NEWSLETTER

Friday 9th October 2026

DUDLEY NEWS



HARVEST FESITVAL THANK YOU



Thank you once again to everyone who contributed to our Harvest Festival collection. We were delighted to hear from the Salvation Army, who asked us to pass on their sincere thanks to our Dudley families. Your generous donations will provide valuable support to people in our local community, and the team were incredibly grateful for everything that was given. It is wonderful to see such kindness and compassion shown by our school community, and we are very proud of the difference your contributions will make.

PARKING REMINDER

A polite reminder to all parents and carers to please avoid parking on the zig-zag lines outside the school. These markings are in place to help keep children and families safe by ensuring clear visibility for pedestrians crossing the road. Parking on the zig-zags can make it difficult for children to see oncoming traffic and for drivers to see children crossing. Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe at the start and end of the school day.

BIKES AND SCOOTERS SAFETY PLEA

We would also kindly ask that children dismount from bikes and scooters as soon as they enter the school playground. The playground can become very busy, particularly at drop-off and collection times, and riding can increase the risk of accidents or collisions. Thank you.

POD SUPPORT

Sadly, our POD PGM event was unable to go ahead today as we didn't have enough people attend. We know how busy family life can be, and we completely understand that work, childcare and other commitments can make it difficult to get involved. However, POD makes a huge difference to life at Dudley, helping to fund many of the exciting enrichment opportunities and experiences that our children enjoy throughout the year. Without support from volunteers, some of these events may become much harder to organise in the future. If you think you might be able to spare a little time, whether that's regularly or just occasionally, we would love to hear from you. Every helping hand makes a difference. Please speak to a member of POD to find out more. Thank you for your continued support.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS

This term, our focus in PSHE is, 'Being Me in my World''. Here at Dudley, we think it is important to celebrate the children's achievements and interests outside of school too and find out what's special about their world. Perhaps your child has participated in a sporting event, baked a cake, learnt to ride a bike - whatever it may be, we would love to hear about it. Please do share your photographs with us via our academy office email address and we will feature them in an upcoming newsletter.

INSET DAYS

A reminder that we have two inset days coming up on Friday 23rd October and Monday 2nd November. Our last day of Term 1 will be Thursday 22nd October.

NEWSLETTER

HASTINGS STORYTELLING FESTIVAL 2026







From Saturday 17th October to Sunday 25th October, the annual Hastings Story-telling Festival will once again bring a fantastic programme of storytelling and family-friendly events to venues across Hastings and St. Leonards. Here at Dudley, we love being part of this local celebration and on Monday next week, Year 1 will take part in a special Gruffalo Granny-themed art workshop here at Dudley. The children will spend the day working alongside local artists to create a large structure that will feature in the Children's Parade on Sunday 25th October.

The festival includes a wide range of free events for children and families. We would encourage you to visit the festival website to find out more about the many activities taking place across our local community, including details and timings of the Children's Parade. You can visit www.hastingsstoryfest.org.uk/2026. If your child would like to take part, they might enjoy making a Gruffalo-themed puppet at home to carry with them on the day. We've included some ideas for inspiration! We are also delighted to be welcoming children's author Emmanuel the Magnificent to Dudley later this term. We know the children will enjoy hearing about his books and life as an author, and we hope his visit will inspire a lifelong love of reading and storytelling.

PEARLS OF THE SEA PROJECT

We are delighted that, once again, our Year 2 children will be taking part in the Pearls of the Sea schools arts project at Hastings Contemporary. This exciting partnership gives children the opportunity to work with artists, explore the gallery, and develop their creativity through a range of activities. Year 2's first gallery workshop will take place on Tuesday 17th November. We will send further information and letters to families before the end of term.
Hastings Contemporary will also be hosting a Family Day on Thursday 29th October, from 11am-4pm. Families are invited to visit the gallery and take part in a range of activities inspired by the 1066 and Bayeux Tapestry exhibition, these include:

- Design and make your own block prints on fabric inspired by images from the Bayeux Tapestry
- Create a collaborative woven artwork using fabric and yarn
- Draw a comic strip telling the story of your own personal triumph or small victory
- Collage your own strange beasts inspired by the Bayeux Tapestry's borders

There's no need to book, you can just drop in.

STREET DANCE WORKSHOP




Yesterday, our Year 2 children enjoyed an exciting street dance workshop, and what a fantastic time they had! The children showed great enthusiasm as they learnt a range of dance moves and routines from a professional instructor. There were plenty of smiles, lots of energy and some very impressive moves on display throughout the session.
It was wonderful to see the children building their confidence, working together and expressing themselves through dance. The instructor was hugely complimentary about the children, commenting on their fantastic attitude, behaviour and willingness to take part throughout the workshop.
Well done Year 2, what a great example of determination and respect!

GOLD AWARDS

A big well done to our Gold Awards winners!



BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2026

As we celebrate Black History Month, this year's national theme, "Honouring Our Communities," encourages us to recognise and celebrate the people, stories and contributions that help shape and strengthen our communities every day. It is an opportunity to learn about the achievements, experiences and impact of Black people throughout history and in the world today.

Here at Dudley, the children will be exploring stories of inspiring Black individuals and learning about their achievements and the positive impact they have had on society in the UK and around the world. Perhaps there is a person your child would like to celebrate with us, a book they would like to share with their class, or a Black musician, sportsperson, scientist or artist who inspires them. If so, children are warmly invited to bring in books, photographs or information to share with their class.

Dudley will also hold our fist enhanced art day of the year. During the day, children will explore the work of a range of talented Black artists and use these as inspiration for their own creative artwork. We look forward to sharing their artwork with you later in the year.

SAFEGUARDING CONTACT INFORMATION

Designated Safeguarding team (for Dudley Infant Academy) -
DSL@dudleyinfantacademy.org.uk

David Marks (Chair of Local Board)

d.marks@brightonacademiestrust.org.uk

DUDLEY DIARY DATES

Monday 12th Oct - Yr1 Art Workshop in school - Hastings Storytelling Festival

Thursday 15th Oct - 1066 Day at Dudley

Friday 23rd Oct - INSET DAY

26th Oct - 30th Oct HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 2nd Nov - INSET DAY

Tuesday 3rd Nov - Start of Term 2

Monday 16th Nov - Odd Socks Day (Anti bullying Week)

Tuesday 17th Nov - Yr2 visit to Hastings Contemporary (letters to be shared next week)

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy week at Dudley, we would like to say how proud we are of all the children. They continue to work incredibly hard, show kindness to one another and approach their learning with enthusiasm and determination every day.

Thank you for your continued support. We hope you all have a great weekend and enjoy some well-deserved family time together.

Mr Maclean & Mrs Luke



FANCY DRESS MUFTI

THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER

BRING A BOTTLE

IF YOU CAN, PLEASE DONATE A BOTTLE FOR THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE BOTTLE TOMBOLA!

- ALCOHOL
- SOFT DRINKS
- SHAMPOO
- OLIVE OIL
- BODY LOTION
- PERFUME
- CONDIMENTS



Dudley Infant Academy

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 28th November

Save the date!

WE NEED YOU!

Can you help us on the day?
Do you have a business that can donate a raffle prize?

Email:
parentsofdudley@outlook.com

Dudley Safeguarding Officers



Mr Maclean



Mrs Luke



Mrs Froude



Mrs Sankey



Mr Wilkinson

Academy Safeguarding Team - DSL@dudleyinfantacademy.org.uk
Chair of Local Board - Mr David Marks dmarks@dcat.academy
DCAT Trustee Safeguarding Lead - Mr Nick Wilkinson - n.wilkinson@dcat.academy