

Defford and Besford CE Primary School

Newsletter Friday 9th October

Another busy week draws to a close and it feels like Autumn is here! We had the most wonderful Harvest Festival in church recently and all of your generous donations were taken to Pershore Food Bank to help families who are struggling. Thank you for your kindness! As a small Church of England school, we are incredibly fortunate to be able to hold special events like this that bring our whole community together. These occasions help to create a real sense of belonging, gratitude and togetherness that is at the heart of our school.

Key Stage 2 had an interesting visit to The Hive library this week and they viewed all of the different aspects of a large library. The staff commented on how attentive and well behaved they were - well done Oak and Ash class!

We are also thrilled that Mrs Smith is back with us in school today. Mrs Askew will still support us occasionally in school on a short term basis.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mr Hanson

Book Buzz



We are excited to announce that our school is taking part in the national Book Buzz initiative that is organised by the Book Trust for Years 2 and above. This has been kindly funded by our Friends Association.

There is a specially cultivated selection of books that children will be able to browse and select from to create a level of engagement and interest in modern contemporary books. Once children have decided which book interests them they will make their selection on a special bookmark and that book will be delivered to them to keep forever!

[The amazing choice of books](#)

If there is more than one book that catches your child's eye, don't worry - our school has received two copies of every book for our library, so they will be able to borrow each and every one if they so wish!

Snacks



As part of our commitment to promoting healthy lifestyles and helping children stay focused and ready to learn, we kindly ask that children bring **healthy snacks** for break times. Please avoid sending **cured meat, crisps, sweets, chocolate, biscuits, or sugary snacks**, as these do not provide the sustained energy children need throughout the school day.

Some great healthy snack ideas include:

 Fresh fruit such as apples, bananas, pears, grapes or satsumas

 Vegetable sticks such as carrots, cucumber or pepper slices

 Cheese cubes or cheese strings

 Cherry tomatoes

 Dried fruit (in moderation)

 Plain rice cakes, crackers or popcorn

 Strawberries, blueberries or other berries

 A banana or small fruit pot

Healthy snacks help support children's concentration, wellbeing and learning, enabling them to make the most of every school day. Thank you for your support in encouraging healthy choices and helping us create positive habits for life. Together, we can nurture children's wellbeing, self-control and good decision-making both in and out of school.

Uniform



We are STILL finding jumpers or cardigans that have been left in classrooms, on the playground or field, which do not have any name labels at all! Children may be able to recognise their belongings by the smell, but the teachers cannot. Please take five minutes this weekend to write your child's name on the labels of their clothes. This will help us immensely!

As the colder weather settles in, children will start bringing in coats, hats and gloves. These should also be able to be identified.

Thank you for your support.

Oak & Ash class

Oak and Ash classes enjoyed visiting the library this week - they were given a tour and took part in mini workshops





Birch class

We have been doing Autumn drawings using a range of resources such as: charcoal, pastels and pencils.







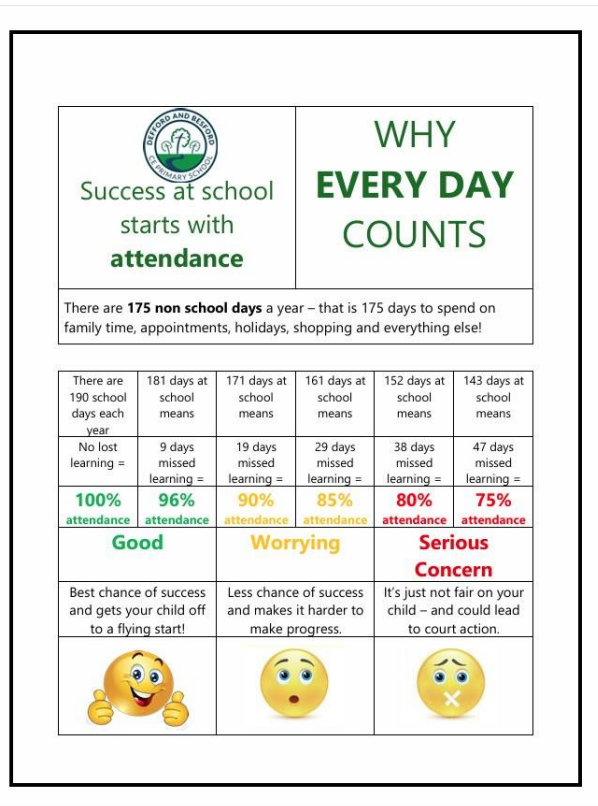


Yoga club

We have been learning new poses this week and sequencing them together. We have also thought about dreams and how they make us feel. We made a dream catcher as our mindful craft



Attendance



Please follow [this link](#) if you are unsure if your child is well enough to attend school.

Class attendance since last newsletter:

Willow - 95.4%

Birch - 95.8%

Oak - 93.8%

Ash - 93%

Well done to Willow and Birch class!

Whole School Attendance this year

Defford-cum-Besford CE First School - 96.3%

National - 96.3%

Local Authority - 96.7%

Reminder - All absences must be reported directly to the school office either by telephone - 01386 750321 or email - office@defford-cum-besford.worcs.sch.uk

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 21st October - Autumn Disco 4-5.30pm

Thursday 22nd October - Individual photos

Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October - Half Term

Friday 13th November - Children in need - Non uniform

Tuesday 17th November - Severn Arts Music Box in school

Wednesday 25th November - Dick Whittington pantomime in school

Friday 11th December - Christmas Fayre

Halloween Calm & Create Day

A gentle day of movement, stillness and seasonal magic - yoga, mindfulness and creative play with a Halloween twist, for little ones aged 5-10

Bond Yoga presents

Calm & Create Day

a Halloween yoga & mindfulness gathering

A gentle day of movement, stillness and seasonal magic —
yoga, mindfulness and creative play with a Halloween twist,
for little ones aged 5–10.

DATE	TIME	VENUE
Friday 30th October	9.30am – 1.30pm	Defford Village Hall

Move	Breathe	Create
Halloween-themed yoga flows	calming mindfulness & breathwork	spooky crafts & quiet activities

£20 per child

Includes a healthy snack.

Please bring a packed lunch and a water bottle.

Bond Yoga

bondyoga.co.uk

To book your place, email naomi@bondyoga.co.uk

The Great Wizarding Adventure



  The Great Wizarding Adventure 

 Wednesday 28th October 2026

 Norton Parish Hall

 Ages 3–11 | 9am–3.30pm

It will be a fun-filled Halloween day of potions, wand making, spooky games, dance, drama, crafts and plenty of magical mischief!  

Book tickets at: www.monkeysinmotion.co.uk