

Web site: www.dudleydcs.org.uk
Email: dudleydeafchildrenssociety@yahoo.com
New Helpline number: **07951644598**

Charity number: 1016532
Website: www.ndcs.org.uk
Free helpline number: **0808 800 888**

HELPLINE NUMBER

07951664598

Email ADDRESS

dudleydeafchildrenssociety@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 5th January 2023**
Thursday 2nd February 2023

Our next meeting is due to take place at **7.00pm on Thursday 5th January 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 [jaevans63@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jaeans63@hotmail.co.uk) for further details.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

A very warm welcome to new members Thomas D, Ryan S and Alensa K. We look forward to seeing you and your families at one of our upcoming events.

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



January 6th & 20th 2023
February 3rd & 17th 2023

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

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2022/2023

Spring Term 2023

Term starts Tuesday 3rd January 2023
½ term Mon 20th to Fri 24th February
Term ends Friday 31st March

Summer Term 2023

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



A big happy birthday to the following members:

January	February
Simrah B	Ellie F
Megan C	Sienna F
Isabella D	Kobie L
Lilly-Mai W	Azaria O
Aisha Bibi K	Holly T
Ruby Ellen W	George W
Michael B	Lily May W
Maebh A	Kian C
Abigail S	Samuel W
Daniel G	Ryan S

WHAT A FANTASTIC YEAR WE HAD IN 2022



The **DDCS Family Christmas Party**, which was held on **Saturday 3rd December 2022** at the **Amblecote Christian Centre**, was a fantastic success. We were treated to a special visit from **Santa** who dished out presents to our children. A huge **THANK YOU** to **The Painting Pixie, Bea's Photo Booth** and **Caroline** for providing the entertainment and food.

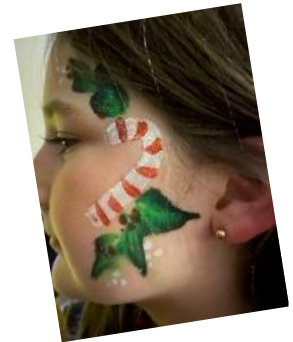
Feedback was so good that we have booked again for next year!

"Thank you to you and everyone involved for the hard work you put into the Xmas party. We had a wonderful time and left with 2 very happy children"

"All the kids had a lovely time I think 😊 just amazing to see them all just being together and having fun!"

"Thank you DDCS for such a wonderful Christmas party this afternoon. We are very grateful for all your hard work throughout the year. "

Here are just a few photos from the day.....



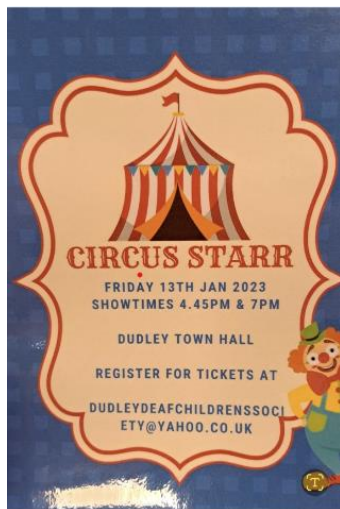


All tickets to the Panto “DICK WHITTINGTON” at BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME on Sunday 8th January 2023 at 5.15pm have now been allocated and applicants have been notified.

If you have been allocated tickets, an email will be issued imminently with your ticket information.

The full cast line-up has now been confirmed and as well as the hilarious Matt Slack, it has been announced that Marti Pellow, of WET, WET, WET fame will also be part of the cast along with Doreen Tipton and many more famous faces.

CIRCUS STARR



DDCS has been lucky again and obtained tickets to Circus Starr on Friday 13th January 2023.

There are two shows: 4.45pm and 7pm. The show will be held at DUDLEY TOWN HALL, St James’s Road, Dudley.

If you and your family would like to attend, please request tickets by email to:

dudleydeafchildrenssociety@yahoo.com

An email confirmation will be sent to you, if you are allocated tickets.

DUDLEY DEAF YOUTH CLUB (DDYC) IS BACK!

After a very long absence and with thanks to new volunteer staff, we are now able to re-start Dudley Deaf Youth Club.

DDYC will meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month and will run from 6pm to 8pm at Queens Cross Network, Wellington Road, Dudley, DY1 1RB and is open to any deaf/hearing impaired children aged 10 to 18.

Our first session will be Thursday 19th January 2023 when we will be celebrating Chinese New Year with crafts and food tasting.

If you have a child that would like to come along and join in with activities, games, crafts or just to meet new friends, please contact Jan at dudleydeafchildrenssociety@yahoo.com and an enrolment form will be sent to you.

Alternatively, you can contact DDYC by text only on 07745 034531.

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DY1 1RB
from 6pm to 8pm

Open to deaf/ hearing impaired children
aged 10 to 18







MORE EVENTS FOR 2023..... (watch this space)

As well as the two events already taking place in January, DDCS are in the process of trying to arrange further family get-togethers for 2023. These will hopefully include trips to Cadbury World (possibly Easter time) and Chester Zoo (a Summer Family Day out) as well as the Christmas Party in December.

As soon as arrangements are confirmed, we will issue further information on how to obtain tickets to these events.

If you know of any other places or events that would be suitable for DDCS members to attend and that you would like the committee to consider, please let us know by sending an email to dudleydeafchildrenssociety@yahoo.com We welcome ideas from our members.

NEW DDCS MERCHANDISE COMING SOON

Our chairperson, has been working very hard, trying to obtain new merchandise with the DDCS logo on, in order to promote our society.

Helen has managed to place orders for bags, drinks bottles, snap wristbands and trolley coins. All of which should be available very soon and some items will be available to purchase at our upcoming events. I hope you agree, these look amazing.

Well done, Helen.



NDCS NEWS



NDCS is here to support you Many of us are concerned about the current cost of living crisis and the impact of rising prices. We know that being able to afford the necessities and the extra costs of raising a deaf child are making this a particularly stressful time for families of deaf children and young people.

If you or someone you know is struggling financially, it's important to get all the financial support for which you or they are eligible. I know it can be daunting to ask for help but I want to reassure you that we're here to support as much as we can. We've put together a list of resources and organisations that are providing financial information, advice and support, at ndcs.org.uk/cost-of-living.

We also have lots of information on our website about the range of disability and welfare benefits and grants you may be eligible for. Visit ndcs.org.uk/money-and-benefits for more advice. There's also information there about the other sources of financial support you may be able to get if you're a deaf full-time student, a carer or a deaf young person struggling to work. In addition, you can contact our Freephone Helpline for information, advice and support or to sign up for a virtual benefits appointment on 0808 800 8880 or at ndcs.org.uk/helpline.

On a final note, it's important in difficult times to remember to look after our mental health just as we look after our physical health. If you're struggling with money and are stressed about your financial situation, you can talk to your GP about how this is affecting you or get support from organisations like Mind, at mind.org.uk.