Coley Primary

Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been an extremely busy term and a very positive start to 2026. The children have worked exceptionally hard, and we are very proud of their efforts and achievements across the school.

We hope you have enjoyed looking through your child's pupil profile and celebrating the progress they have made. Alongside academic attainment, we would also encourage families to take time to review pupils' attitudes to learning, including behaviour and attendance, as these play a vital role in supporting long-term success.

We would like to remind parents and carers of the importance of children completing their homework regularly. Homework provides a valuable opportunity for you to support learning at home, to share learning experiences together, and to encourage independent learning—particularly for our older pupils as they prepare for secondary school.

We would also really appreciate your support in helping to increase the number of children attending our Breakfast Club. At present, the club is running at a significant financial loss. This is currently covered by a government grant which funds staffing costs until April. As schools are expected to offer wraparound care from 8am–6pm, we are proud to already meet this expectation through our Breakfast Club and our partnership with Apollo After School Club. Increasing attendance at Breakfast Club is vital to help ensure its sustainability. If you would like your child to take up a place, please contact the school office. The cost is currently just £1 per session.

Finally, thank you to the parents and carers who have taken the time to ask questions or share feedback regarding the updated PSHE/RSE policy. We value your engagement and ongoing partnership with the school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Warm regards,
Mrs. Pengelly
Head Teacher

Upcoming Events

February 13
Last day of term
February 23
School and Nursery closed for INSET day
February 24
Back to school
February 26
Coffee afternoon for parents Yr.6 Transition
March 5
World book Day
March 9
Science Week
March 10
Reception Visit to Rushall Farm
March 12
Mother's Day Tea (reception Mums/ special ladies only)
March 16 & 18
Parents Evenings
March 17
KS2 SAT Parent Meeting
March 27
Last day of term
April 13
Back to school and nursery

Term 4

We will be focused on developing our sense of curiosity

Class Updates:

Nursery

In Nursery, our recent adventures have been filled with stories and fascinating facts all about bears, which culminated in a delightful teddy bears' picnic. We have also been broadening our horizons by learning about different cultures, celebrating Chinese New Year by creating paper lanterns, trying different dumplings and building an impressive giant dragon head. We are pleased to see our new children settling in so happily and confidently. A heartfelt thank you to all our wonderful parents for your invaluable support, especially during our Friday reading mornings—it truly makes all the difference.

Reception

This term in Reception, the children have been developing their early writing skills through purposeful play. They have chosen to write labels, shopping lists, food orders and warning signs. During English lessons, the children have been focusing on correct letter formation and using their Fred Fingers to help them write words. The children have shown fantastic engagement in our *Houses in the Past* topic and particularly enjoyed washing clothes using a scrubbing board and mangle, discovering just how hard and tiring everyday tasks were in the past. We have also been very lucky to have some volunteers come into class this term to share stories with us, which the children have thoroughly enjoyed.






Year 1

Year One have been busy with lots of exciting learning across the curriculum. In Science, we have been exploring different materials and investigating their properties, while in Maths we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes and their properties, as well as developing our understanding of place value by exploring teen numbers as ‘ten and a bit’.

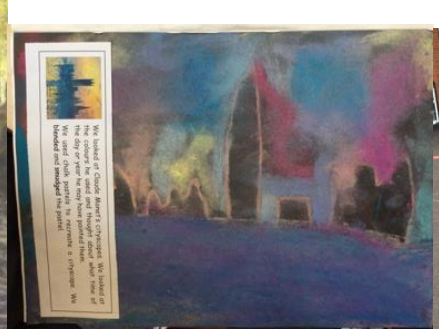
In English, we have been writing rules about how to stay safe near roads and canals, and we even created our own class book to explain important road safety rules. As part of our RE, we have been learning about friendship and the qualities we look for in a friend.

In Art, the children have been exploring landscapes and cityscapes and have enjoyed learning about the artist Claude Monet, using his work as inspiration for their own creative pieces.

We have also welcomed a new friend in to the class and everyone has made him feel so welcome. Well done Year 1 - what a busy, productive term as always!








Year 2

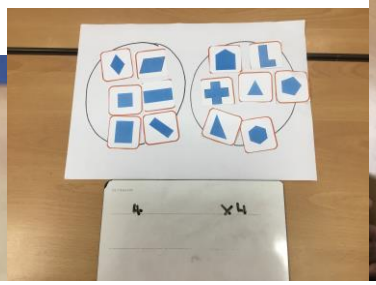
Year 2 have been very busy with all our learning this term!

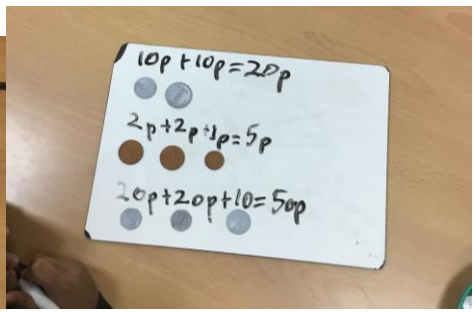
In Maths, we have been focussing on 2D and 3D shape, exploring the language and relating them to real life objects. We have also been learning about money. This has been hard as we do not handle coins as much anymore! Once we had worked out the values of the coins and notes, we practiced combining them to make pounds and pence. We also had a go in the shop!

Our English has been improving by learning a text based around 'Giraffes can't dance' and we have written stories based on a character realising they can do something they thought they couldn't! We have also been working on understanding word classes (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs and prepositions) to help us understand how sentences work.

We have really enjoyed our materials topic in science. This gave use the chance to explore different materials that we could squash, squeeze, stretch and bend. We have also loved learning about the Great Fire of

London and discovering how we know about the event as well as learning about the fire brigade and its changes throughout the years.



Year 3

Year 3 have had a busy half term and have had lots of fun in all areas of our curriculum.

Our English this half term has focused on a warning tale, The Canal. We have enjoyed learning the text through pictures, actions and drama and using it as a scaffold to write our own warning tales.

multiply and divided 2 larger 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers.

In art, we have explored different European artists. We have enjoyed learning about artists such as Michelangelo, Rembrandt and Le Corbusier and imitating their artwork by creating 2D shape building, painting upside down and using a rubber to draw!

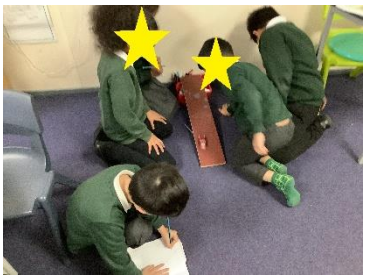
In science, our topic has been forces and magnets. We have had lots of fun completing investigations exploring friction and magnet strength and we even made our own compasses. In computing, we have been presenters! We have been learning all about how to film and edit a sporting activity.

In Geography, we have been learning all about land use in our local area and in the UK. We have enjoyed creating sketch maps with keys of Coley and the surrounding area.

RE has focused on Christianity and miracle stories from the bible and PSHE has been all about different families and who to ask if we need help or are worried. All the children have made me feel very welcome at Coley Primary. Great work this half term Year 3.













Year 4

Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed their swimming lessons this term and have been a credit to Coley, showing excellent behaviour, good listening and resilience as they developed this important life skill. One pupil proudly shared, “I can now go under the water.” In Maths, we have been improving our understanding of word problems by using bar models, multiplying by 10 and 100, and learning how to lay out and solve multiplication calculations using the expanded column method. In Science, we enjoyed exploring sound through investigations into vibrations, pitch and volume, with one of us explaining, “I know a lot more about sound than I did before.” In History, we learned about the Anglo-Saxons and enjoyed finding out about Anglo-Saxon villagers, with one of us commenting, “I didn’t know anything about them before.” In Art, we have been developing our water colour skills by creating tints and shades to paint landscapes. In RE, we learned about

Passover and really enjoyed visiting the synagogue, where one of us said we enjoyed “seeing the things we had talked about in class in real life.” Finally, during a PSHE workshop with SCARF, we learned about the importance of healthy minds, with one of us reflecting, “I need more exercise and less screen time.”







Year 5

Year 5 have had a very busy term, packed with learning! We were very lucky to have had a visit from the local fire service to show us their fire truck and equipment and to tell us what they do to help. We had a workshop from SCARF, where we learned about making responsible choices and how to be assertive. We have really enjoyed our art unit this term, inspired by Ancient Egyptian death masks, where we have practised drawing faces to proportion with sketching pencils, pens and even made some out of clay. Our PE has been great fun, practising hockey skills and using large equipment (including the climbing frame!) for gymnastics.

Our history topic, Crime and Punishment, has been cool – we have loved learning of all the grisly punishments used in the past and about criminals such as Dick Turpin. Speaking of highway men, we really loved reading

The Highwayman and getting immersed in its chilling story! Year 5 have smashed it in fractions this term and we have just made a start on decimals, which has gone well so far. In science, we have been learning about the planets and our solar system; we've learned some mind-blowing facts about the way our solar system works.

We have written some lovely stories in English and have even used laptops to type them up! Computing hasn't quite gone to plan due to software issues (though we still had a go at some awesome tessellations!), so we have produced some e-safety posters to tie into our PSHE work. A few examples of this work will be uploaded to the class page on the school website.

It has been a successful term overall; the half term break is well-deserved and we're all looking forward to longer days and hoping for better weather on the other side!







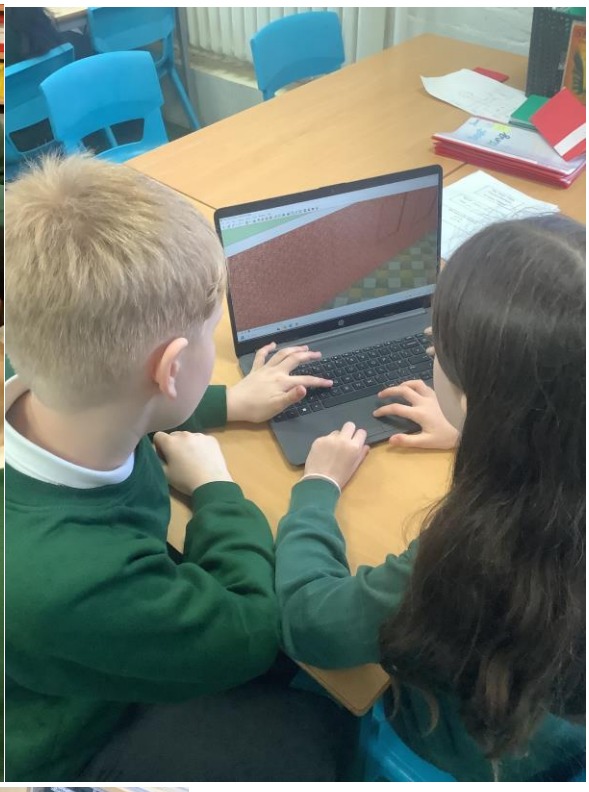
Year 6

Year 6 have had an extremely busy term! The children have made a strong start to their SATs preparation, approaching this with focus and determination. In English, pupils have been working incredibly hard to develop their independence as writers, with a strong emphasis on self-checking, editing, and carefully publishing their own work. It has been wonderful to see the pride they are taking in improving and presenting their writing to a high standard.

In Art, we have been exploring the work of North American artists, with a particular emphasis on abstract art. In PE, pupils have been learning how to play dodgeball, fully getting involved in each session. It has been lovely to see everyone taking part enthusiastically, following the rules, playing fairly, and working together while still having lots of fun. In Science, our learning has focused on light, where the children have carried out investigations to explore how light travels in straight lines and how shadows change depending on the object and the position of the light source.

The children have also produced some brilliant homework this term, particularly linked to our science unit. We have been very impressed with the shadow puppets! Overall, it has been a busy and rewarding term, and the children have shown curiosity, resilience, and a good attitude to learning. We are looking forward to another busy term ahead.









Governor Feedback from January Meeting

At their recent meeting, the Governors reflected on how the school is continuing to develop and support pupils, staff and the wider community. They discussed updates to the Governing Body and looked ahead to upcoming activities, including Governor Day on 11 February. Governors are really looking forward to visiting classrooms, seeing learning in action and talking with children about their experiences of school.

The Headteacher shared highlights from across the school, including progress in strengthening the staff team and welcoming new colleagues. Governors heard about the school's preparation for the new Ofsted framework, work with other local schools to plan for the future, and the positive impact of Anti-Bullying Week in promoting kindness and inclusion. Reading remains a key priority, with children showing enthusiasm for books and strong phonics skills, alongside targeted support to help pupils develop vocabulary and understanding. Teachers are also working hard to raise writing attainment, helping children to confidently apply their knowledge of grammar, spelling and punctuation in their written work. Team leaders shared encouraging updates from Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, describing calm, purposeful classrooms, growing confidence in learners and a range of enriching experiences for pupils. Safeguarding continues to be a top priority, with governors reviewing updates and ensuring training remains up to date.



Healthy Lunch boxes and Healthy Snacks

As you will know we have written and shared our healthy lunch box and health snack guides. We really need your support o help implement these. As a school we try very carefully to respect parental choice as well as balancing the needs of promoting healthy eating based on the requirements set out to schools from the DFE and from the NHS guidelines, whilst also recognising the cost of living. Please try to follow the guidance and if you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to come in and see us.



Attendance

We have signed up to work with the National Rise team to help support us as a school make the necessary improvements that we need to make to reach the Government's expectation of 96% and to reduce our persistent absence (children whose attendance is below 90%). We will share with you the data for our school so that you can see how what needs to be done to improve attendance which can only have a positive impact on your children's learning. We really do need parents to help with getting children to school, on time and ready to learn. This includes **not** taking leave in school time. We will be letting you know more information about how we can work together to be the best we can be 😊. We will also be sending you the attendance figures each week, so you can see what we all need to work on to improve.

Guidance for Parents and Care givers on the New Ofsted Inspection Framework

Why has Ofsted changed inspection reports?

Ofsted aims to:

- provide a clear picture of school performance for families.
- celebrate school strengths.
- help school leaders make improvements that help more children do well and enjoy school.
- reduce the pressure of one-word labels on school leaders.

What is different?

Schools will no longer get a single overall judgment such as 'Good' or 'Outstanding' at the end of an inspection. Instead, they will get a detailed 'report card' with separate grades in these areas.

- Safeguarding
- Inclusion
- Curriculum & Teaching
- Achievement
- Attendance & Behaviour
- Personal Development & Well-being
- Leadership & Governance
- Early Years or Post-16 provision (if school has nursery, reception or a sixth form)

How will schools be graded?

Safeguarding will be graded 'Met' or 'Not Met'—all other areas will be rated on a five-point scale:

- Exceptional
- Strong Standard
- Expected Standard
- Needs Attention
- Urgent Improvement

What do the grades mean?

Expected Standard: This means statutory expectations are being met. This is a higher standard than the old 'Good' grade.

Strong Standard: This grade is given where the school has embedded excellent practice over time so that every child gets the best chance to learn, feel safe, and be happy.

Exceptional: This grade will not be given very often because exceptional schools are performing well above similar schools nationally, and all children, including those with SEND and other learning barriers, are achieving much better than average.

These schools are also expected to make a positive difference to learning in other schools and provide support to the wider community. Very few schools will achieve this grade, which is higher than the old 'Outstanding' grade.

Needs attention: This grade highlights that an area should be a focus for improvement. This is like the recommendations in the old Ofsted reports, which identified areas for development. 'Needs attention' judgements will be common in report cards to support school leaders to improve their school. This is different from the old 'Requires improvement' grade. Ofsted say this is like an MOT advisory note because 'Needs attention' does not show a failure but lets you know where to focus to make positive changes.

Urgent Improvement: This grade shows that there are serious concerns that need immediate action.

Summary

- Grades are different from the old system, and judgements are made using different, more challenging criteria.
- in the new Report Card, schools will have different grades across categories. This is normal and expected. In most schools, grades will fall into 'Needs attention,' 'Expected' or 'Strong.'
- You will be able to see detailed feedback across individual areas rather than one summary grade.
- 'Exceptional' and 'Urgent improvement' judgements will be rare.

You can watch Ofsted's official video showing an example school report card here:
Ofsted: new school report card
You can see more detailed guidance here **Understanding Ofsted report cards and grades**

Supporting your school during Inspection

Your feedback about your child's school is important evidence for school leaders and Inspectors.

You will receive information about sharing your views when your school is going to be inspected.

Information about sharing your views can be found here. https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/

Attendance plays a key role in pupil learning and overall school performance. We ask for your continued support in making sure your child attends school regularly and punctually.