

Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

High Stile, Great Dunmow, Essex CM6 1EB
Telephone 01371 872340
Facsimile 01371 875144
E-mail admin@dsmprimary.essex.sch.uk



Friday 6th September 2019

Dear Parents

It was so lovely to see the children back this week looking smart and keen to start their new year. Their topics have quickly got underway and we hope they have been telling you all about them.

Nuts in school

We are a completely nut-free school. When making up packed lunches or providing snacks for your children please do bear this in mind as we have some children who are highly allergic to various types of nuts. Please be aware that lots of muesli type bars and sandwich spreads also do contain nuts.

Earrings

Any child with pierced ears must be able to take them out themselves or be able to tape them up themselves. No earrings are allowed for PE or swimming (during the summer term). If your child is not able to do this themselves, please ensure they do not come to school with earrings on days when they have PE.

Access to classrooms

Please note that parents and children should never access classrooms, particularly Reception, via the driveway and car park. Please use the back gate, designated paths and playground.

Mobile Phones

We know that some of our Y6 children are considered responsible enough to walk home alone. These children may want to bring a mobile phone into school for their safety and communication with parents. **This is the only time that it is acceptable for a child to bring a mobile phone into school.** If they do, the phone is to be switched off as soon as they enter through the school gate, handed straight to a teacher and picked up again at 3.15pm. If you wish your child to bring a phone to school both you and your child will need to sign our Mobile Phone Agreement. Please ask the office to email this to you if applicable.

Water Bottles

All children should be supplied with a named refillable drinking bottle that they can bring into school with them each day. It is really important for their health and well-being that children are keeping hydrated and we believe it will be easier for us and you to monitor this if they have their own bottles in school.

Clubs

Please find attached the club letter detailing our clubs for this half term. Clubs start on Monday 16th September with the exception of MRFA clubs, TTGymnastics and Homework Club which start next week. If your child would like to attend a club with a limited number of places please ensure the slip is returned by next Friday when places will be confirmed.

By way of a reminder if your child is due to attend a club but will not be attending on a particular afternoon please let the office know rather than the class teacher. If the office are not aware of a child's absence they will call the parents to ensure the child is safe.

PTA

The PTA are looking forward to another successful year raising valuable funds for our school. If you would like to find out more about what they do and how your money helps, please come along to their AGM on Tuesday 17th September. They are always happy to see new faces and welcome fresh ideas! They will be looking to appoint a new Secretary this year so if you think this is something you might be interested please do get in touch with them. For the new reception parents we will be holding a coffee morning on Friday 13th September straight after drop off in the school hall. This is a great opportunity to get to know each other and find out a little bit about what the PTA do. If you think you might attend either of these events please do drop us a line to give them an idea of numbers. Their email address is dunmowstmarysprimarypta@hotmail.co.uk.

St Mary's Church Service and Messy Church

This Sunday St Mary's are holding a service during which they'll pray for all those in education and bless backpacks and planners etc. Details can be found on the attached flyer.



MESSY Church is back! All are welcome at St Mary's Church on Monday 9th September from 4-6pm. There'll be free crafts, activities, games, songs, as we think about how to be generous, plus a free dinner for all!



Unwanted material required

Year 5 would like to make rag rugs and are therefore in need of material to cut up. If you have any of material lying around at home please bring it in to the school office.

Lost Property



Lost property is already starting to mount up. Do you recognise either of these distinctive coats? If so, please collect these from the office. Could we please remind you that all items of clothing, water bottles and shoes should be clearly named.

Events

Please find below the event calendar for next week:

Week commencing Monday 9 th September	
MONDAY	Y5 Victorian Day
MONDAY 9.30 – 11.30/1.30 – 3.00	Reception children in
TUESDAY 9.30 – 11.30/1.30 – 3.00	Reception children in

TUESDAY	Y3 trip to Southend
TUESDAY	Y5 Walking around Dunmow as Victorians
WEDNESDAY 9.30 – 12.30	Reception Group 1 children in
THURSDAY 9.30 – 12.30	Reception Group 2 children in
FRIDAY	All Reception children in for the whole day
FRIDAY	PTA Coffee Morning in hall

Other events/news

HRS

The HRS Open Morning for Y5/6 families is on Saturday 28th September and is an opportunity for you to have full access to the school. During the Open Morning, your child will have the chance to take part in interactive experiences and hands-on activities in all faculties. Ultimately, the day is all about enjoying learning and learning is at the heart of our community. Their coffee mornings will be held on 16th, 18th, 20th September; 1st, 3rd, 7th, 9th, 11th and 15th October 2019. These are a chance to meet with the new Headteacher, Mr Gee, discuss the school and to see them function on a normal day with a tour of the school by their students. Booking is essential. Please contact Bev Louth on 01371 878659 or email blouth@hrs.education. Coffee Mornings will start at 9.15am until 11am and are primarily for parents.

School Nurse Drop-in

Please find attached details of the school nurse drop-in sessions. The first session is next Tuesday 10th September between 3.30pm and 4.30pm at Saffron Walden Community Hospital.

Assistant Road Safety Technician - vacancy



Essex Highways are looking for someone to visit Primary schools to deliver Road Safety Education to Year 5 pupils and to Reception pupils and their parents.

The successful candidate could be required to be onsite at schools anywhere in Essex by 8.30 am. It is for 30 hours a week, term time only and information can be found at <https://www.ringway-jacobs.co.uk/opportunities/assistant-road-safety-technician-essex>

Salad Days

The autumn issue of Salad Days has been published and can now be viewed online by following this link <https://www.saladdaysmag.uk/files/issue-85-web.pdf>. We have a couple of hard copy magazines in the office if you would like to collect one. This edition includes articles about vaccinations and the importance of art in education.

Yours sincerely

Clare Griffiths