



DUDLEY NEWS

GOODBYE MRS O'REGAN AND GOOD LUCK MISS GRABOW

As you know, on Tuesday we say a sad goodbye to our lovely Mrs O'Regan, who leaves us to take on the position of Deputy Headteacher at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School. Mrs O'Regan is a truly wonderful teacher who has worked tirelessly at Dudley to teach and nurture so many children who have been through the school. Her commitment to the teaching profession is second to none and her presence will be greatly missed here at Dudley. Good luck Mrs O'Regan and thank you for making a difference.

We would also like to say good luck to Miss Grabow, who starts her maternity leave next week. We look forward to sharing the exciting news when her little one arrives!

GOODBYE YEAR 2

It's hard to believe that another academic year is coming to an end. As ever, the term has flown past and what a lot we have managed to pack in. The children have been offered some wonderful enrichment opportunities to support their learning and development and we are so proud of all that they have achieved. Sadly, the time has come to say goodbye to our wonderful Year 2 children. They will be sorely missed, but we have no doubt that they will go on to achieve great things at their new school. Goodbye Year 2, You have all been an absolute credit to our academy.

POD SUMMER FAYRE

We would like to say thank you to everyone that joined us on Saturday at our Summer Fayre. It was a lovely afternoon and a great deal of fun was had by all. And of course, a big thank you to members of POD, who worked tirelessly to organise the day. We are delighted to share with you that we raised an amazing £1714.84! Please do take a look at POD's poster in today's newsletter, celebrating this fantastic community event.

THANK YOU BEX

We would also like to take this opportunity to say a HUGE thank you to our fabulous POD Chair, Bex. Bex, we are so incredibly grateful for your hard work and commitment to Dudley. Your energy and enthusiasm leading POD has helped to provide such valuable learning experiences and resources for the children and we can't thank you enough. Dudley will miss you.

END OF YEAR REPORTS

Due to unforeseen circumstances, end of year pupil reports will be sent home on Monday 22nd July. Thank you.

YEAR 2 LEAVERS SERVICE

The Year 2 Leavers Service will take place on Monday 22nd July at 3.15pm. We do hope you can join us on the playground as we share some special memories and say goodbye to our Year 2 children.

EXERCISE BOOKS & BOOKBAGS

A reminder that your child may have brought home their exercise books from last year. These were kept to support our transition processes and can now be returned. Children in EYFS and Year 1 will not be bringing home their bookbags at the end of term, as these will be passed up to their new class teacher. Once reading books have been organised, bookbags will be returned during the first week of Term 1.

PIRATE DAY!

Today was Pirate Day at Dudley - a much loved tradition, ahead of Hastings' Pirate Day. The children thoroughly enjoyed a day jam packed full of pirate fun, including watching Mr Maclean 'walking the plank' in our whole school pirate assembly! Thank you for supporting the day and providing so many fantastic pirate costumes and accessories!



THANK YOU DORIS AND LINDSEY



We would like to say thank you to Lindsey and Doris, who take the time to visit us every Tuesday. The children thoroughly enjoy reading to Doris and we think Doris enjoys listening to them! We look forward to many more visits next year.



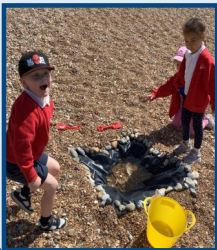
RAINBOW READERS

Well done to the children that have achieved their Rainbow Reader certificate and badge. We are always so proud of all of the children here at Dudley and their determined attitude towards their reading.



SHORE ACADEMY

The children in Class Lion certainly enjoyed their Shore Academy sessions this term, delivered by the Education Futures Trust team. The children have been an absolute credit to our academy and certainly upheld our Dudley values. We would also like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to parents and carers who have helped this term - without this, the sessions would have not been possible.



ZUMBA PERFORMANCE

A big well done to the children that performed a variety of Zumba routines to parents and carers on Thursday last week. It was clear to see how hard the children have worked and how much fun is had by all at our after school Zumba club. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Hanna, who has delivered Zumba lessons to all of the children at Dudley this year.



YEAR 2 VISIT TO BLUE REEF AQUARIUM

Last week, as an end of year treat, our Year 2 children visited the Blue Reef aquarium. We would like to thank POD for generously funding the trip - it was a lovely morning and a great opportunity to reward the children for being outstanding members of our academy.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS



On Thursday, we held our final PDA ceremony of the year. We look forward to seeing the children proudly wearing their badges in September. Remember, these can be sewn on to your child's jumper, cardigan or book-bag. Thank you to Ayda for proudly modelling these for us!

For our Year 2 children that we sadly say goodbye to today, we hope the badges are a lasting memory of your time here at Dudley, well done to you all.

RACE FOR LIFE

A big well done to Eden, who successfully completed the Muddy Race for Life and raised £320 for Cancer Research UK. What a fantastic achievement and a true example of our Dudley values.



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

You will be aware that several times this year I have written to you regarding pupil attendance at school. There has been a significant drive from the Government, the Local Authority and our Trust this year following attendance rates within schools declining since the country came out of the pandemic. Before the pandemic the national average for pupil attendance in primary schools was 96% and this academic year is likely to end with it being at 94%. For Dudley Infant Academy, our end of year average will be 94%. We are pleased that we will be in line with the national average but there are still improvements to be made in this key area of school life.

As educators of children, here at Dudley Infant Academy we truly believe that pupils can only take full advantage of their education if they attend school regularly and punctually. Pupils need to attend school as much as possible to benefit from the education that they are entitled to. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Evidence shows that many children with poor attendance tend to have lower attainment in both primary and secondary school phases of their education.

The government expects schools and local authorities to:

- promote good attendance and reduce absence, including persistent absence
- ensure every pupil has access to full-time education to which they are entitled
- act early to address patterns of absence
- parents to perform their legal duty by ensuring their children of compulsory school age who are registered at school attend regularly
- ensure all pupils to be punctual to their lessons

From September 2024 there is once again a renewed focus about pupil attendance and schools, academies and local authorities will be adhering to the Department for Education's statutory guidance entitled 'Working together to improve school attendance'. This document was published in February 2024 and applies from August 2024. The link for this is below should you be interested in reading its content. <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65f1b048133c22b8eecd38f7/>

[Working together to improve school attendance applies from 19 August 2024 .pdf](#)

In recent weeks we have been provided with information from the local authority in relation to the steps we have to adhere to should a pupil's attendance decline or become a concern. So that parents and carers are aware of the processes we have to follow, you will find a flowchart at the end of this information, which details the various steps that we are required to put in place. It should be noted that there is an expectation for intervention to commence at an early stage (Emerging Risk). Academy leaders continually monitor children's attendance from the beginning of the academic year. Being absent for medical conditions is taken into careful consideration when monitoring individual children's attendance records. We are also sensitive to particular family circumstances and any challenges that parents and carers may be faced with. We take our responsibility for ensuring that all children receive a high-quality education very seriously and want to support families who may be finding it difficult to get their child to school regularly.

Arriving late to school

Children's punctuality will also be a focus from September. Children arriving late to school impacts upon their learning experiences and the learning experiences of other children. The Academy gates currently open at 8.45. All children are expected to be in class ready to start learning by 8.55am. Registers close at 9.00am. Arrival after this time will be recorded in the register as late. All parents and carers arriving late with their children after 8.55am will need to enter through the Academy office, the time and reason for being late must then be recorded on our Inventory system. If a child is frequently late, parents and carers will be invited to a meeting with a member e Senior Leadership Team to discuss steps that can be taken to reduce lateness.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Illness

Please telephone or email the Academy on the first day of illness. If no notification is received initially, it will be recorded as unauthorised. The academy will then follow the processes expected of us and will make contact to establish the reason for absence. Please use the link below that includes useful information in relation to whether your child should attend school.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Whilst the Academy appreciates young children are often unwell, attendance levels are monitored regularly. Where there is a pattern of absence, this will be explored with parents and carers initially through discussions and any assistance will be offered where needed. In cases of excessive absence due to illness, the Principal has the right to request a medical certificate be provided.

Medical appointments

If possible, doctor's, medical or dentist's appointments should be made outside of the Academy day. However, it is recognised that sometimes the dates and times of medical appointments are determined by medical professionals and may take place during the academy day. In all cases of medical appointments, please ensure the Academy is informed in advance of any scheduled medical absence, and where possible evidence of this is provided to the academy. This could be in the form of appointment cards, letters or online bookings.

Withdrawal from Learning/holiday in term time

You may recall that I wrote to you in June regarding requests for absences during term time. This year the academy has received an unprecedented number of requests for absence during term. The majority of these were for family holidays and a high number have been requested during term 6. Twenty percent of our cohort were withdrawn from learning due to attending a family holiday this year. We need your support in ensuring that planned leave is not taken in school time so that your child has the very best opportunity to succeed. The DfE only allows a Principal the discretion to authorise an absence if they believe that there are exceptional or unavoidable circumstances.

Taking a pupil on leave during term time interrupts teaching and learning and can disrupt educational progress. Before completing the Withdrawal from Learning form, parents and carers are asked to consider the effect on their child's continuity of education. There are up to 190 statutory school days in one year and up to 175 days (weekends and school holidays) available to use for holidays. Your child may miss out on valuable group work with peers or miss key topics and themes that cannot be repeated. This could lead to gaps in learning. It may also be disruptive for other pupils in lessons when your child needs extra help to catch up.

When deciding whether to authorise term-time leave, the academy will consider:

- the pupils age
- the time and duration of the leave
- the pupil's record of attendance, including any previous term-time absences
- whether there are exceptional circumstances relating to the request
- mark of religious observation falling within term time (at discretion of the Principal)
- A family holiday is not an exceptional circumstance. Supporting evidence should be supplied prior to an absence, as absences cannot be authorised retrospectively.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL *Continued*

Broadly speaking, exceptional circumstances could include;

- acute family trauma
- terminal illness or death of a family member
- rehabilitation from a physical or emotional matter that is supported with medical evidence

Please be advised that in line with Local Authority expectations, term time holiday requests will not be authorised and a fixed penalty notice could be requested.

From August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be increasing and further details can be found by using the following link: <https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/02/29/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>

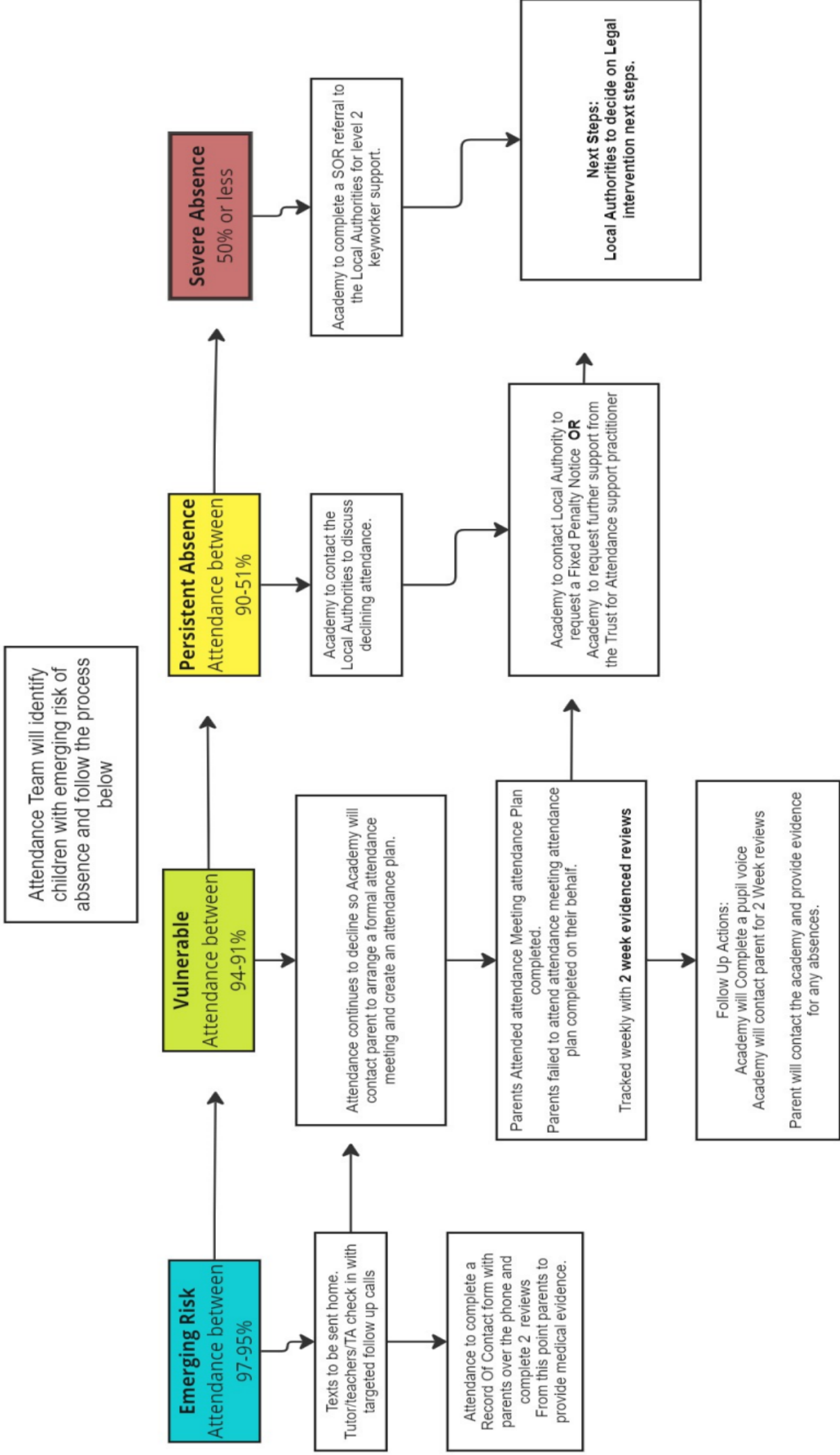
The updates detailed in 'Working together to improve school attendance' mean that our Academy's Attendance Policy will require some changes. This will happen over the summer period and we will issue a link to the revised version upon our return in September.

I hope the above information has been useful and do please contact the academy should you have any questions.

As we head towards the new academic year, please support your child's education by ensuring that they attend school as much as possible.

Mr Maclean

Absence Management Flowchart 2024



GOLD AWARDS

WELL DONE TO OUR GOLD AWARD WINNERS



A BIG WELL DONE TOO TO
MATILDA WHO WAS
AWARDED OUR POLITENESS
MEDAL.



DUDLEY DIARY DATES

Monday 22nd July - Year 2 Leaver's Service at
3.15pm (playground)

Tuesday 23rd July - Last day of Term 6 (normal
finish time)

2nd & 3rd September - INSET DAYS

4th September - First day of Term for children

*Next year's term dates are shown on the calendar
sheet on the next page of today's newsletter.*

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

It is fair to say that many of us are looking forward to the summer holidays and the well deserved rest. For some however, the long summer break can bring with it its own challenges. If there is anything that you are concerned about, remember that you can always contact a member of our safeguarding team and we will do what we can to support.

Please see our DSL email address written above and a reminder of our academy safeguarding officers on the final page of today's newsletter.



Dear Parents and Carers,

Once again, we would like to say just how incredibly proud we are of the children here at Dudley - they never fail to amaze us with their attitude towards learning and the values that they uphold each and every day. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our amazing academy community. We have been truly overwhelmed by your kind words and generosity. Finally, we would like to wish our Year 2 children good luck as they move on to their new schools. What a truly wonderful group of children they are.



Enjoy the summer. Best wishes, Mr Maclean, Mrs Luke & The Dudley Team



East Sussex School Term and Holiday Dates 2024-25

| | SEPTEMBER 2024 | OCTOBER 2024 | NOVEMBER 2024 | DECEMBER 2024 |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Monday | 26 2 9 16 23 | 30 7 14 21 28 | 4 11 18 25 | 2 9 16 23 |
| Tuesday | 27 3 10 17 24 | 1 8 15 22 29 | 5 12 19 26 | 3 10 17 24 |
| Wednesday | 28 4 11 18 25 | 2 9 16 23 30 | 6 13 20 27 | 4 11 18 25 |
| Thursday | 29 5 12 19 26 | 3 10 17 24 31 | 7 14 21 28 | 5 12 19 26 |
| Friday | 30 6 13 20 27 | 4 11 18 25 | 1 8 15 22 29 | 6 13 20 27 |
| Saturday | 31 7 14 21 28 | 5 12 19 26 | 2 9 16 23 30 | 7 14 21 28 |
| Sunday | 1 8 15 22 29 | 6 13 20 27 | 3 10 17 24 | 1 8 15 22 29 |
| | JANUARY 2025 | FEBRUARY 2025 | MARCH 2025 | APRIL 2025 |
| Monday | 30 6 13 20 27 | 3 10 17 24 | 3 10 17 24 31 | 7 14 21 28 |
| Tuesday | 31 7 14 21 28 | 4 11 18 25 | 4 11 18 25 | 1 8 15 22 |
| Wednesday | 1 8 15 22 29 | 5 12 19 26 | 5 12 19 26 | 2 9 16 23 30 |
| Thursday | 2 9 16 23 30 | 6 13 20 27 | 6 13 20 27 | 3 10 17 24 |
| Friday | 3 10 17 24 31 | 7 14 21 28 | 7 14 21 28 | 4 11 18 25 |
| Saturday | 4 11 18 25 | 1 8 15 22 | 1 8 15 22 29 | 5 12 19 26 |
| Sunday | 5 12 19 26 | 2 9 16 23 | 2 9 16 23 30 | 6 13 20 27 |
| | MAY 2025 | JUNE 2025 | JULY 2025 | AUGUST 2025 |
| Monday | 5 12 19 26 | 2 9 16 23 | 30 7 14 21 28 | 4 11 18 25 |
| Tuesday | 6 13 20 27 | 3 10 17 24 | 1 8 15 22 29 | 5 12 19 26 |
| Wednesday | 7 14 21 28 | 4 11 18 25 | 2 9 16 23 30 | 6 13 20 27 |
| Thursday | 1 8 15 22 29 | 5 12 19 26 | 3 10 17 24 31 | 7 14 21 28 |
| Friday | 2 9 16 23 30 | 6 13 20 27 | 4 11 18 25 | 1 8 15 22 29 |
| Saturday | 3 10 17 24 31 | 7 14 21 28 | 5 12 19 26 | 2 9 16 23 30 |
| Sunday | 4 11 18 25 | 1 8 15 22 29 | 6 13 20 27 | 3 10 17 24 31 |

KEY

Staff training (INSET day) Start of term for pupils End of term Public holiday School holiday

Bank and Public Holidays 2023-2024

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Wednesday 25 December 2024 | Christmas Day | Monday 21 April 2025 | Easter Monday |
| Thursday 26 December 2024 | Boxing Day | Monday 5 May 2025 | Early May bank holiday |
| Wednesday 1 January 2025 | New Years Day | Monday 26 May 2025 | Spring bank holiday |
| Friday 18 April 2025 | Good Friday | Monday 25 August 2025 | Summer bank holiday |

Term Length

| Term | From | To | Number of days |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Term 1 | 03 September 2024 | 25 October 2024 | 40 |
| Autumn school holiday | 28 October 2024 | 01 November 2024 | |
| Term 2 | 04 November 2024 | 20 December 2024 | 35 |
| Christmas school holiday | 23 December 2024 | 03 January 2025 | |
| Term 3 | 06 January 2025 | 14 February 2025 | 30 |
| February school holiday | 17 February 2025 | 21 February 2025 | |
| Term 4 | 24 February 2025 | 04 April 2025 | 30 |
| Spring school holiday | 07 April 2025 | 21 April 2025 | |
| Term 5 | 22 April 2025 | 23 May 2025 | 23 |
| May school holiday | 26 May 2025 | 30 May 2025 | |
| Term 6 | 02 June 2025 | 22 July 2025 | 37 |
| | | Total | 195 |

DUDLEY INFANT ACADEMY'S
SUMMER FAYRE RAISED A FANTASTIC
£1714.84

162 HANDS DIPPED INTO THE YUCKY DIP



318 ATTEMPTS TO SPLAT THE RAT



63 BEAUTIFUL FACES PAINTED



771 RAFFLE TICKETS BOUGHT

86 VISITS TO THE SCIENCE HUB TO EXPLORE
AND MIXED UP SLIME



28 AWESOME KEYRINGS DESIGNED



124 TIN CANS SMASHES

27 ATTEMPTS TO BREAK THE PEG RECORD



86 HANDS BRAVED THE FEELY BOXES



132 DUCKS WERE HOOKED

25 FOREST FOLK PUPPETS WERE CREATED

273 ARROWS FIRED AT THE TARGET



ALL THE CHILDREN HAVING FUN IN THE
WATER FUN ZONE



SOO MANY CAKES WERE ENJOYED AND
ICE LOLLIES EATEN.



CROWDS OF CHEEKY CHILDREN THREW
COUNTLESS SPONGES AT MR MACLEAN



MANY HAPPY FACES HAVING
LOTS OF FUN
AND MAKING WONDERFUL MEMORIES



THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH
FOR SUPPORTING OUR EVENT





Marvellous Makers



Marvellous Makers!

Starts 6 July 2024 Ends 7 September 2024

Join this year's Summer Reading Challenge at

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/src

The Summer Reading Challenge is a national scheme produced by the Reading Agency and delivered by public libraries that encourages children to keep reading during the school summer holidays - and to enjoy anything they like to read! Children aged 4-11 are invited to take part and collect rewards for their reading, giving them a positive experience of reading for pleasure.

It's **FREE** to take part, and last year 72% of children taking part felt more confident reading.¹

Sign your child up at www.eastsussex.gov.uk/src. If you don't have a smartphone, computer or tablet, you can sign up using a computer in the library. You can ask a one of our volunteers or a member of staff for help if you need it.

The Challenge will begin in [East Sussex libraries](#) on Saturday 6th July and end on Saturday 7th September.

The Challenge is to read any six books borrowed from the library or downloaded from our [ebook library](#). For children under 4 we have the Pre-school Challenge, where you can collect stickers for each book shared and a special medal sticker at the end.

Children signing up for the Challenge get a character sticker and a Reader Record. Children will be able to collect a prize for each of the six books they have read. When they finish the Challenge they will get a certificate which they can receive in school or at the library. The Challenge is for all children, whatever their reading ability. Children who are not reading independently can share their books with a family member or friend, or they might prefer to listen to audio books.

To take part in Marvellous Makers! children need to have their own library card and PIN. It is easy and free to become a member of the library. Take something with your name, address and signature to the library and you can join the whole family. You can [reset your child's PIN online](#) if you can't remember it, or ask in the library for a new one. You will need the PIN to sign up to the Challenge.

Visit <http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> for fun games, author interviews and book recommendations.

(1) The Reading Agency 2023 [Summer Reading Challenge: Reach and Engagement 2023 - The Reading Agency](#)

Squid

SQUID HOLIDAY CLUB

Free art and food holiday club every Tuesday this summer at Hastings Contemporary

Enjoy creative workshops, gallery activities and a free nutritious lunch. You will head home with an art pack and free family day ticket. For children aged 7-14 years old.

TUESDAYS (10am - 3pm)

30 July
6 August
13 August
20 August
27 August

Free for those eligible

This club is a welcoming and inclusive environment. If you have any questions or concerns about joining, we want to hear from you. All are welcome but priority will be given to children eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

Register your interest:
www.hastingscontemporary.org/projects



If you need help registering, please contact us:
01424 728377
events@hastingscontemporary.org

Hastings Contemporary
Rock-a-Nore Road,
Hastings, TN34 3DW

**HASTINGS
CONTEMPORARY**





Old Hastings House Presents...



2024 Grand Summer



Fayre



On

Saturday 27th July

At

Craft Stalls

2pm – 4pm

Cakes

Raffle

Soak the Manager

Bottle Tombola

Live Music

Plants

BBQ

Fun & Games

All Welcome

Dudley Safeguarding Officers



Mr Maclean



Mrs Luke



Mrs Froude



Mrs Sankey



Ms Denning

Academy Safeguarding Team - DSL@dudleyinfantacademy.org.uk
Chair of Local Board - Mr David Marks d.marks@brightonacademiustrust.org.uk
Safeguarding Link Trustee - Ms Siobhan Denning s.denning@brightonacademiustrust.org.uk