

## NEWSLETTER ISSUE 1 - 15th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

What an amazing Start to the year we have had!

It has been a joy to visit lessons and see how enthusiastic and engaged the children are and how super smart they all look, they have definitely returned ready for learning! We are all looking forward to another great year and have included on this newsletter all the dates that you will need to know leading up to Christmas.

The term has started with a bang! We have had Junior Leadership elections, the WAT Games, the unboxing of new ipads for every child in Year 3 and 4 along with starting our ASPIRE History theme for Years 1 to 6, as well as welcoming our new children in Reception and Nursery to our Tenterfields family.

We are so proud of our Nursery and Reception children who have settled so beautifully and thank you for your support in getting them ready for school. Have a look at their photo, it's fantastic!

We also welcome to our Tenterfields family Mason in Year 4 and Gracie-Lei who have joined us in Year 5.

There are a couple of new staff faces that you will meet and we are excited that they have joined our team. They are: Mrs Hickie, who has joined us as a teaching assistant and Mrs Chapman who has joined us as an HLTA.

We continue to focus and work hard on unlocking your child's potential, both personal and academic and we are looking forward to this year. I have shared our 'ASPIRE Mountain' below which is everywhere in school and shows the character virtues and learner skills that we build our curriculum around and that underpins our ethos.

Our partnership with you is really important and as we journey through this academic year, together, as a strong school community, we know we can achieve remarkable things. If you have any questions or queries at any time please talk to us either on the gates, via the office or by contacting your teacher on the playground at the end of the day or via Dojo.

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education and well-being and we know working together we can make this year a successful and memorable one for all!

Lisa Buffery Executive Headteacher .



## Windsor Academy Trust wins MAT Excellence Award for Environmental Trust of the Year

We are thrilled to announce that Windsor Academy Trust has been awarded the prestigious Optimus Education MAT Excellence Award for Environmental Trust of the Year. The award is recognition of the vision we hold to leave the world in a better place and our efforts to create a sustainable and environmentally-conscious educational environment for our young people.

The Optimus Education MAT Excellence Awards celebrate the outstanding achievements of multi-academy trusts across the United Kingdom. The Environmental Trust of the Year category recognises the trust that has demonstrated exceptional dedication to environmental education, initiatives and sustainable practices.

Commenting on the award win, Dawn Haywood, CEO of Windsor Academy Trust, said: "Receiving the award for Environmental Trust of the Year is a tremendous honour for all of us at Windsor Academy Trust. We are immensely proud of this accomplishment and we will continue to prioritise environmental education and sustainable practices, always striving to be at the forefront of environmental stewardship within the education sector.

"I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to our dedicated staff, students, and parents for their unwavering support. It is through our collective efforts that we can create a sustainable and thriving future for generations to come."



## What's been happening in school?

### Nursery

Nursery class has welcomed back many familiar faces these past two weeks as well as lots of new children. We have all settled in so well and have been exploring all of the activities set out in the environment. We were lucky enough to have some glorious sunshine which meant we could climb on the new climbing wall and have a go on the new slide.

We have been learning the rules and routines of school through some exciting tidy up games and our lovely 'Rainbow Rules' song. We will try to post a video of this on to dojo for you all to see our amazing actions. We now know how to sit like 'bears' and line up like 'penguins' which are some very important handwriting positions the children will use as they move up through the school. We use our thinking thumbs when we want to share ideas at group time or answer a question, and we all know how to use 'my turn, your turn' to say good morning each day.

We all enjoyed RE day where we were able to share who was special to us and talk about who was in our family.



### Reception

Last week we welcomed our new Reception class to Tenterfields! The children have enjoyed their first couple of weeks at school. We have spent lots of time getting to know each other and making new friends. We have also been learning the daily routines, including where we have to put our belongings, what our morning activity is, how to use our 'thinking thumbs', how to show good listening and sitting and where we eat our lunch.

Now that the children are a little bit more settled, we are beginning to baseline the children, to understand where they are at in their learning. The children have been really impressing Mrs Johal and I. We are so proud of them already!





## Year 1

We have had a fantastic start to Year 1! The children have been settling well into their new class and have been amazing at learning all of the Year 1 rules and routines. They have been getting stuck into learning and working hard: what superstars they all are! We have been super busy for the last two weeks!

In English we started our new text Jack and the Jellybean Stalk. We have been thinking of amazing words which we could use in our own version of the story and have been practising writing some super sentences to go in this story!

We had a fabulous Roald Dahl Day! The children loved learning about Roald Dahl and were super excited to take part in a virtual quiz on Roald Dahl! They had an amazing go at identifying various Roald Dahl stories from the description of the story and enthusiastically wrote their answers down on whiteboards. They were absolute stars during the Readathon! We have started learning all about Africa in preparation for our Whole Class Reading text The Enormous Crocodile.

In Maths we have begun our whole class learning which is all about numbers within 10. We have been looking at groups of objects in different situations and even had a group of teddies having a picnic in our classroom! We have been working with our partner to investigate making the same number on a ten frame using a different arrangement of counters each time.

In our curriculum lessons we have been thinking about what we aspire to be when we are older and how will achieve this. We have been discussing our new historical detectives topic and have completed a quiz to see what we know already. What clever children we are! :-)





## Year 2

I am blown away with how year 2 have started this year. They have been amazing at following our new rules and adapting to our new routines. We have spent some time discussing the importance of rules and we have been able to agree on our class rules. We have been working extremely hard on trying to follow them and their perseverance has been outstanding.

We have started to get used to our year 2 English and we have started our new writing unit where we are exploring what happens when a boy goes on an aeroplane into space. We have written some lovely sentences explaining what happens when the boy finds the plane and we have been able to describe the moon. We are looking forward to seeing what happens next in our story.

In Maths we have been recapping place value and developing our understanding of how to recognise the amount of tens and ones a number has. At the start of the week we found this challenging but all of Year 2 have blown me away with how hard they have worked to practise this skill. It has been extremely helpful seeing how different representations can help us solve our problems.

In Science we have started our Working Scientifically unit. We started by making our own rockets out of paper and experimenting with them to see how far they can fly. We were a little disappointed that they didn't go very far but we experimented with different materials to see if we could make them go further. We were amazed at how small changes could make a big difference on how far our rockets travelled.



### Year 3

In year 3 we have had a very exciting start to our term. We have enjoyed Roald Dahl day, science experiments and receiving our iPads to name a few. The children have settled back into school brilliantly and I have been very impressed with them. They have adapted brilliantly to not only being in year 3 but also entering key stage 2. They have also been fantastic at learning the apps and different features available on our iPads.



In English we have been exploring poetry and are beginning to write our own poems all about autumn. We have enjoyed our experience days and getting into the autumn spirit, looking at the colours of autumn, and using our senses to explore autumn. We have been thinking about the foods we eat, the nature around us and things we enjoy about autumn. The children have been brilliant at noticing all the changes going on around

us as the seasons change.

In maths we have been exploring number facts. We have been using dienes to create 2 digit numbers and understanding how numbers are separated into ones and tens. The children have been brilliant at spotting patterns and also recalling number facts. We have also been looking at commutativity and which calculations we are able to do this with.



In science we have begun our working scientific topic where we began by conducting an experiment. We combined bicarbonate of soda and vinegar together to form a gas which inflated our balloons. The children were brilliant at following the process and making

sure the experiment was conducted fairly. We all successfully inflated our balloons and were even able to make some pop!



In curriculum we have travelled back in time to The Industrial Revolution. The children were fantastic at using their detective skills to establish which time period we would be exploring. We have looked at why it is called the Black Country and began to explore things happening in our area during this time. We have also created some toys that children played with during The Industrial Revolution.



## Year 4

What a busy but fantastic start to the new year! Year 4 have had such a positive attitude towards their learning and have settled back into the school rules and routines very quickly. This week we had a brilliant time celebrating Roald Dahl day, listening to some of his rhymes and stories as well as learning all about his life. We held a ceremony for our iPad unboxing which the children thoroughly enjoyed and even participated in our first guitar lesson!



In English, we have started our first piece of narrative writing all about a dog called Winston who finds his forever home. We have come across some challenging new writing features but Year 4 have kept up their positive attitude and I am incredibly proud of the work they have produced. Keep it up!

In Maths, we have begun looking at place value. We have been using counters and place value charts to help us understand the value of the different digits that make up numbers. We have ordered, compared and even looked at finding 1,000 more and 1,000 less than numbers.



In Science, we conducted our first experiment of the year during our Working Scientifically unit. We investigated if all metals are magnetic by testing different metal objects around the class with our magnets and presented our findings in a table. We were able to make predictions, observations and draw up conclusions based on what we found out.



In Curriculum, we have begun to look at the Stone Age and have been using our Maths knowledge to help us order some key events on a timeline. We looked at the difference between AD and BC and learned what these letters stand for.



## Year 5

What a wonderful start to the new academic year we have had. I have been blown away by Year 5's positive attitude to learning and it really has been a challenge to choose just one person for praise next week! It's no surprise that we won the dojo award this week!

Over the past couple of weeks, we have dived straight into our learning in all subjects. In English we are hooked into our new writing unit about an astronaut that is stuck on Mars and sending a transmission back to NASA on earth. We have been researching what the environment on Mars is like which will stand us in good stead for both our English and our upcoming Science unit.

In Maths, we have been revising our place value understanding and looking at different representations of numbers up to a million. We have been rounding numbers to the nearest multiples of 10, 100, 1000 and



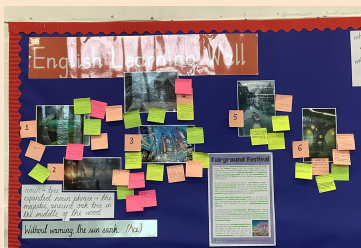
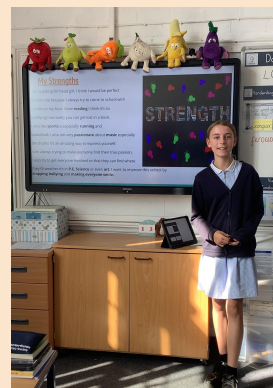
10,000 and are now confidently able to use < > and = to compare and order different numbers.

In Science, we have begun our Working Scientifically units looking at the key scientific skills that will be needed over the year e.g. observation, recording, presenting. Pupils were able to conduct their own fair investigations into the hardness/strength of rocks as well as the permeability. Pupils worked in small groups to conduct their investigations and were able to present their findings.

## Year 6

A spectacular start to the Year for our super sixes!! It has certainly been an action packed first few weeks back! We've had some excellent lessons to kick start the year. From learning about British values to Islamic beliefs in R.E to inherited features in Science! The children have made an effort to present their work beautifully and show the high expectations they have set for themselves.

We've had some excellent lessons to kick start the year... From learning about British values and making our own set of class rules to understanding Islamic beliefs in R.E and inherited features in Science! The children have made an effort to present their work beautifully and show the high expectations they have for themselves.



In English, we have been using a variety of figurative linguistic features to enhance our sentences and create interesting setting descriptions. The pupils have been very ambitious with their vocabulary choices. Two more pen licences have been awarded to star pupils who have made a real effort to follow our handwriting policy.

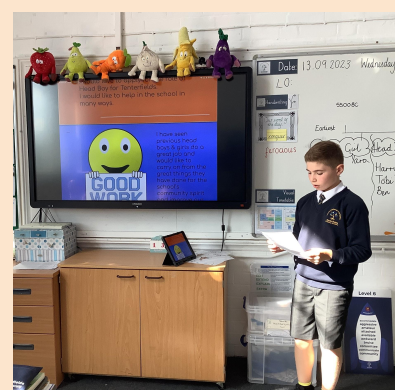
I am very proud of everyone for putting themselves forward for class monitor jobs and responsibilities. An extra special mention for the children in our class who wrote applications and created impressive presentations for the role of prefect and Head boy / Head girl. On Wednesday, they showed great courage and confidence in front of our staff panel and their peers as they read their applications and presented brilliant reasons why they would make exceptional role models for our school family. I wish them all luck as the votes are counted!



We all enjoyed Roald Dahl day, particularly Mrs Golden's brilliant Tenterfields and Manor Way assembly. The children had a go at sketching one of Roald Dahl's famous characters in the style of his brilliant illustrator, Quentin Blake.



All in all, a very successful first couple of weeks back. They've certainly earned a well deserved rest this weekend! 😊



## DPA Music Lessons

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to see so many children learning to play an instrument at Tenterfields. If you would like your child to continue with current lessons, or begin to learn a new instrument in the Autumn term, please see the information below:

### **Enrolments for autumn term lessons with DPA at Tenterfields are open now!**

All lessons are organised directly through Dudley Performing Arts, delivered by experienced DPA staff and take place during the school day. You can choose between group and individual lessons. After you have enrolled, your child's music teacher will get in touch with you to organise the lesson and give you more details.

Prices start at £8 for a weekly small group session and £12.25 for an individual lesson. Certain instruments can be provided at a reduced cost, with the first term free for new starters. DPA are able to loan instruments for children learning brass, bowed strings or woodwind and children learning guitars, drums, piano or keyboard will have access to an instrument in school. If your child would like to take up drumming, they will need their own drumsticks. For more details and to get signed up click below: [Music Lessons in Schools](#)

**The instruments currently available to learn in our school are: Keyboard\*, flute, saxophone, clarinet, recorder, voice, guitar and violin**

\*If your child currently learns **piano**, please sign your child up for a keyboard lesson and then contact DPA directly to change to piano. Learning a musical instrument is a great thing for children to do. Research suggests that it can help children develop academically and socially, helping them to achieve their full personal potential. We look forward to hearing students making music, playing in assemblies, joining bands and taking part in concerts soon!

## Our PTFA Needs You!

The PTFA is recruiting and is keen for more parents/carers/loved ones to sign up. If you are interested, please email the PTFA on [ptfa@tenter.windsoracademytrust.org.uk](mailto:ptfa@tenter.windsoracademytrust.org.uk). It's a really important and committed group of parents/carers that helps to support a number of initiatives around the school. For example, the covered area on the playground necessary for protecting children and adults from the elements, was paid for by the PTFA.

## Attendance

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason then please let us know as soon as possible:

- The school office telephone number is 0121 289 5020 where you can speak to a member of staff or leave a messenger on the attendance line
- Report their absence via our Parentmail App

Please be aware you **must** report your child's absence **every day** that they are unable to attend. The information below shows how attendance can affect your child's future progression. If we have not heard from you by 10am after trying all the contact numbers we will do a home visit.

At Tenterfields we aim for pupils to achieve an attendance figure of above 97% or more.

**Above 97%: Less than 6 days absence a year – Less than 30 Hours of Learning Lost**

Excellent attendance! These young people will almost certainly get the best levels/grades they can, leading to better prospects for the future. Pupils will also get into a habit of attending school which will help in the future.

**95%: 10 days absence a year – 50 Hours of Learning Lost**

These pupils are less likely to achieve their target levels/grades and will start to find it difficult to maintain a habit of attending school regularly. Pupils who take a two-week holiday every year can only achieve 95% attendance.

**90%: 19 days absence a year – 95 Hours of Learning Lost**

The Government classes pupils in this group as "Persistent Absentees", and it will be almost impossible to keep up with work and achieve their target levels/grades. Parents of young people in this group could also face the possibility of legal action being taken by Dudley Council, including the issuing of Penalty Notices and Fines.

**Whole School Attendance for week commencing 5th September 2023 – 97.31 %**

Reception	96.53%
Year 1	96.24%
Year 2	99.03%
Year 3	<b><u>99.09%</u></b>
Year 4	98.38%
Year 5	92.86%
Year 6	98.35%



Well done and congratulations to  
**Year 3**  
for receiving the  
Attendance Trophy !

**Whole School Attendance for week commencing 11th September 2023 – 98.05%**

Reception	97.22%
Year 1	97.24%
Year 2	<b><u>100%</u></b>
Year 3	99.33%
Year 4	98.21%
Year 5	97.22%
Year 6	96.97%



Well done and congratulations to  
**Year 2**  
for receiving the  
Attendance Trophy !



### Times Tables Rockstar

TTRS is used across the school to support your children with their multiplication and division knowledge. Throughout the year, all of the pupils are able to earn their TTRS badges to symbolise their efforts and the quick recall that they have of their number facts. The National Curriculum states that pupils should be fluent in their times tables by the end of Year 4 and then beyond this will be applying them in all contexts.



To support your child with this, please encourage them to access TTRS throughout the week at home. The more that they practise the quicker their recall.

<https://trockstars.com/>

### Uniform

Please can you ensure that your child is wearing their full school uniform including a school tie on the days that they are not wearing their PE kit. On PE days please ensure that your child is wearing their navy joggers and blue, black or white trainers.

### Free School Meals

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, they will automatically be entitled to free meals under the Free School Meals criteria.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following, you will need to submit an online claim in order for school to receive Pupil Premium Funding.:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's 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 apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Please click on the link to see if you qualify <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

### Parking

The vast majority of parents and carers are being brilliant and supportive by parking safely and carefully, this is another plea to those few parents who are continuing to park on double yellow lines and across the pavement. This is endangering pupils' and parents' lives, especially when parents have to step into the busy road with pushchairs because they can't walk safely down the pavement.

In line with advice from the local authority and the police we are advising parents and neighbours to report unsafe and inconsiderate parking (on the pavement) to the police. To read more about Operation Parksafep please follow this [link](#). This is the information shared with us in relation to Operation Parksafep: "We are asking

those parents who have to drive children to school to make sure their parking does not cause danger to pupils, pedestrians or passing traffic, or that it does not inconvenience local residents. If this continues to happen, we want people to get photographic evidence and to share it with the police so the appropriate action can be taken. Anything submitted will be treated in confidence."

## Mental Health and Wellbeing

Annafreud.org has created a useful information resource regarding self care and wellbeing. Self-care is all about what you can do to help yourself feel better or to keep yourself feeling good. It's a way that we can look after our own mental health and wellbeing. It can help your body and mind to relax, drift away or be more energised.

This self-care plan walks primary-aged children through a series of steps, helping them create a simple self-care plan that works for them. It helps children identify activities that they can use to support their mental health. Some of the suggested self-care activities include:

- Music and dance
- Mindfulness
- Art

Click [here](#) to find out more.



**Anna Freud**  
building the mental  
wellbeing of the  
next generation

## Dudley Borough Foster Care

Dudley MBC are looking to recruit foster carers across the Dudley Borough. Foster care plays a vital part in so many children's and young people's lives. In Dudley, the need for foster carers is greater than ever. Please see the attached leaflet regarding taking the first steps into becoming a foster carer. Further information can be found [here](#)



**fostering in dudley**  
the best job in the world



**Dudley SENDIAS Service is hosting a series of SEND Workshops**  
**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.**

Are you

- A parent/carers of a child with SEND?
- A young person with SEND?
- Concerned about the support that is in place to help your child in school/college?

To book on to a workshop contact us at  
[dudley.sendiass@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:dudley.sendiass@dudley.gov.uk)

Dudley SENDIAS Service Website  
<http://dudleysendiass.org.uk/>

Autumn Term 2023 10am – 11.30am on MS Teams

- Understanding how to access SEN support within settings
  - Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023
  - Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023
- Understanding the EHCP process
  - Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – fully booked
  - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023
  - Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023
- Preparation for key transitions
  - Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023
  - Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**Dudley SENDIAS Service is hosting a series of Let's Talk About events.**

**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.**

**Are you**

- A parent/carer of a child with SEND?
- A young person with SEND?
- Would you like to find out more about processes and services in place to support SEND in Dudley?

**To book a place contact us at**  
[dudley.sendiass@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:dudley.sendiass@dudley.gov.uk)

**Dudley SENDIAS Service Website**  
[www.dudleysendiass.org.uk](http://www.dudleysendiass.org.uk)

**'Let's Talk About...**

**Dudley SEND developments and specialist services'.  
 Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 10am - 12noon on Teams**

This session will be an opportunity for parents and young people with SEND to hear an update from the Acting Head of SEND and Head of Education Outcomes and Inclusion to discuss:

- the structure, role and functions of the teams,
- the **point** at which the teams get involved with children and young people,
- how the two teams and staff work collaboratively with schools and settings to support children and young people with SEND
- the inclusive practices encouraged by the LA



## Diary Dates

<b>22nd September</b>	School photos
<b>26th September</b>	Stone Age Day - Year 4
<b>2nd October</b>	Egyptian Day - Year 6
<b>4th October</b>	Reception Open Day 2024/25
<b>5th October</b>	Party lunch
<b>11th October</b>	Harvest Assembly
<b>16th October</b>	Flu Vaccinations
<b>18th - 20th October</b>	Yr 6 Pioneer Centre Trip
<b>30th October - 3rd November</b>	Half term
<b>9th November</b>	Reception Open Day 2024/25
<b>6th December</b>	EYFS Christmas Performance
<b>8th December</b>	Inset day
<b>12th &amp; 14th December</b>	KSI Christmas Performance
<b>18th December</b>	National Elf Service Day
<b>19th December</b>	Christmas Lunch and Party
<b>20th December</b>	Santa's Grotto and Christmas Jumper & Jeans Day
<b>22nd December</b>	INSET DAY
<b>10th January</b>	Reception Open Day 2024/25



## **TERM DATES 2023–2024**

### **Autumn Term 2023**

Training Day: Monday 4th September

Term Start for Children: Tuesday 5th September

Half Term: Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November

Inset Day: Friday 8th December

Term End: Friday 22nd December

### **Spring Term 2024**

Inset Day: Monday 8th January

Term Start for Children: Tuesday 9th January

Half Term: Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February

Term End: Friday 22nd March

### **Summer Term 2024**

Term Start: Monday 8th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May

Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Inset Day: Friday 21st June

Term End for Children: Friday 19th July

### **Inset Days**

Monday 4th September 2023

Friday 8th December 2023

Friday 22nd December 2023

Monday 8th January 2024

Friday 21st June 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024