



Dove Bank Primary School

Weekly Bulletin - 24.09.2026

Aspiration Week 19th - 22nd October

We are busy organising our upcoming Aspiration Week 2026. Our children have been inspired by people from all kinds of jobs in previous years, and we hope that this year is just as good!



This year we are looking for anyone who is willing to come to talk to the children about their job. We would love as many people as possible, showing our children a glimpse of the world of work. If you have been to school in previous years, then we would like to invite you again, as there are more children who would love to hear your stories! Whether you come in person or join us online, is up to you.

If you are interested, then please get in touch and we can arrange a time to suit you during that week, to talk to some of our children about what you do. There are no presentations or speeches required, our staff will be there to support you at all times but if you have anything to bring in or show the children, then that would be great too! Maybe you know someone who might be interested?

Contact hos@dovebank.staffs.sch.uk if you are able to contribute to this event.

KS2 Choir - Monday Club

KS2 choir are looking for new members, it's not too late to join! If you would like to try choir join in after school on Mondays with Mrs Smith. We are busy rehearsing for our next performance at the Victoria Hall in December.

Chess Club

Some of our children are keen to start a chess club at school and are sending out a plea for any spare chess sets that you may be willing to donate to school. Please let Mrs Woodward know if you have one to donate. This will be a lunchtime club.

Big Butterflies Parent Phonics Workshop

On Wednesday 14th October, we are inviting **parents of children in Big Butterflies** into nursery to join a phonics workshop at 8.45. You will have an opportunity to watch Miss Fielding teach a phonics session and learn how you can help your child with their phonics at home.

Harvest Assembly

This week was our Harvest celebration. The Reverend Baker and Sue from the food bank came in to join us. We sang songs and enjoyed learning about why food is so important.

Thank you for your kind donations; they are now being distributed throughout the community.



Attendance Matters: Every Day Counts

We have got off to an excellent start this academic year with our attendance figures; thank you for your continued support. Our whole school attendance is currently 95.8% which is slightly above national averages. Our school target is 96%, and we are so close! Let's continue to work together to drive positive attendance behaviours in school.

DOVE BANK
PRIMARY SCHOOL
KIDSGROVE

EVERY DAY
COUNTS!

Helping Your Child Succeed
Through Good Attendance

OUR TARGET
96%+
ATTEND TODAY,
ACHIEVE TOMORROW!

GOOD ATTENDANCE
HELPS CHILDREN:

Learn and
achieve
their best

Build friendships
and confidence

Develop
positive
routines

Prepare for
future
success

HOW YOU CAN HELP

REPORTING AN ABSENCE

BE ON TIME!

AUTHORISED ABSENCE

UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE

ATTENDANCE BENCHMARKS

WE ARE HERE TO HELP

HOLIDAYS DURING
TERM TIME

THE LAW

WORKING TOGETHER

Ensure your child attends school every day and on time.

Contact the school on the first day of absence by phone, giving a reason.

Provide medical evidence if requested for repeated illness.

Arrange medical appointments outside school hours where possible.

Keep contact details up to date.

Avoid taking holidays during term time.

If your child is reluctant to attend school, please contact us as soon as possible so we can help.

By 9:00am, please inform school each day your child is absent.

Provide medical evidence if requested for repeated illness.

If no reason is given, the absence will be marked as unauthorised.

School will contact you if no explanation is received.

School gates close at 8:50am

Registers close at 9:00am

Being late disrupts learning and can affect your child's progress.

Arriving after registers close at 9am will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Ongoing lateness will be addressed in the same way as poor attendance.

Absences approved by school may include:

Illness (evidence may be requested)

Medical appointments

Exceptional circumstances agreed in advance

Not approved by the school, including:

Term-time holidays without permission

Keeping children off unnecessarily

No explanation for absence

Arriving after registers close (counts as absence)

96%+ GOOD ATTENDANCE

Below 90% PERSISTENT ABSENCE (CAUSE FOR CONCERN)

50% or below SEVERE ABSENCE (SERIOUS CONCERN)

We will contact and support families where attendance falls below expectations.

Support may include:

Meetings with school staff

Individual 'Raising Attendance Plans'

Support from external services (e.g. wellbeing, family support)

Please speak to us early if there are any issues affecting attendance.

There is no automatic right to take holidays in term time.

Leave is only granted in exceptional circumstances.

Requests must be made in advance. A "Request for Leave during Term Time" is available from the office.

Unauthorised holidays may lead to fines or legal action.

Parents have a legal duty to ensure their child attends school regularly.

The Local Authority can take action if attendance is poor, including:

Penalty notices (fines)

Court action in serious cases

We want every child to succeed. Good attendance is achieved when:

Parents, pupils, and school work together

Concerns are shared early

Support is put in place quickly

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE EVERY DAY COUNT!

If you have any concerns about attendance, please contact the school at the earliest opportunity.

We are here to support you and your child.

Every Child Every Day Ready to Learn