers will be sent to our FSM families on/ around 17th February, please check your emails, including clutter folders as you would usually do.

Year 4:

Thank you to all our parents for attending our arithmetic workshop. We hope you have taken away lots of ideas about how to support your child at home.



School Attendance

School attendance target is 96% . We are very far from achieving this; we are currently at 91.85%.

We are here to help you. If your child is taking time off you will need to provide a valid reason for the absence. If we do not receive this you may be visited by our Attendance Officer and Deputy Headteacher.

School Timings

8.45am—3.15pm

We have noticed that the same families are repeatedly bringing their children late to school. Punctuality is a responsibility that all children have to learn. Could you please ensure your children arrive at school and are collected from school on time every day.



Forest School

WINTER FUN

Freezing Fun!

Forest Schools takes place in all weathers (with the exception of heavy winds, thunder storms or extreme weather conditions). We took the opportunity to have some "Freezing Fun!" with Years 3 & 5 during the last cold spell.

Year 3 explored the field and Edible Playground area for pockets of ice or frost, frozen leaves and soil. They used their ears to listen carefully for the crunching sounds as they walked across the field.

Picking up frozen leaves, they examined the many ice patterns that were formed on the surfaces and edges of the leaves. Many leaves were frozen together and the children enjoyed snapping them.



Exploring the field and Edible Playground area, the children found frozen puddles and pockets of ice that contained bits of twigs, soil & leaves.



In the Edible Playground they were bemused by how one side of a raised bed was frozen solid and covered in ice, while the opposite side, the soil was loose and warm. Through discussion they worked out that the defrosted side had been warmed by the sun.



Using the difference in temperature between their hands and the wooden posts, they had fun leaving their hand impressions on the posts as their warmer hands melted the frost.



Forest School

WINTER FUN (CONT)

Everyone arrived to school on the 18th January to a layer of SNOW!!! Some people liked it and wanted more, others on the other hand wanted it gone ASAP!!

It was fortunate for Year 5 that staff and children came into school through the main entrance rather than the normal school gates – The Playground was covered in lots of untouched white stuff (Snow!)



Even though it was cold, the Year 5 children were adequately dressed for some fun in the snow.

Split into 2 groups, they were given the task to create a picture or pattern as a team.

One group decided to draw a face and another designed a castle. One of the first lessons they learnt was that they could not all just walk across the snow at random, as it was soon trampled underfoot.



During their second attempt they realised that they had to follow in the footsteps of the person in front so that the snow remained untrampled.

On the way back into class, a number of children had spotted footprints in the snow – They were not human!

Having looked at the prints and discussed the shape and pattern of them, they felt that one set was a bird (possibly the Magpie that was flying around) but they were unsure of the others, possibly a fox or a squirrel. I took the opportunity to confirm the suggestion of a squirrel with Google.



We had fun in Early years too. Look at our little snow angel...



Accreditation WOODLAND TRUST



We have joined with more than 13,000 schools taking action to help the environment. We have signed up to the Woodland Trust's Green Tree Schools Award.

We have taken part in a number of projects to improve our school grounds and the environment around us. The children have been actively recycling; crisp packets, used pens and general plastics from the lunch boxes. Including recycling to raise fund for Mary Stevens Hospice.

Working with Trees for Cities, we have planted and created a hedgerow around the Edible Playground and Forest School Areas.



We have achieved the Bronze Award for all our hard work



SPRING TERM
FRIDAY 17.02.23



Mental Health Week

CHILDREN'S AWARENESS

This year's theme for Children's Mental Awareness week was 'Lets Connect'. We started the week with 'Dress to Express' Mrs Baldwin looked amazing and ready to start baking, and Mrs Adamson was dressed ready to do some gardening. The children looked good too in support of their favourite football teams, brownies, cubs and beavers.

Throughout the week the children joined in many activities to show how we stay connected. Year 4 thought about how we are all connected to one another by making a display of their hands in the classroom.



Dudley Performing Arts Harmony 2023

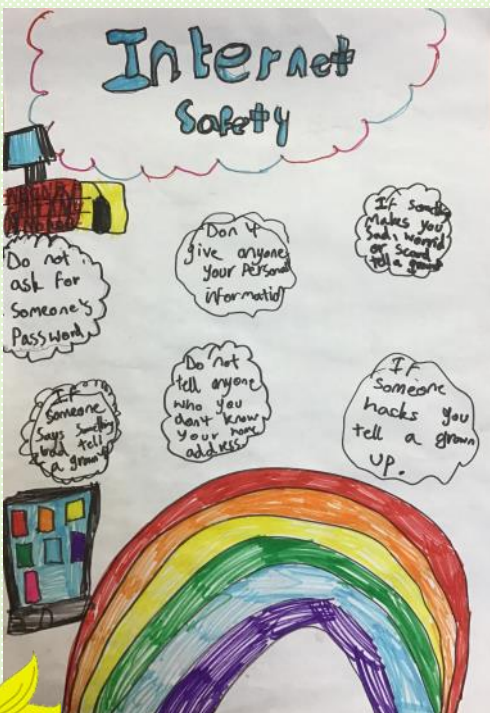


We finished the week with 'Harmony 2023, where we joined in with over 10,000 people from Dudley.

Key Stage 2 really enjoyed getting together for Mental Health week to sing the Harmony Song. We learnt the song in singing assemblies and in our classes and then came together with a wide variety of schools within the Dudley borough to connect and sing as one. We received a certificate for taking part. It was great fun.

Please click on the link below if you would like to watch.

[Link to DPA to watch](#)



Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 7th February was Safer Internet Day year 3 designed posters to show how to stay safe online.

Well done Maria. Your poster shows lots of ways to stay safe online.



Nursery

Nursery have been reading some amazing books. We read the Gingerbread Man and decided to make some gingerbread people of our own. After we had gone home the teachers made some gingerbread people, but they ran away! We saw a video of them running around our classroom.

We went on a hunt for the Gingerbread Man around our classroom and outside. We found lots of clues; we saw his footprints in the playground and crumbs left around the room. The Gingerbread man was hiding in Reception's classroom and was peeking through the window.

We painted pictures of the Gingerbread Man and added details by twisting and scrunching tissue paper.

We have also read The Tiger Who Came to tea and made our very own tea party of fairy cakes and jam sandwiches in case the Tiger came to visit. The Tiger never came back for tea so we ate it all ourselves. It was delicious!

This week we are reading Goldilocks and the Three Bears and Goldilocks snuck into our classroom while we were outside and made a terrible mess. We had to clean it all up

We are going to visit the library soon to find some more books to read.



Well done nursery, you have been very busy.

