

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 16th April 2021

Dear Parents

Welcome back, I hope you had a lovely Easter break.

Headteacher award

Congratulations to the following children who have received my Headteacher Award for last term.

6BH	Macey Mann	2TH	Sid West
6LR	Jasper Munson	2SJ	Darcy Hester Lowe
5NR	Archie Switon	1BI	Parker Lindley
5SM	Charlie O'Boyle	1RF/GM	Florence Sweeting
4LH/NT	Zach Gill	1YP	Toby Banks
4LW	Isla Martin	RLEB	Matty Jukes
3RB	Clara Barno	RBR	Albie Hilton
3SC	Mia Heap	RVL	Zuzia Oles

Lionel – the giant perch

You may have spotted the latest addition to our school community this week. Lionel was created as part of the 10th anniversary of the Dunmow Big Draw which we have supported each year. The artist Deb Hart hopes that the sculpture will inspire our children to want to learn traditional weaving skills and that they will want to be involved in looking after him as well as learning more about care for the environment and local wildlife.



Parent Code of Conduct

Schools have a parent code of conduct that sit alongside the staff code of conduct and the pupil behaviour policy. We have recently revised ours as we are required to do every three years. Please see the new version attached.

Library book sale



The library is making way for some new books and we therefore have bundles of books to sell. Each bundle costs £1 and consists of four books. Examples of the bundles are set out below. You can purchase a bundle via your child's online account and these will be sent home with your child. We cannot specify the books in each bundle but they are on sale according to year groups with picture books for the younger readers. This is a great way to engage your child in reading for pleasure whilst raising money for our library at the same time.



Sensory Area



We would like to say a huge thank you to The Rotary Club of Dunmow for their £500 donation to school which has enabled us to purchase some additional sensory equipment to support our pastoral care team. Unable to meet in person the club have instead donated funds they might have spent on meeting to local good causes.

We know that some children will find the adjustment back to school tricky after such a long lockdown and period of disruption and thought that our mentoring programme would benefit from having an additional calming sensory space. The equipment includes a pop-up dark tent, weighted blanket, bubble machines and sensory light pack all designed to ensure children feel secure, safe and in a position where they are able to share their worries with our trained team of mentors.

Incidents

We have been made aware of a couple of incidents taking place in and around the school at drop off/pick up time. The letter below comes from a parent outlining one of these. Another incident reported this week was when a parent with a pram almost hit the back of a slow-moving car as they were trying to cross the road outside the school. Please do set our children a good example by crossing the roads safely and be aware of everything around you.

"I can't help but let you know about a serious incident that luckily a toddler walked away from unharmed today.

We are all aware of the narrow path leading down Chequers Lane that many of us have to use to pick up our children and walk home. Sometimes it is very tricky to keep our youngsters safe especially if you have more than one child to look after, children on bikes/scooters or even a buggy AND children walking beside you or in front of you as there is just not sufficient room to walk safely.

It so happened today, two mothers were walking in front of me with several children and a buggy. I was walking beside my son who was riding his bike with stabilizers. Suddenly a 2 year old boy (who was walking behind the ladies) stepped into the road. I screamed STOP! and immediately grabbed the boy and pulled him to safety. I then looked behind me and a white car was coming down beside us just seconds later. Everyone was fine - thank God!

I'm sure you understand how shaken we felt. My son kept telling me - Mummy don't ever do that again. I was so scared! That's when I realised it could have been a whole lot worse.

I just really want to stress that everyone NEEDS to hold their small child's hand with them on the safe side not the road side or keep them in the buggy. Although many drivers are very aware of school pick up times and do take special care of the children on the sidewalk there is never any guarantee.

Maybe I am over sensitive or over protective suffering from a little anxiety after having nightmares with exactly that kind of imaginary scenario happening to one of my children over the years. I just want to save ANYONE from coming to harm.

This also applies for the traffic lights near Foakes Hall after we had an incident (just before Easter half term) where two consecutive cars jumped the red light right in front of our eyes and our young children were ready to cross the road.

There may always be this ONE time we may not have our eyes on a little runaway. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE don't let it be your one! Thank you very much for listening.

A concerned mum"

Sport

Cross Country results

The Dunmow family and Essex virtual X country results have been finalised and emailed out to all the schools this week. We have done really well in all three competitions, with some fantastic individual and team results. I am so proud of all the children who represented the school in this event.

Dunmow Cross country results (the following runners will all receive a medal):

Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Max- Gold	Marco- Gold	Jacob- Gold	Albie- Gold	Harrison- Gold
Tristan- Silver	Jonas- Gold	Harry- Silver	Sam- Silver	Mac- Silver
Euan- Silver	Tilly Gold	George- Bronze	Tobie- Bronze	Ben- Bronze
Klara- Gold	Isla- Silver	Ava- Gold	Ethan- Bronze	Lily- Gold
	Eliza Bronze	Rubie- Silver	Edie- Gold	Ella- Bronze
		Rose W- Bronze		

Dunmow Cross Country Team results (all runners in the team will receive a certificate)

Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Boys- Bronze	Boys- Gold	Boys- Gold	Boys- Gold	Boys- Gold	Boys- Gold
Girls- Bronze	Girls- Silver	Girls- Gold	Girls- Gold	Girls- Gold	Girls- Silver

*Essex Cross Country team results*_(I am yet to find out if certificates or medals will be awarded)

Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5
Boys- 5th in Essex	Girls- 2nd in Essex	Boys- 4th in Essex	Boys- 3rd in Essex
Girls- 2nd in Essex		Girls- 4th in Essex	Girls- 3rd in Essex

Y5/6 Virtual Netball competition results

We have also received the results to the virtual netball competition that the Y5 took part in. This was a Y5 and Y6 competition so I am extremely pleased that both our Y5 A and B teams did so well.

Dunmow results (all players receive a certificate)
DSM A team- 1st
DSM B team- 3rd

Uttlesford results (all players receive a medal)
DSM A team- Silver

Clubs

Clubs start next week as advertised. Everyone who requested a place should have received an email today confirming their space. Please do remember to let the office know if a child is unable to attend a club for any reason (other than school absence that day) as registers are taken at the start of each session.

Young Musician competition

The Rotary Club of Dunmow is running a competition is for singers and instrumentalists aged 7-18 years old. The competition will be online and performances can be recorded on a smart phone, tablet or video camera then submitted by 30th April. These will be adjudicated in May by two professional musicians. All entries will receive a certificate and the winners will also receive a prize. If you have a child who would like to take part please see the link below for further details:

<https://www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/page.php?PgID=831512&ClubID=1404&Mp=813415>

Events

Please find below the event calendar for next week:

Week commencing Monday 19th April	
MONDAY	5NR Bikeability Group 1
TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY	5NR Bikeability Group 2

Yours sincerely
Clare Griffiths