

Infant Site

Dallow Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 1TG
 Tel: 01582 733764- Option 2
 Email: infantadmin@foxdellprimary.uk

Foxdell Primary School

Growing, Learning and Achieving Together

Junior Site

Dallow Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 1UP
 Tel: 01582 733764- Option 1
 Email: junioradmin@foxdellprimary.uk



NEWSLETTER : Friday 17th January/ Spring Term: Issue: 1

Head Teacher's Corner



Dear Families,

Happy New Year and welcome back to the start of 2025! I hope you all had a restful holiday, and were able to spend quality time with family and friends. Over the last two weeks, the children have spent time reflecting on 2024 and thinking about their goals and dreams for this year and we look forward to working with them to achieve these.

It has been a busy start to the term. As you will be aware, last week we had a visit from Ofsted. Although the report will not be available yet, I want to thank all the staff and pupils for engaging throughout the process, and to parents who took part in the survey or spoke directly with the inspectors.

Year 1 children started the new year with a trip to Wardown Museum, where they had a fantastic time learning about toys from the past and Year 3 took part in a virtual workshop about the Indus Valley as part of their learning in History about the Indus Valley civilisation.

This week we held a Speech and Language workshop for Reception parents, delivered by speech and language therapists. For those who attended, we hope you found the session helpful and that you were able to take away useful strategies to support your child at home. If you were unable to attend but would like more information, please contact Mrs. Hermans.

Next week, we will be holding a Sleep Routines Workshop and all families across the school are invited to attend. Further details can be found later in this newsletter.

Finally, we are continuing to focus on improving attendance and punctuality this term. Please help us by ensuring your child arrives at school on time and attends regularly.

Wishing you all a great start to the new year.

Best wishes,

Mrs R Nisar
 Headteacher



Tuesday 21st January
 Year 5 Multi Sports at Inspire (selected children)

Wednesday 22nd January
 Sleep Routines Workshop
 Infant Site @ 2.30pm
 All families invited

Tuesday 28th January
 A.I.M Higher Maths Day
 (selected children from Y3 and Y4)

Year 1 Multi Skills Session
 (selected children from Y1)

Wednesday 29 th January
 Year 6 Weights and Heights check

Thursday 30th January
 Year 5 and 6 Parent Information Session about Grafham Waters Residential 2025 at 9.00am

Monday 3rd February
 Mental Health Week

The Ridgeway Photo Project (selected Y5 and 6 children)

Monday 3rd February
 Mental Health Week

Friday 7th February



The weather has been much colder. Please make sure your child has warm clothes and a coat for school and that their clothing is clearly labelled with their name.



Don't forget the Reading Cafe at the Infant Site- every Thursday morning in your child's class!



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

The new attendance guidelines came into place from 19th August 2024. More information and FAQs about attendance can be found on our school website: <https://www.foxdellprimary.uk/attendance-1/>

Government guidance can be found here:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/08/19/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>

We are open for 190 days in a school year which equates to 380 sessions including the morning and afternoon registration.



Our whole school attendance target is 96%

The class with the best attendance each week wins the attendance trophy and receives a best attendance certificate. Children in Reception receive a lucky dip prize if they have 100% attendance for the week. Attendance for the last two weeks:

Class	Attendance WB 06.01.25	Attendance WB 13.01.25	Class	Attendance WB 06.01.25	Attendance WB 13.01.25	Class	Attendance WB 02.12.24	Attendance WB 13.01.25
Wrens	96.9%	95%	Badgers	95.7%	98.1%	Ash	85.6%	91.5%
Swifts	96.5%	92%	Hedgehogs	95.9%	90%	Ivy	92.1%	94%
Robins	92.9%	99.2%	Chestnuts	95.3%	97.6%	Cedar	97.5%	94%
Dragonflies	97.8%	91.8%	Acorns	93.5%	95.2%	Kestrels	97.2%	97.4%
Ladybirds	94.6%	92%	Pinecones	97.8%	98.3%	Kites	99.6%	96.8%
Butterflies	95.3%	94.8%	Beech	98.1%	100%	Eagles	92.9%	97.5%
Squirrels	96%	97.6%	Oak	100%	97.5%			



Our Class H.E.R.O's for Week ending 10.01.25 and 17.01.25

are:
Infant Site: Dragonflies and Badgers

Junior Site: Oak and Beech

STARS OF THE WEEK



Congratulations to our STARS for the week ending 06.01.25 and 13.01.25

Robins	Wrens	Swifts	Dragonflies	Ladybirds	Butterflies	Badgers	Squirrels
			Nicholas Mirha Nusaybah Huzaifah	Malaika Erion Zaram Anabia	Azhaan Musa K. Ishaaq Uthmaan	Zahir Sarah Hud Abdullah	Aameera Timur Husayn
Hedgehogs	Chestnuts	Acorns	Pinecones	Beech	Oak	Ash	Ivy
Samad Ayo Abbas Emma	Nimra Aisha Soha Maryum	Hoorab Rebecca Tahmina Talal	Daniyal K Moh'd Asghar Hassan Mahika	Abubakar Eshaal Rehan Maira	Kodi Iman Birpartap Mehtab	Ajwa Selah Ibraheem Aizha	Taj-Roha Abdul Hadi Saffiyah Rayyan
		Cedar	Kestrels	Kites	Eagles		
		Damirs Aysha Tony Haris	Isa Saheejdeep Anum Ibraheem	Sofia Muhammed Aizah Abdullah	Rayyan Ariana Amara Daniel K		



Our Value for Spring 1 is



Our linked values are:
Friendship
Trust
Empathy

Every kid deserves someone whose eyes light up when they first see them. Sometimes, that person needs to be you.



Strategies for Building Relationships with Learners

Clipart by Kate Radfield & Sarah Pecorino | www.thepathway2success.com | Pathway 2 SUCCESS

- Embrace their individuality
- Look for the positive every day
- Make sure your eyes light up when you see them
- Remember little things about their lives
- Give special responsibilities
- Greet by name every morning
- Invite students to eat lunch with you
- Don't take tough days personally
- Be a little silly sometimes
- Go to sports games or activities
- Apologize when you mess up
- Tell them you care about them

Around our School



We want to thank all our pupil leaders (school council, eco council, prefects and head boy and head girl) for their confidence and positivity in their talks with Ofsted. All the adults know what a nerve wracking experience this can be and they all spoke with grace and poise.

Ofsted were blown away by their manners and values.

We are extremely proud of them!

Family Workers Corner



We all have times when we need some parenting support. With My Family Coach, you get all the help you need. Our help and ideas cover every stage of your child's development. We'll support you through the tough times, inspire you with new ideas, and share practical tips to make parenting that little bit easier.

<https://www.myfamilycoach.com/>



Dear Parents

Just letting you know that Foxdell Primary School is now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 8,000 retailers will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them - at no extra cost to yourself!

These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

You can find our easyfundraising page at

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/foxdell-primary-school/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-email1

Thank you so much!



[How it works](#) [Find a cause](#) [Register a cause](#) [Register a business](#) [Log in](#) [Sign up](#)

You spend, brands donate.

Sign up to easyfundraising and see your favourite brands donate to the cause you care about whenever you shop with them.

[Sign up and get started](#)



[amazon.co.uk](#)

[ebay](#)

[Argos](#)

[JOHN LEWIS
& PARTNERS](#)

Around our School

Year R

In PSED, we have been learning about perseverance, and what it means to not give up, even when something is really tricky! We completed puzzles in teams and thought about what we could do if we were finding it hard.

In Maths we have been learning about mass. We worked on building our own boats and then testing how many cubes the boat could hold until it sunk. We also practised balancing scales using a chosen item and then cubes.



Year 1

The children thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Wardown Museum. For our History topic, we are looking at toys. Part of our visit to Wardown Museum included a toys workshop. The children got to look at and play with some old toys. Some of the toys were 130 years old!



Year 2

In maths, we have been exploring money and children have been learning to recognise coins and notes used in the UK. They have used pounds and pennies to pay for items in the shop.

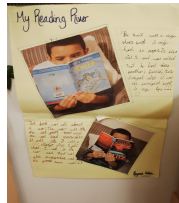
In English, we have been learning a new text, Little Red Riding Hood. The children are getting very confident with retelling the story to help them write their own story later this half-term.



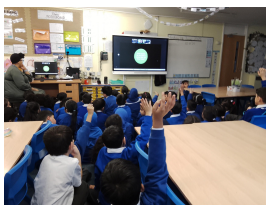
Around our School

Year 3

The children have had a great start to the half term. We started with the hook for our Talk for writing unit in which we are writing a wishing story. A strange chest turned up in year 3 with mysterious objects that we had to investigate. We have been impressed with the work done in the reading river homework.

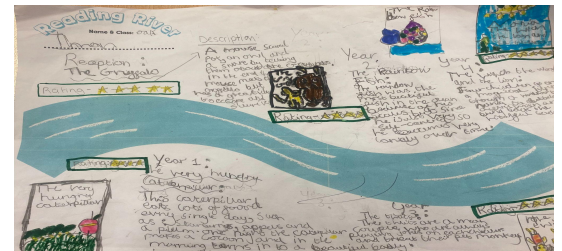
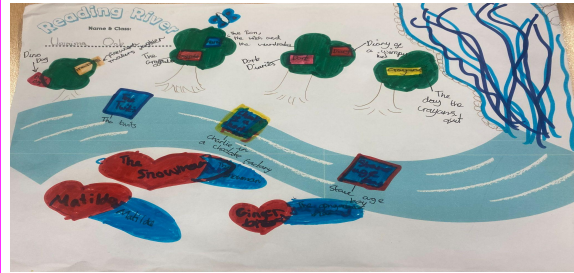


As an introduction to our new history topic 'Indus Valley', we had a British Museum virtual workshop on the Indus Valley which the children enjoyed taking part in.



Year 4

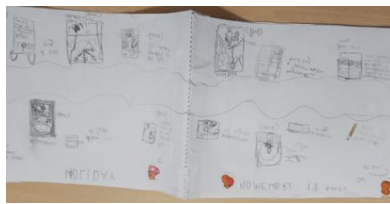
The children have returned back to school full of excitement, ready to dive back into their learning! It's great to see how well the children have engaged with reading and have completed the reading river homework. We're so impressed with the effort they've shown!



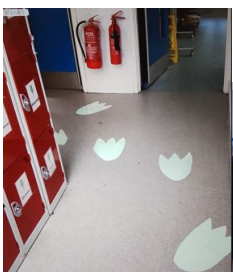
In maths, we have been learning about multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. Please ensure that the children are completing their maths homework on MyMaths.

Year 5

We have been really impressed by the homework the children have done to complete their reading rivers. Here are some examples of their excellent work:



On the first day of term, we discovered that a secret visitor had come to our classrooms where they had left behind, footprints, a nest and some metallic eggs. We have been describing the kind of creature that may have left them.



Year 6

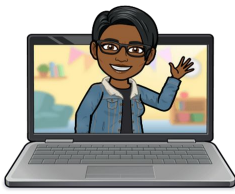
Year 6 have settled well back into school this half term. We had a very exciting start to the year with our hook into World War II. The children experienced what it would have been like to be in an air raid and got to handle some artefacts.



This term is our last full term before SATs in May (w/c 12.5.25) and we know that they will all work their hardest.

Please ensure they are reading every night and completing their weekly comprehension and MyMaths (online) homework.

A lot of the children seem very tired on their return to school and this is impacting their ability to concentrate. Please can we ask all parents to ensure their children go to bed at a reasonable hour and limit their screen time before bed. We are grateful for your cooperation and support.



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Currently, children are growing up in an immediate and throwaway culture when it comes to content that's consumed online. So much material is now deliberately created to be shorter in nature – and may often contain hidden elements such as advertising, or extreme political and cultural views. With complex algorithms built to keep people on their phones and engaging with social media content, it's becoming increasingly difficult to reduce time spent on these platforms.

1 REDUCE DOOMSCROLLING

It's concerning how common for young people to spend hours 'doomscrolling': trawling through social media and aimlessly viewing every post they see, many of which might make them feel sad or anxious. Social media can be useful for keeping in touch with friends and family, as well as staying up to date on current events. However, it's important to use it with a clear purpose, instead of endlessly scrolling through content, which could lead to young people accidentally discovering harmful material.

2 TALK ABOUT THE CONTENT

It's important to keep apprised of the kind of content that a young person is being exposed to. Discussing what they're watching online can help you understand why they're using social media in the first place. Furthermore, ensure that children are aware of hidden content, such as advertising of a product – and that they know how to spot that the creator is being paid to talk about it.

3 FIND POSITIVE ASPECTS

Despite all the concerns, there's plenty of wholesome content on social media. It's worth spending time with children to help them find something suitable and enjoyable. Perhaps you'll even discover a joint interest, and you can enjoy the content alongside the child. As part of this, you should also point out why certain things shouldn't be given attention, explaining why it isn't suitable and why it's been created in the first place.

4 REDUCE SCREENTIME

Young people can sometimes be unaware of the exact amount of time they spend looking at social media. Smart phones don't just have the capacity to monitor screentime; they also record how much time is spent on each app. Consider setting targets to reduce this and support children to meet these goals, gradually reducing the amount of time spent on different apps.

5 FILL THE VOID

Monitoring and reducing screentime can create a lot of free time to fill, and young people can even face withdrawal symptoms when made to step away from their phones. To mitigate this, consider what offline activities you could introduce the child to, and what they would enjoy. This can ensure that young users will permanently cut down on their screentime, rather than temporarily doing so while they know it's being monitored.

6 REDUCE NOTIFICATIONS

One way in which social media platforms keep people coming back is through notifications. The algorithms behind these apps track people's daily habits, including the times of the day where they're most likely to engage with the platform. This data is then used to deliver specifically timed notifications to draw them back in. To avoid young users being exposed to this tactic, simply turn off notifications for the app in their phone's settings.

7 LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD

Overexposure to social media can distort someone's perception of the real world – from body norms to social conventions. This filtered environment can make it hard for young people to distinguish reality from online content, which is now becoming even more difficult with the rise of AI. To mitigate this concern, take time to teach young people how to discern truth from fiction, both on and off social media.

8 DIGITAL DETOX

Encouraging young people to take a 'digital detox', from even just a couple of the apps that they use, can result in an overall reduction of screentime and less exposure to potentially harmful content. Alternatively, rather than avoiding the app entirely, encourage children to take a 'digital detox' from content creators and influencers, and instead, keep in touch with friends and family – which is generally a far healthier use of these platforms.

9 MODEL GOOD BEHAVIOUR

Consider the habits that you're demonstrating to your children. How much time do you spend on your phone? How much do you 'doomscroll'? Comparing your own usage with the child's could put things into perspective for them – or if it turns out that you're also overusing social media, it can turn screentime reduction into a joint mission, which you and the child can work on together.

10 BE CLEAR ON THE "WHY"

Research shows that young people can become addicted to social media. There are many schools that are moving towards being 'phone free' due to the negative impacts of using social media and phones continuously. It's important to explain to young people why managing screentime is important. Set out the benefits and ensure they have all the relevant information, so it's not just seen as a punishment.

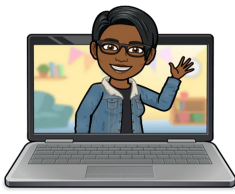
Meet Our Expert

John Insley is a senior leader in a Birmingham secondary school and has vast experience in leading schools over the past 15 years – including the development of computing curriculums across primary and secondary schools, writing e-safety policies and supporting schools with computing and e-safety advice.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/top-tips-for-safety-on-social-media>



ONLINE SAFETY CORNER



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about JUSTALK KIDS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

JustTalk Kids is a child's version of the JusTalk app – a highly popular social networking platform – designed for users up to 13 years of age, allowing them to video call, message and participate in group chats. While adults can link their own JusTalk account to their child's and make use of parental controls, it's important to understand the risks associated with the app.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR PREMIUM ACCESS

While JusTalk Kids is free, there's the option to subscribe to a kids' premium account or a premium family account. At a cost, this feature allows children to have access to more fun features such as games they can play with others in a call; exclusive stickers; a badge denoting them as a premium subscriber; and exclusive ringtones and themes.

POTENTIAL DATA LEAKS

JusTalk and JusTalk Kids claim to be secure and encrypted, going so far as to state that even the developers themselves won't access your data. However, a security lapse in 2022 highlighted that messages were not in fact encrypted – leading to concerns around the security of the app and the transparency of the development team.

RESISTANCE TO CONTROLS

JusTalk Kids endeavours to allow children the sense of having a chat-based app while allowing parents to set controls (within the app or from their own adult JusTalk account). The basis behind this is positive; however, some children are challenging their parents by refusing to use JusTalk Kids, preferring to use the adult version without any restrictions in place.

CYBERBULLYING

Online chats can provide a sense of anonymity, leading some users to post things which they wouldn't normally say in person. Combined with the option of group chats, there's a risk that young people might join in with this kind of behaviour, escalating it further and potentially turning what should be a fun experience into something deeply negative.

KNOWING THE PARENT PASSCODE

After downloading JusTalk Kids, parents can set a passcode which users must enter to add contacts. The parental controls help to manage which content can be viewed and who children can add as a contact; this then allows children to chat with friends in a controlled environment. However, prospective contacts don't have to know a specific username. In theory, someone could type in a random name and then add them as a friend.

TOO MUCH SCREENTIME

A report by the UK Parliament Education Committee highlighted a 52% increase in children's screen time between 2020 and 2022 – as well as finding that 25% of children used their smartphones in a manner consistent with screen addiction. Introducing children to social networking apps when they're too young can lead to bad digital habits and a reliance on technology from an early age.

Advice for Parents & Educators

JUSTIFY THE CONTROLS

If parents allow their child to use JusTalk Kids, they should explain that they're putting parental controls in place to make the app safer. Make sure the child knows not to put their full name on the account and doesn't use a photo of themselves as their profile picture. This type of open discussion will help to ensure that a child is aware of the app's potential risks and knows how to reduce them.

DOS AND DON'TS OF SHARING

Some children might not understand the potential dangers of oversharing online. Set clear guidelines around what is and isn't safe to share on the internet, and discuss the concept of a digital footprint. Children need to understand that the things they say and share online can never be completely erased. Even if they delete it themselves, it can be saved and distributed by others.

TALK ABOUT ONLINE FRIENDSHIPS

Young children could be excited to use this app. However, highlight that they must do so in a positive, respectful and responsible manner. While it can be easy to get caught up in a group chat, it's important to talk to others politely and call out any unpleasant behaviour. Discuss the importance of limiting their contacts to people they know in real life and use parental controls to enforce this.

ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Apps like JusTalk can sometimes lend themselves to bullying behaviours. Parents should monitor what their child is sending and receiving, check in with them regularly and encourage them to share their feelings (both positive and negative) at home. Remind them that they can block a contact if someone is treating them disrespectfully.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/justalk-kids>



Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 08.01.2025

Workshop



Do You Want to Learn More About Sleep Routines?



WED 22ND
JAN - 2:30PM
- INFANT SITE

We welcome you to come along to find out about:

ALL FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO LEARN ABOUT HOW TO DEVELOP GOOD SLEEP HABITS IN CHILDREN.



INSTILLING A SLEEP ROUTINE



LIMITING SCREEN TIME



WHY SLEEP ROUTINES HELP YOUR CHILD IN SCHOOL.

CONTACT US FOR MORE
INFORMATION



01582 733764




WWW.FOXDELLPRIMARY.UK


SEND/ Health and Wellbeing




PARENT/CARER TRAINING


First Steps to Supporting an Autistic Individual

 Part 1: Wednesday 12th March
6-7.30pm

 Part 2: Wednesday 19th March
6-7.30pm

Autism & Behaviour

 Part 1: Thursday 27th March
10-11.30am

 Part 2: Thursday 3rd April
10-11.30am

To Book your place:

Email: enquiries@autismbeds.org
Call us: 01234 984817

Childrens' Services



Online Training
£20 PER FAMILY
NEW: 2 Part Course



LOAF

**LOADS OF
AUTISTIC FUN**

A SATURDAY GROUP FOR
AUTISTIC CHILDREN
AGED 3-12 YEARS, AND
THEIR FAMILIES

Book Now!

 01234 214871

 enquiries@autismbeds.org



**BEDFORD
BIGGLESWADE
LUTON LEIGHTON
BUZZARD**

LOAF is a Saturday morning activity group which the whole family can attend. The sessions provide a safe and inclusive environment for autistic children aged 3-12 years to access a variety of activities including soft play, arts & crafts, cooking, sensory and outdoor play. We also aim to provide parents/carers with a short break during the session whilst their child is supported by trained staff and volunteers.

To find out more about our services please visit:
autismbedfordshire.net



SEND/ Health and Wellbeing

CAN YOU HELP SHAPE SEND SERVICES IN LUTON?



Together improving outcomes for SEND

We are reaching out to parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Luton to help us to develop guidance for schools and other parents and carers.

By attending a friendly online meeting you can make a huge difference and help us make the changes you want to see!

Can you tell us **what would really help families** who are new to SEND or tell us **what support has helped your child** the most? Your voice matters, we really do want to hear from you!

Interested in finding out more?

Email Natalie at SENDluton@luton.gov.uk for further details- many thanks!

Community



Do you know about your school nurse service?

Whatever it is that may be worrying you or your child, the school nurse team can help.

We are:

- Friendly
- Approachable
- Here to listen
- Available to visit at school or at home
- Completely confidential

You can arrange an appointment for your child by speaking to their teacher. Alternatively, call us on 0300 555 0606 or email ccs.bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub.net



Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust: delivering excellence in children's community health services across Bedfordshire and Luton.



Community

**ENROL TODAY
VIA OUR
WEBSITE**



Kidquest

Quality care at affordable prices

**NEW FOR
2025**

ACTIVITIES

- Football ●
- Multi sports ●
- Dodgeball ●
- Cricket ●
- Film Club ●

and many more exciting activities
for your child to discover

**EVERY SUNDAY
11AM – 2PM**

LOCATION:

Beech Hill Primary School
Dunstable Rd, Luton , LU4 8BW
Entrance via Hampton Rd



Contact us for more information

Phone: 07561364510

Email: info@kidquest.co.uk

Website: www.kidquest.co.uk

