

14th March 2025

School Vision: **Success at the Heart of the Community**
We: **Nurture.....Inspire.....Achieve**

School value: **kindness**

The children have been full of energy this week – the sun has been shining and it's impossible to miss the signs of Spring that are popping up all around us. I watched Cedar and Holly Classes planting and caring for some flowers in their outdoor learning areas. This is part of their science learning as they are observing and naming the different parts of plants and learning the names of some common garden flowers. It has certainly brightened up our pond area – and I was absolutely delighted to see that the ducks have returned: they can often be spotted sitting amongst the plants, snacking on the bird food that the children feed to them most days. Quite a few frogs have also been spied in the water – hopefully we'll be able to see frogspawn soon and watch the tadpoles grow.

Other Classes that have been looking to the new season as part of their science learning are Acorns and Saplings who have had great fun making salt dough ladybirds as part of their minibeast project and Seedlings who have enjoyed reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and learning about the lifecycle of a butterfly. They were able to name all the colours they used to create beautiful patterns on their own butterflies.

Holly Class have also had a great time in the children's kitchen this week where they have been making their own juice by mixing fruits in the blender. Squeezing the fruit into the top of the blender has helped to develop fine motor skills while all the time practising the "j for juice" sound. What a fun and creative way to learn! Delicious too!

Olive Class have been living the dream with 2 trips out. One was to Cineworld to watch Kensuke's Kingdom which is a book they've been reading in class. The visit was free to families as the tickets were donated and the children travelled on the bus into Town. I know they really enjoyed going upstairs on the double decker and seeing the route from a different viewpoint!

Their other visit was to the Philharmonic Hall in Liverpool with Cherry Class where they thoroughly enjoyed a performance called "The World in One City: A Musical Journey". The teachers returned to school absolutely bursting with pride at their amazing behaviour throughout the entire time. They truly were excellent ambassadors for Dallam School.

More learning was taken outside in Maple Class when they combined English maths and science to learn about blue whales. They found out that they can grow as long as 30m long. They went outside to predict how long they thought that was before using metre sticks to measure and see if they were right. 30m is massive!! They had great fun running races along the length of a big, blue whale to get a really good idea of how big they can be.

In Oak Class, the children were set a challenge this week in their science lessons. They had torches and mirrors and worked together to shine a light on the BACK of a target. They soon figured out how to use what they know about how light travels and the laws of reflection to hit the target accurately. I don't remember having fun like that when I was learning science in school – but it was a VERY long time ago!

It was great to see so many parents and carers in school for parents' evenings this week. I know that it's a late night for teachers, but they really appreciate the time to catch up with you about your children's learning. I hope that you also found the meetings helpful. If you were unable to attend, your child's teacher will be in touch by the end of next week for a quick catch up.

The Warrington Guardian have asked us to share information about Their Education Awards with you. They want to highlight everything great about education across the town. There are 13 categories and I know I'm biased, but I believe that Dallam Primary is truly special. If you agree with me, perhaps you could nominate someone in school in one of the categories.

These are the links to the website:

<https://www.warringtonguardian.co.uk/news/24997377.warrington-guardian-education-awards-2025---enter/>

and the nomination form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/iVfw6xmgEp>

or use the QR code:



It would be lovely to see Dallam represented alongside other Warrington schools. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Downey

Attendance – In School – On Time – Every Day

Last week, there were some pretty nasty bugs around causing some children to have upset stomachs. Despite this 3 classes topped 96% attendance– Well Done Cedar, Willow and Oak, Classes – 1 PALS point each.

4 classes improved their attendance from the previous week. Well done in such a tricky week – keep it up!

| Class | Attendance Last week |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| Seedlings | 85 |
| Acorns | 83 |
| Ash | 94 |
| Cedar | 97 |
| Holly | 94 |
| Hazel | 94 |
| Rowan | 93 |
| Maple | 93 |
| Sycamore | 93 |
| Willow | 99 |
| Olive | 92 |
| Oak | 96 |
| Cherry | 92 |

I don't want to give away too much before next Friday's letter, but this week is looking amazing for attendance. On Wednesday afternoon, we had to check twice – the attendance of children over 5 years old was **99.7%!** **HOW FANTASTIC IS THAT?** I can't remember ever seeing it so high – Thank You to all parents/carers and children for sharing our ambition to be the best in every way – including for attendance.

If you need support with attendance, talk to us – we can work together to make small changes that have a positive impact.

Red Nose Day

Next Friday, 21st March, is Red Nose Day. Every year, we support this important event by accessorising our school uniform with something red. It could be a red nose, a red t-shirt, red tights or socks, a red bow, red trainers or red deely boppers – the possibilities are endless.

We will collect any donations that you would like to make and pass them on to Comic Relief who make such a difference to people's lives locally, nationally and globally.

Drop off and Pick up

A few things have come to my attention this week around drop off and pick up.

- Safeguarding is our number one priority in school. Please support this by putting your mobile phone away when you come onto the school site – I've noticed quite a few parents and carers on their phones when they come to pick up at the end of the day. Please don't be offended if a member of staff asks you to put your phone away.
- Unless you have a blue badge to park in a disabled space and have arranged this with school, please don't bring your car onto the car park. Access is via the intercom at the barrier – please don't tailgate the car in front of you – we limit vehicles on the school site to keep the children and their families safe.
- It is lovely to see children using bikes and scooters to come to school. Please make sure that your child does not ride them on the school site – including the car park. This is to keep everyone who is dropping off and picking up safe. I have spoken to a number of families this week who have been experienced near misses with their younger children and pushchairs.

Thank you for supporting us to keep our school site safe for everyone who uses it.

Parent Learning

We have FREE parent learning starting at Meadowside. Stress awareness which starts 21/03 for 3 sessions 9.30 to 2.30. Food Safety which is 2 sessions starting 31/03 (we used this to train parents so that they can support with preparing snack!)

When we carried out parent learning last year it was really successful - we started with the food safety and ended up on level 2 TA course from that we have employed 3 midday assistants and a kitchen assistant, other ladies have gone onto working as TAs in other schools.

School Social Media Survey

School are looking its communication strategy, please could you complete the link below.

<https://forms.gle/sEKGnwe8gTgCiQ838>



Lead Learners this week: a child who has shown the new school value of kindness.

Seedlings: River for always being kind to her peers and playing with our new members of the class.

Acorns: Morgan for helping his friends whenever they need.

Ash: Tianna for showing the act of kindness and including different friends in her play.

Cedar: Mirvan has shown kindness towards his friends when working in a group, sharing equipment and helping others.

Rowan: Alan is always showing kindness in school. This week he has been spotted a few times by the class team offering help to his friends during English and maths.

Maple: Noah for always trying to help and support his peers inside and outside the classroom.

Sycamore: Emily P for being inclusive with others and showing kindness to her friends.

Olive: Demi for always showing our school value of kindness. She shows this in class supporting her friends and out on the playground.

Oak: Mason for being kind and supporting another child during SATs practice.

Holly: Christopher - for being kind to his friends and trying to include them in his play. Well done!

Cherry: Theo - for looking after younger children in our school when completing his WOW ambassador role daily. Well done Theo!

THIS WEEK'S PALS POINTS, READING CHAMPIONS AND MAD ABOUT MATHS AWARDS

PALS POINTS – Positive Attitude to Learning points:

100 PALS = Dallam YELLOW

200 PALS = Dallam GREEN

300 PALS = Dallam RED

400 PALS = Deputy Head's SILVER

500 PALS = Head Teacher's GOLD

600 PALS = Governor's 3 STAR

Reading Champions and Mad about Maths - For every 10 occasions your child reads or does maths at home it will be celebrated in our Monday assembly.

This week's awards go to:

| | READING CHAMPIONS | MAD ABOUT MATHS | PALS |
|-----------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Ash | Princess, Mia, Wynter, Mikolaj, Lyla D, Charlie, Lyla M, Tommy, Rosie, Rupert | | 200 PALS; Olivia, Wynter and Lyla D |
| Cedar | Szofia, Daniel, Evie-Mae, David, Harper-Mae and Amelia. | Zoriana, Rosie, Alexandra, Willow, Tatiana and Freddie, | |
| Rowan | Bella, Alice, Louie, Tayla, Alan, Luna, Darcie L, Matilda, Evelyn, Emilia | Alice | |
| Maple | Hannah, Lewis, Dominik, Skye, Shana, Kye, Amelia, David, Leo B | Lewis | |
| Sycamore | Hina, Liv, Sofia, Zack, Darcy, Aria, Scarlett, Sidar, Sophia, Kai, Ousemba, Paiveen, Emily, Izabella, Isabelle, Awaan, Joe | Hina, Liv, Sofia, Zack, Darcy, Aria, Scarlett, Sidar, Sophia, Kai, Ousemba, Paiveen, Emily, Izabella, Isabelle, Awaan, Joe | |
| Olive | Sila, Charlie, Eric, Dan, Poppy, Elsa, Ella, Oscar, Ola, Zsombor, Lottie, Jasmine, Ruby, Lidia, Ara | | Pals- Ola 400 |
| Oak | Oscar, Theo, Nia, Pelin, Fraya, Jace, Rory, Ike, Maja, Issy, Holly C, Hollie M, Idris, Sophia, Summer, Katie, Kornel, Leo, Samuel, Julia, Gosia, Mason, Elijah, Liya, Connor, Bella | Oscar, Theo, Nia, Pelin, Fraya, Jace, Rory, Ike, Maja, Issy, Holly C, Hollie M, Idris, Sophia, Summer, Katie, Kornel, Leo, Samuel, Julia, Gosia, Mason, Elijah, Liya, Connor, Bella | |
| Holly | Brodie, Christopher, River, Anthony | | |
| Willow | Nathan and Layla | | |



Dates for your diary

| Date | Event |
|---|--|
| Friday 21 st March | Red nose day |
| Monday 12 th – Thursday 15 th May | KS2 SATs |
| End of Spring term – finish for Easter | Wednesday 9 th April at 2pm |
| Summer term | Wednesday 23 rd April |