

Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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Friday 5th March 2021

Dear Parents

We hope the children are looking forward to seeing their friends and returning to school on Monday. As a reminder, children can arrive at school between 8.40am and 8.55am (YR, Y1 and siblings through the back gate and Y2 - 6 through the front gate). Children in KS2 will need a packed lunch unless they are entitled to free school meals and all children will need a coat and a water bottle. Uniform must be worn. YR - 4 will finish at 3.00pm, Y5 at 3.10pm and Y6 at 3.15pm as previously.

Now that we are returning to school and seeing an improvement in the weather may we take the opportunity to remind you of the importance of taking the utmost care around the school site. Please do wherever possible walk/scoot or cycle to school to reduce the amount of traffic at the front and back entrances. If you do have to drive then please remember that both our entrances are situated on residential streets and be considerate by turning off engines whilst not in use, not parking across driveways or on the corners/road markings or blocking the pavements. We hope the staggered finish time will continue to reduce the potential for bottlenecks at the end of the day.

Lunch menu

There have been some changes to next week's lunch menu. The menu for the week is as follows:

Monday: Spaghetti bolognese, garlic bread and ice cream

Tuesday: Pepperoni/ham and pineapple/margherita pizza, salad bar and fruit cocktail

Wednesday: Roast Chicken, stuffing, roast potatoes, carrots, peas, cranberry sauce and chocolate muffin cakes

Thursday: Crispy chicken burgers, salad bar, flapjacks

Friday: Bubble battered cod fillets, chips, baked beans and smoothies

Jacket potatoes and cheese puff options are also available and those with special dietary requirements will be catered for in the usual way.

The following week will return to the usual menu (week one).

Library books

Please encourage your child to bring any library books back into school next week. Their teacher will have a box for returns and we will be able to ensure that they can then borrow a new book during their library session. We will be giving teachers a list of current loans so they can remind pupils if they have forgotten what they had during this lockdown.

World Book Day

We hope the children had fun this week celebrating World Book Day and decorating their spuds. We loved seeing all the different designs. We thought we would share the poem on the right with you.

Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day is on Friday 19th March. We will be celebrating with a non-uniform day with the theme of superheroes and red as well as planning lots of exciting activities. The school also has a number of red noses which will be on sale for £1.50 from Monday 15th March. More details will follow in next week's newsletter.

Uniform

Please note that School Trends, one of our uniform suppliers, has let us know that their uniform will increase in price by an average of 5% from 1st April 2021. Their delivery charge will also increase to £3.99. We will be undertaking a review of our uniform providers during the summer term. Don't forget we have second hand uniform for just 50p an item via the products section of your child's online account.

Guitar and brass lessons

Matthew Jones is our guitar and brass teacher. If you would like your son/daughter to learn one of the many instruments he teaches please find his letter and information attached.

Parent Consultations

Bookings for our parent consultations on Monday 15th and Wednesday 17th (not RLEB, this is on Monday 22nd instead) are still open via your child's online account.

Yours sincerely
Clare Griffiths

WORLD BOOK DAY 2021

**Many things have changed these days
We've all been affected, I fear
And even the great World Book Day
Will be a bit different this year.**

**The Gruffalo stays 2 metres from the mouse
Mr Toad finds Zoom frustrating
Hogwarts has closed since Christmas time
Where's Wally? He's self-isolating.**

**The Oompa Loompas are on furlough
The Seven Dwarves aren't allowed to meet
The Cat in the Hat's now the Cat in the Mask
The Hungry Caterpillar's using Just Eat.**

**No celebrating in the schools
No author visits, I guess
No parents pulling their hair out
To make their kid's fancy dress.**

**The streets aren't full of excited children
The traffic won't be slowed
By parades of princesses and superheroes
Snaking down the road.**

**But some things won't change, we all love to read
For fun, escape, relaxation
Against the joy a book can bring
There is no vaccination.**

**Let's still celebrate the written word
Curl up, and read cover to cover
Let a book throw it's arms around you
Until we can hug one another.**

**Things may be different - our lives are locked down
And inside our houses we're stuck
The best advice for World Book Day this year?
Stay home. Save lives. Read a book.**

Chris White