

DUDLEY NEWS



EASTER BONNET PARADE

A reminder that our Easter Bonnet Parade returns to Dudley on Friday 4th April, the last day of term. The children can make a bonnet/hat at home, which can be brought in to school on the day. There will then be a parade in the playground at 2.40pm which parents/carers are invited to attend (the academy gates will be open from 2.30pm). You may then take your child home at the earlier time of 3pm. If you are unable to join us, we will of course look after the children here until the day finishes at 3.30pm.

CLASS PHOTOS

On Tuesday 1st April our children will be having their class photographs taken. Please can we ask that children come to school in their correct uniform and where possible wear either a Dudley jumper or cardigan for this.

MEDICAL MATTERS

We have recently been asked on several occasions if we are able to administer over the counter medication. As stated in our First Aid and Medical policy (which can be found on the UoBAT website) **only prescription medicines will be administered**. Prescriptions must have been issued by a doctor, nurse, dentist or pharmacist. However in exceptional circumstances an academy may administer non-prescription medication with written parental consent, when it would be detrimental to a child's health or school attendance not to do so e.g. where a pupil/student has a long term condition that is treated by non-prescription medication. Our staff are unable to administer over the counter medication and children should not bring lip balms or moisturising creams into school with them. We thank you for your help and understanding with this matter. Should you wish to discuss any of the above please do call in and speak to a member of our office team.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

It has been noticed that we have a number of children arriving at school wearing brightly coloured trainers. As detailed in our Uniform Policy, please could we politely ask that children only wear black school shoes or black leather trainers. To take a look at our policy, please visit:
<https://www.dudleyinfantacademy.org.uk/school-life/uniform>



LIVING EGGS - ARRIVAL OF THE DUCKLINGS!

Our living eggs arrived this week and the children have marvelled at them hatching and seeing them grow and change this week. This is a fantastic learning opportunity for the children and has certainly enriched their Science knowledge of life cycles.



ATTENDANCE & ABSENCE

Holidays during term time (Withdrawal from Learning)

We are asking for your support in ensuring that holidays are not taken in school time so that your child has the very best opportunity to succeed. Guidance was issued last year by the Department for Education (DfE) that applies to all absences requested during term-time. The DfE only allows a Principal the discretion to authorise an absence if they believe that there are exceptional or unavoidable circumstances.

At Dudley Infant Academy, we've had an unprecedented number of requests so far this academic year for children to be withdrawn from learning, in order to attend a family holiday. These represent 15% of our school community and equate to 274 sessions (137 days) of learning missed. These are curriculum lessons that can often not be caught up on.

Taking a pupil on leave during term time interrupts teaching and learning and can disrupt educational progress and attainment. Before completing the Withdrawal from Learning form (available from the academy office), parent and carers are asked to consider the effect on their child's continuity of education. It should be noted that 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 will miss out on valuable group work with peers, could miss key topics and themes that cannot be repeated, and will potentially not be here for statutory assessment cycles. This could lead to gaps in learning and can make it challenging for teachers to undertake accurate assessments of children's progress and attainment. 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

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
- 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

If an unauthorised absence is taken, we will consult with East Sussex local authority for them to consider whether to issue a Penalty Notice. This could mean a fine of £160 per parent for each child – the fine is reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days. If the fine is unpaid court action can follow. Please use the following link for further details.

[Fines for parents for taking children out of school: What you need to know – The Education Hub](#)

Sent with today's newsletter is further information relating to attendance and absence. Could we please encourage you to read it so that there is a shared understanding of the processes relating to school attendance.

Your support with this matter is greatly appreciated.

Mr Maclean

ATTENDANCE & REPORTING AN ABSENCE

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of some key information in our academy Attendance Policy (the full policy is available on the academy website or can be provided to you if required):

Parents/carers are expected to:

- ◆ Make sure their child attends every day and is on time
- ◆ Contact the school to report their child's absence before 8.30am on the day of the absence and each subsequent day of absence and advise when they are expected to return
- ◆ Specify the reason for any absence, enabling the attendance officer to apply the correct absence code in the register
- ◆ Provide the school with more than 1 emergency contact number for their child and a contactable email address
- ◆ Ensure that, where possible, appointments for their child are made outside of the school day
- ◆ Avoid taking planned absences during term time
- ◆ Work in partnership with the academy to promote good attendance and punctuality habits

If your child is absent and no reason has been received our academy office team will have to contact you to establish a reason for absence. If your child is going to be absent, please leave a message on our office absence line or, alternatively, email the office: office@dudleyinfantacademy.org.uk

Thank you.

MUSICIAN VISIT

On Thursday, a group of Year 2 children visited the White Rock Theatre and had the opportunity to meet musician, Jasdeep Singh Degun and listen to him play the Sitar. A fantastic morning that certainly inspired us all.



ART ENRICHMENT - PEARLS OF THE SEA PROJECT

This year, Year 2 have been working with Hastings Contemporary on their Pearls of the Sea art project. If you would like to see Dudley's fantastic art work on display as part of *Pearls of the Sea: Landing Places*, the exhibition opens tomorrow and runs until Sunday 1st June.

On Thursday 10th April, the gallery have a special Family Day dedicated to Pearls of the Sea with lots of art activities for children of all ages and a free drop-in workshop with a Pearls of the Sea artist facilitator. We are also pleased to share that every child in Year 2 will be given a complimentary family ticket, so do please take advantage of this and take a look at Dudley's beautiful work.

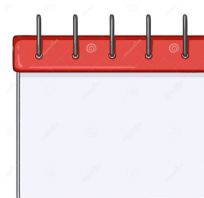
SAFEGUARDING CONTACT INFORMATION

Designated Safeguarding team (for Dudley
Infant Academy) -
DSL@dudleyinfantacademy.org.uk
David Marks (Chair of Local Board)
d.marks@brightonacademiustrust.org.uk



DUDLEY DIARY DATES

1st April - Class Photos
3rd April - Year 1 Planetarium Experience
4th April - Last day of term
4th April - Easter Bonnet Parade 2.40pm (playground)
5th April - 21st April - EASTER HOLIDAY
22nd April - Start of Term 5



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another great week here at Dudley and it was a pleasure to award those children that uphold our Dudley values with their PDA badges today.
Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine.

Mr Maclean & Mrs Luke

Fun and Games at The Stade Hall

For families with children age 5–11

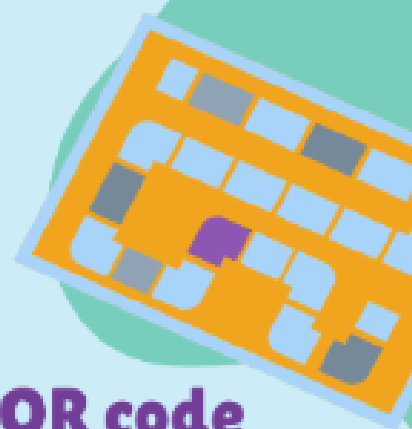
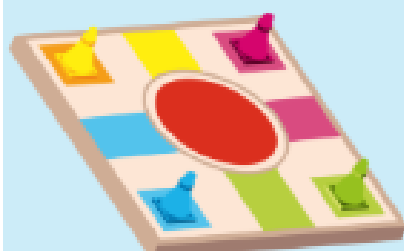
**Tuesday 8th April 2– 4pm
and**

Monday 14th April 2–4pm



The Stade Hall, Hastings, TN34 3FJ

**Parents/Carers to supervise their children at all
times**



BOOKING REQUIRED– scan the QR code

One ticket for EACH child attending

**For more info contact 07557 748620 or
lesley.lambeth@eastsussex.gov.uk**



SHELL OUT!



FOR DUDLEY

IDEAS:

- Chores for change
- Sponsored silence
- Dog walking
- Toy/ Bake sale
- Sell your art
- Car wash...
- Anything you like!

THE CHALLENGE:

FILL YOUR EGG WITH AS MUCH MONEY AS YOU CAN BY 25TH APRIL!

The class with the highest total raised will receive an extra playtime and ice lollies!

Plus certificates for the best fund raising ideas and the top fund-raiser in each class!

All proceeds from this event will go towards curriculum enrichment activities for the whole school.

Please remember to include a note with your child's name, class and total raised inside the egg.



POD

Dudley Safeguarding Officers



Mr Maclean



Mrs Luke



Mrs Froude



Mrs Sankey



Ms Durban

Academy Safeguarding Team - DSL@dudleyinfantacademy.org.uk
Chair of Local Board - Mr David Marks d.marks@brightonacademiestrust.org.uk
Trustee Safeguarding Link - Ms Rose Durban r.durban@brightonacademiestrust.org.uk