

HELPLINE NUMBER
07951664598
Email ADDRESS

dudleydeafchildrensociety@yahoo.com

DDCS Committee

Chairperson: Mrs. Helen Fox
Secretary: Ms. Siobhan Michaels
Treasurer: Mr. Nick James
Designated Safeguarding Officer: Ms. Dawn Bevington
Newsletter editor: Mrs. Jan Evans.
Next committee meetings: Thursday 4th May 2023
Thursday 6th July 2023

Our next meeting is due to take place at **7.00pm on Thursday 4th May 2023 at Stourbridge Fire Station Community Room and also via a Zoom link.**

If you wish to join us, either in person or on Zoom, please email Jan at dudleydeafchildrensociety@yahoo.com for further details.



A big HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following members..

May	June
Rory H	Connie-Mai B
Aisha N	Jaiden W
Rhys P-J	Holly H
Ameen Y	Joshua H
Harper H	Seynabou B
Hoor-Ain L	Iylah B
Kayla M	Ava M

We would like to welcome new members: Nancy W-C; Ava M; Roxy-Grace H; Lexy Rose, William F, Alannah E and Luna I to DDCS. We look forward to meeting you and your families at one of our upcoming events very soon.

Hearing/Visual Impairment Services
Parents/Carers & Toddlers Group

The Stourbridge Centre, Forge Road,
Stourbridge, DY8 1XF
Sessions 9:45 - 11:45
Our group is open to all parents/carers with their hearing impaired/visually impaired babies, toddlers and pre-school brothers and sisters.

Session dates 2023



Usually, the first and third Fridays each month.

Contact Louise Westwood on **07824598809** for further information.

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2023

Summer Term 2023

Term starts Monday 17th April 2023
½ term Mon 29th May to Fri 2nd Jun 2023
Term ends Tuesday 25th July 2023

Autumn Term 2023

Term starts Monday 4th Sept 2023
½ term Mon 24th – Fri 28th Oct 2023
Term ends Friday 16th Dec 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

DDCS has more upcoming events for 2023/2024.

We have a confirmed booking for a trip to Chester Zoo on **Wednesday 2nd August**. See below for more details on how to reserve your tickets.

SAVE THE DATES.... Our Christmas Party is already booked for **Saturday 2nd December 2023** and we have reserved tickets for the Panto on **Sunday 7th January 2024**. Booking details to follow later in the year.
Look out for emails and/or keep checking our Facebook page and newsletters for details on all forthcoming events and ticketing information.

WELL DONE NETWORK RAIL

Network Rail have recently announced that they are continuing to roll out a BSL friendly information service at their stations up and down the country, including at NEW STREET STATION, BIRMINGHAM. The announcement was made on BBC news so Jan contacted Network Rail to find out more.....

Having first called the Customer Services Team, my enquiry was passed to the Station Manager at New Street Station who has replied to say:

“BSL announcements are being displayed across all our orange-coloured mobile digital screens, on rotation with other key passenger communications. Though their location may change slightly depending on events at the station, there will always be several across the main concourse (unpaid area) as well as at least one in each of the passenger lounges (through the ticket gates).

There is further information on the Network Rail website regarding the implementation of this facility. I have attached the link below for your convenience:

<https://www.networkrailmediacentre.co.uk/news/british-sign-language-travel-advice-rolled-out-at-major-railway-stations>

I hope this information is helpful for your group and please don't hesitate to get back in touch should you require any further detail on our new BSL announcements.”

The Manager also re-iterated that BSL trained staff would be available on site to assist passengers especially when there are major issues with the railway services

Network Rail are also asking for feedback on the BSL facilities from passengers as they look to constantly improve the station and make it more accessible for everyone. If anyone uses this new system and would like to give feedback, can you please let Jan know by emailing dudleydeafchildrensociety@yahoo.com

DUDLEY DEAF YOUTH CLUB (DDYC)

Dudley Deaf Youth Club has had another 2 successful meetings.



March saw us making Easter crafts such as cards and tealight holders as well as making large Easter nest cakes from rice crispies and chocolate, complete with mini eggs.

Our April meeting was a board game night when members were asked to bring along their favourite board game to share. We had great fun playing Twister, Connect 4, Jenga, Dominoes and a rather hilarious card game.



If your deaf child is aged 10 to 18 and would like to come along to Youth Club to meet new friends and have fun, then **our next meeting is on Thursday 18th May 2023** from 6pm to 8pm. Whilst we normally meet at Queens Cross Network, Wellington Road, Dudley, DY1 1RB, for our May meeting, we are going bowling and so will be meeting offsite. We will return to our Queens Cross Network for our June 15th meeting. Then every 3rd Thursday in following months.

Drinks and small snacks are provided. Cost is £3 per member per session.

If you are not already a member, but would like to join us, please email Jan at dudleydeafchildrensociety@yahoo.com and we will arrange to send out membership forms or just come along and we can fill them in on the night. You can also contact DDYC by **text only** on 07745 034531

FANTASTIC TRIP TO CADBURY WORLD



What a fantastic day out we had at Cadbury World on the 1st April. 70 members attended the day out where, as well as the free chocolate, we enjoyed a tour through areas of the factory, a novelty ride through Beanland, a tasty pot of liquid chocolate (complete with a choice of toppings) as well as the 4D cinema and play area. And of course the gift shop where I certainly came away with more than a few bars of chocolate!

Here are just a few of the pictures and feedback.....



Thank you to everyone for such a lovely trip to Cadbury world today!! We loved it. Rory had a great time.

Lovely day – thank you. xxxx

Thank you for organising – we had a great time. Xx

Such a wonderful day, thank you xxx

BOOKING NOW!!!



Come and join us on our DDCS family day out this summer.

We have 70 tickets available to visit Chester Zoo on Wednesday 2nd August 2023.

Free coach travel is available, departing from Castlegate Way, Dudley.

Due to expected demand, we are having to limit tickets to members and their immediate family only.

Tickets will be allocated on a first come, first served basis as soon as all details and any monies due have been received.

Each deaf DDCS child goes free along with one free parent/carer. Additional parent can request tickets for £12 and additional siblings for £8.

If you would like to join us, please email dudleydeafchildrensociety@yahoo.com with the following details.....

1. Name and age of free deaf child.
2. Name of free parent/carer and contact number.
3. Name of any additional parent attending.
4. Name and ages of any siblings attending.

Once this information is received, you will receive an acknowledgment with details of how to make any payments due. Once monies are received, your ticket allocation will be confirmed by email.

WHAT'S ON LOCALLY??



Quarry Bank Musical Theatre present The Addams Family Musical Comedy. There is a signed performance on Tuesday 6th June 2023 at 7.15pm. Contact tickets@qbmts.org.uk or telephone 07742 803221 for tickets.



Wolverhampton Grand Theatre has signed performances of the following shows: (Please contact the theatre for more information or to book.



The Ocean at The End of the Lane. Signed performance Saturday 30th September 2023 2.30pm



Annie. Signed performance Thursday 12th October 2023. 7.30pm



Black Country Museum are hosting Deaf friendly events:



Deaf Awareness Day - Deaf Friendly Tour – Saturday 6th May at 2pm.

This Access Tour will feature a talk from Hamza Shaikh from The Board of Trustees for The British Deaf Association.

The tour also asks for your help. The Museum is looking for donations of items related to D/Deafness. Do you have any items relating to the D/Deaf community and its rich history? Please bring any items along on the day – we'd love to hear from you and diversify the Museum's collection with your objects and stories!

Contact BCLM direct to book tickets or go to <https://tickets.bclm.com/77545/77546>