

Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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Friday 6th March 2020

Dear Parents

Headteacher's Award

On Monday I was very pleased to present the following children with my Headteacher's Award for the last term. Congratulations to you all.

6BH	Blake Wilby	2BR	Sofia Clark
6TH	William Pledge	2SJ	Joseph Stuchfield
5NR	Elysia Barno	1BI	Elijah Whalley
5SM	Mac Herd	1RF/GM	Raima Begum
4LR	Arthur Hackshaw	RVL	Kajetan Wigmore
4LW	Mason Read	RLEB	Jem Boden
3RB	Georgina Vint	RNC	Eli Bingham
3SC	Bobby Beverley Purkiss		

World Book Day



Yesterday the children had fun decorating their potatoes as book characters. If you attended the book fair you will have seen the amazing display of all the potatoes. Mrs Wood selected her favourite "characters" from each class and the following children will be collecting their book prize next week. Well done to you all!

Hairy Maclary – Archie Philp	Waffle – Mia Clayton
Pig – Frankie Abbott	Winnie the Pooh – Carlyle Marcelle Ives
Owl Babies – Parker Lindley	Captain Underpants – Liam Roberts Bishop
Dinosaur – Kian Platfoot	Cat in the Hat – Hayley Pham
Caterpillar – Klara Baker	Podkin – Oliver Lockett
Harry Potter – Jim Bendall	Vigo – George Myers
Wally – Teddy Gaunt	Peter Rabbit – Henry Saville
Elmer the Elephant – Jake Luciani	

If you missed seeing the potatoes and would like to see a selection of photos of them they can be viewed on our website and app (<http://dsmprimary.essex.sch.uk/world-book-day-2020/>)

Our Share a Million Stories share-o-meter was also updated yesterday by Mrs Wood. It is fantastic to hear that just over 4,000 stories have been shared so far this week – well done and keep it up! Don't forget our book fair will also be taking place on Monday after school in the hall. Please note that we can only accept cash.

Coronavirus

You will have seen that we have been sending out a number of Coronavirus updates over the past week. The advice for schools remains the same in that we should remain open and continue to ensure children are washing their hands at very regular intervals throughout the day. The BBC have produced a useful guide for parents to help them talk to their children about this issue and this can be found at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-51734855>.

We have also had a reported case of threadworms. To stop these spreading further we will continue with the hand washing routines we currently have in place in school and would appreciate parent reiterating these at home.

Y4 Multiplication check

For the first time this year children in Y4 will be taking the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). The purpose of this is to check children's recall of their times tables up to 12. Further information on the check is attached to this newsletter.

Mrs Rooney will be holding an open session after school on Thursday 2nd April for any Y4 parents who might like to see what the test looks like, ask questions and even have a go at the test themselves. Parents will also be able to see TTRockstars in action if they wish. The session will take place at 3.15pm and parents should sign in at the school office once they have collected their child. **Please note that TTRockstars Club will be cancelled for Y3 children on this day – Y4 children are still welcome even if their parent is unable to attend.**

Y6 parent meeting with HRS

Daniel Gee and Neal Foster, the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher of HRS, will be hosting a "meet and greet" event on Monday at 3.15pm. The session is designed to meet parents and children following their offer this week of a school place at HRS to answer any questions that they may have. Refreshments will be available. For those parents who are unable to make it, HRS will be hosting a Q&A evening at HRS on 17 March between 5pm and 7pm. **Please note that there is a change of venue and this session will now be held in 5NR.** Please make your way to that classroom after picking up your child(ren).

2SJ Class Assembly

Please note that the 2SJ class assembly due to take place on 18th March has been rescheduled to 25th March at 2.55pm due to the parent consultations taking place.

Sports

Yr5/6 Dodgeball v Stebbing Primary

Last Friday two teams from Stebbing Primary travelled to us to play our Y5/6 dodgeball teams. DSM had 5 mixed teams who all took it in turns to play the Stebbing teams. It was a really competitive afternoon with DSM definitely being the clear winners.

PTA

The next PTA Quiz Night is on Friday 27th March from 7.15 pm in the school hall. This is always a fun event and a great way to support the school. Teams of up to 8 people are invited to enter. If, however, you would like to attend but are not part of a team please do not hesitate to contact the PTA as everyone is welcome. Please bring forms and entry money to the school office as soon as possible to avoid disappointment! The cost is just £5 per person and an entry form is attached. Should you wish to contact the PTA their email address is dunmowstmarysprimarypta@hotmail.co.uk. The last quiz raised £332. In the past it has been close to £600 - let's see if we can get close to that total this time round!

Fundraising opportunity: **Do you shop in the Co Op?** If so you can easily help raise money for the school by nominating our school as a charity and each time you swipe your card when you shop you can add to the fund. Please click on this link to sign in or sign up to start raising money!
<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/42530> .

Parent consultations

If you haven't booked your parent consultation for Monday 16th or Wednesday 18th March please do so as soon as possible as many of the slots have already been taken. If you are having problems accessing the system to book an appointment please contact the school office.

Suitcases, Lego and other items required!



The Pastoral Care team are planning on setting up themed suitcases for Y1 and Y2 to use at lunch time. They are therefore in need of any of the following items or items connected to the themes:

- Suitcases
- Holidays - sunglasses, towels, plastic picnic equipment, sarongs, buckets and spades
- Vets - any medical equipment, soft animals, white coats, toy pet carry cases
- Nature spotters - nature books, magnifying glasses, nets, camouflage stuff
- Pop stars/music - any toy instruments, play microphones , popstar wigs and glasses, feather boas, glitzy gloves
- Workmen/women - toy tools and tool belts, hard hats, clipboards

We will collect all items in the unused class room next to 1RF/GM, so please deposit your donations there. Once the suitcases have been sorted and filled we will store them in the lunchtime shed.

Our SEN team also require unwanted Lego pieces/sets. Please drop these into the school office if you have any.

Thank you for your support.

Unwanted football shirts

If anyone has football shirts that their children have grown out of, we are collecting them for children in Kenya. Miss Rogers will be visiting Kenya during the May half term and will be taking these with her. Please hand them into the school office over the coming months.

Events

Please find below the event calendar for next week:

Week commencing Monday 9 th March	
MONDAY	Y3 walking to church Y1 river walk
MONDAY 3.15	Y6 parents invited to meet with HRS Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher. Please make your way to 5NR
MONDAY 3.15	Book fair in the school hall
TUESDAY	Y6 trip to West Stow

WEDNESDAY	Y3 Music Festival workshops in school – packed lunch required
WEDNESDAY 2.55	1RF/GM Class Assembly
THURSDAY 10.40	4LW Class Assembly
FRIDAY	KS1 Dance Festival at school

Yours sincerely
Clare Griffiths