

USWORTH COLLIERY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue 283 15th October 2021

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NOTE: THERE IS NO CATCH-UP SESSIONS AFTER SCHOOL NEXT WEDNESDAY DUE TO PARENT/CARER MEETINGS.

DODGEBALL IS STILL ON.

PARENT/CARER MEETINGS

Our parent/carer meetings will be next Wednesday (20th October). This will give you time to catch up with how your child has been doing since returning to school in September and what they need to do to be even better. The vast majority of parents have allocated times for video calls with their child's teacher. You will have received an email and link when the appointment was confirmed. I will send a reminder email on Monday with the link again for those who have misplaced it. You can either click the link on the email and this will take you directly to the meeting or you can sign in to <https://usworthcolliery.schoolcloud.co.uk>. It is advised that you join about 5 minutes before your meeting time to make sure that your video and sound are working. I have added a guide below that will explain the process, but it is very simple. <https://support.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/article/801-video-parents-how-to-attend-appointments-over-video-call>

BIKES AND SCOOTERS



Bikes and scooters should be locked into the stands using bike locks. This is something that we have always asked. This is particularly important for those in the bike stand at the end of the reception garden. Although the gates are locked during the day, there is a chance that someone could come and take them before they are locked at the beginning of the day or opened at the end of the day. Reception also use this area to ride school balance bikes and trikes, so by locking your personal scooters and bikes we can ensure they are stored safely and are not moved or used throughout the day. Thanks.



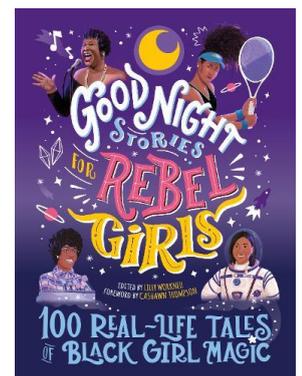
AGE-APPROPRIATE VIEWING

This week there have been incidents where children have been talking in school about, and re-enacting scenes, from the latest popular Netflix series, Squid Games. The series has a 15 age-rating. The content is highly inappropriate and totally unsuitable for primary age pupils. The age ratings are applied to programmes for a reason. Young children can't always distinguish the difference between reality and fantasy. I have had reports of some children upsetting others who have not seen it by explaining the series and some children who have seen it and are scared. Please make sure that your child is only watching programmes with age-appropriate content. This not only includes tv series, but also computer games. If you know that your child has watched the series, then please talk to them about not sharing the content with others. We will do an assembly about age ratings and why they are in place, but we will not be talking specifically about this programme.

RECOMMENDED READING – NEW RELEASES

GOOD NIGHT STORIES FOR REBEL GIRLS: 100 REAL TALES OF BLACK GIRL MAGIC BY LILLY WORKNEH, JESTINE WARE, SONJA THOMAS, DIANE ODERO & CASHAWN THOMPSON

Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls: 100 Real-Life Tales of Black Girl Magic, edited by award-winning journalist Lilly Workneh with a foreword by #BlackGirlMagic originator CaShawn Thompson, is dedicated to amplifying and celebrating the stories of Black women and girls from around the world; features the work of over 60 Black female and non-binary authors, illustrators, and editors; is designed to acknowledge, applaud, and amplify the incredible stories of Black women and girls from the past and present; and celebrates Black Girl Magic around the world. Amongst the women featured from over 30 countries are tennis player Naomi Osaka, astronaut Jeanette Epps, author Toni Morrison, filmmaker Ava DuVernay; aviator Bessie Coleman, Empress Taytu Betul, journalist Ida B. Wells, and many other inspiring leaders, champions, innovators, and creators. *Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls: 100 Real-Life Tales of Black Girl Magic* is the fourth volume of the New York Times bestselling Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls series which originally launched in 2016.



AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

Day	Club name	Club Leader	Year Groups	Location
Monday	Construction Club	Mrs Jones	All	The Base
Monday	Board games	Mrs Thomson & Mrs Kaur	3-6	Breakfast room
Monday	Little Kickers	Mr Mcvittie-Mathews	1-2	Outdoors
Tuesday	Film Club	Mrs Steel/ Mrs Prosser	3-6	The Base
Tuesday	The Movie Review Crew	Mrs Wall/ Mrs Bloomer	1-2	Small Hall
Tuesday	Running Club	Mr Wright	3-6	Outdoors
Wednesday	Dodgeball	Mr Dickinson	4-6	Main Hall
Thursday	Board games	Mrs Dixon/Mrs Hilton	2-4	3RD
Thursday	KS2 Football Club	Mr Mcvittie-Mathews	3-6	Yard/ Field

DOORS ON A MORNING

Just to clarify... on a morning the doors are **open at 8.45am and close at 9am**. There may be some occasions where we a few minutes late opening the doors. This is usually a Friday when we have staff briefings or if there is staff absence. However, where possible try to keep to the times. Doors are almost always closed at 9am sharp so that we can begin the school day. Anyone arriving after this time should come through the school office.

SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

UCPS F.C. continued their unbeaten start to the season last night. Both matches provided a sterner test than the previous week but all of the players rose to the challenge. The first match saw us pitted against Blackfell. The first half saw Usworth dominate possession and a cracking goal from Bobby was just reward for an excellent half. The second half followed on in the same way, with Jake scoring a debut goal to see the match finish 2-0 to the Colliery. Wessington, the home team, were up straight afterwards and gave our defenders a little more to think about, but it was nothing that Lewis and Finley couldn't manage. As the second half wore on, tiredness began to tell and Wessington took advantage to snatch a 1-0 lead. However, this didn't last long as Bobby continued his fine scoring form to make it 1-1. Usworth piled on the pressure but couldn't quite find a winner with a combination of post and goal keeper keeping Wessington in it and earning themselves a point. All the players continued to impress and now have three wins out of four.

Players of the match: Bobby and Lewis. *Mr Millett and Mr Foster.*



REMINDER: CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Sharon Hodgson, Labour Member of Parliament for Washington and Sunderland West, is once again running a competition among primary school pupils in her constituency to design the front cover of her Christmas card for 2021. The winning design will be professionally printed and will include the name and school of the winner, as well as the runners-up on the inside and back cover. It will be sent out to around 3,000 individuals and organisations. The winner and runners-up will receive a variety of prizes donated by local businesses. We did have winners in the competition from our school last year. We will have an internal school competition and select one winning pupil from each of the following school year groups comprising: (a) Reception, (b) Years 1/2/3 and (c) Years 4/5/6. The three successful children from each group will then be automatically shortlisted in Sharon's constituency-wide competition and invited to the judging and prize giving ceremony on Friday 18th November at the Washington Arts Centre. All entries need to be on the template – A4 portrait. A copy is attached and paper templates can be obtained from the office. It is essential that the name and age of the pupil, together with the class and school name is clearly marked on each entry sheet. **All entries need to be in school by Friday 22nd October.** It would be great if as many children enter the competition as possible.

TWITTER STARS

Remember to check out this week's Twitter Stars! These are tweeted on: @TStarKS1_UCPS or @TStarKS2_UCPS. They also appear on @UCPrimary and on our website Twitter feed.

AUTUMN TERM DATES 2021

PLEASE NOTE: There will be further events added for parents (including Christmas performances and family mornings) however we need to make sure that COVID cases are at a safe level to do so following government guidance.

Wednesday 20 th October	Parents' Meetings
Monday 25th October to Friday 29th October	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Monday 1 st November	Children back in school
Friday 12 th November	Children in Need Day
Week beginning 15 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 10 th December	Autumn reports (sent out to parents).
Monday 20th December to Monday 3rd January	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
Tuesday 4 th January	TEACHER TRAINING DAY
Wednesday 5 th January 2022	Children back in school

DOJO POINTS

Check out our dojo/house point counter at <https://www.usworthcolliery.co.uk/children/house-point-counter>. Children are awarded points throughout the week for following the Colliery Code. This week's classes with the most house points are:

1st – 6JM 2nd – 4RB 3rd – 2EH

ATTENDANCE WINNERS

These classes have the highest attendance this week.

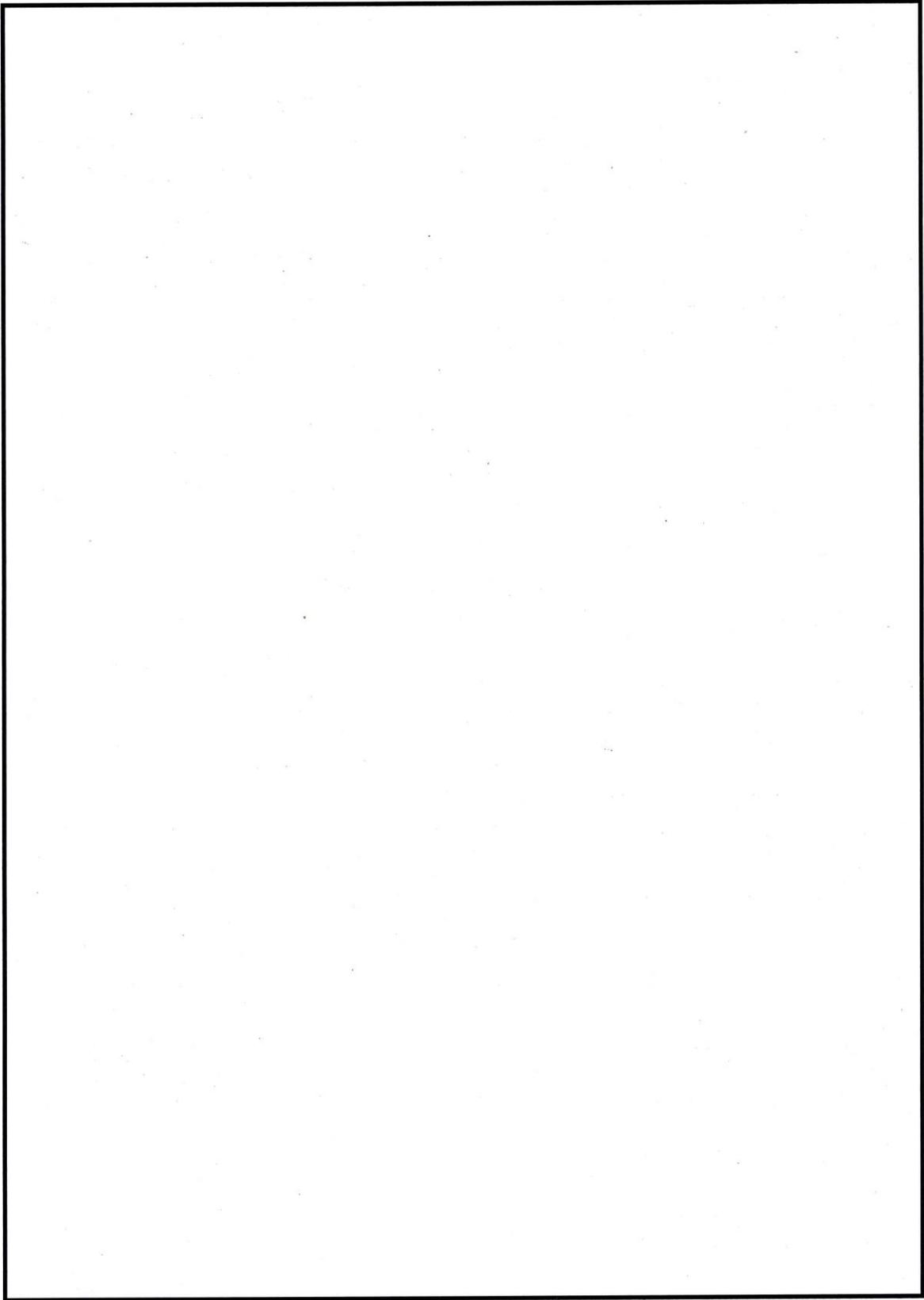
Whole school attendance – 94%

EYFS/KS1 – 2CB with 100% KS2 – 4EP with 99.1%

Mr Gary Wright

Headteacher

Top of card - Please use this way up ONLY-Thank you.



Sharon Hodgson MP
Christmas card
design competition, 2021

Pupil's name: _____

Age: _____ Class: _____ Yr Group: _____

School: Please submit entries to MP's office by: 1.11.2021

School: _____