

Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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Friday 7th May 2021

Dear Parents

Learner of the week

Congratulations to the following children who have received Learner of the Week awards:

6BH	Ella Hollins	3SC	Eliza Trevillian
6LR	Freya Lynch-McKibbin	2TH	Euan Wilson
5NR	Marley Wright	2SJ	Darcy Maura Cooper
5SM	Charlotte Plummer	1BI	Gabriel Borges
4LH/NT	Quinn Deakin-Faux	1RF/GM	Summer Greenway Fisher/Reggie Thorpe
4LW	Ava Gray	1YP	Freya Balerdi
3RB	Archie Ramage		

Number Day



Children across the school have immersed themselves in our 'maths through art' activities in support of the NSPCC National Number Day. It's always fascinating to see how different

children interpret the same brief and many have been working on individual pieces using a huge variety of mediums including print making, oil crayons, watercolours, pencil and pen drawings. In Y6 the children worked together on creating an enhanced size transcription of a piece of artwork they'd chosen. Thank you to all those who sent in donations, we raised approximately £300 for the NSPCC.



Fundraising - thank you

At Christmas we raised money for Muscular Dystrophy UK which has helped one of our very own families. We were delighted to hear this week that your fundraising efforts contributed to the £36,000 they raised over the Christmas appeal period. It was the biggest amount they had ever raised for a Christmas appeal and will make so much difference to many lives so on their behalf "thank you".

Swimming

Following last week's newsletter in which we confirmed that we would be running our swimming programme this year we are pleased to confirm that Year 4 will begin their five-day block of lessons next Friday afternoon. Year 3 will swim the following week (Monday 24th May to Friday 28th May inclusive). Our swimming coach, Nicole Clarkson, is an extremely experienced swimming coach who has worked with your children in previous years and she is designing a course that will quickly build water confidence and safety skills as well as building on their front crawl and backstroke skills.

The school is in a fortunate position of being able to offer an enhanced programme of swimming provision due to having our own pool on site. Children will need a swimming costume (for girls this needs to be a one piece and for boys fitted swimming trunks), a towel and a swimming hat must be worn for hygiene reasons. Hats can be purchased from the school office for £2.50. Please note that earrings have to be taken out for swimming lessons so any recently pierced ears will preclude your child from lessons.

As you are aware swimming is heavily subsidised by the school and the parental contribution is key to our ability to provide this opportunity which is so popular with our children. We have really appreciated the strong support shown by parents in the past and would ask that you continue to demonstrate this by paying the contribution for your child/ren this year.

The cost of swimming lessons is £10 per child for the block. Payment should be made as soon as possible via your child's online account at www.scopay.com.

Homework

Please remember that we are sending out homework weekly. This is set on a Wednesday and should be completed by the following Monday.

School Uniform

Please make every effort to ensure that children are in school uniform including school shoes. Brightly coloured hair ties, bows and leather jackets should not be worn.

Thank you to everyone who has completed the online school uniform questionnaire. If you haven't yet filled this in please take a moment to do so as the more replies we have the better informed we are. <https://forms.gle/wCXTqdn17THvLqX47>. Questionnaires should be completed by Friday 14th May.

Walk to School Week - week beginning 17th May



We are teaming up with Living Streets this year for our Walk to School Week. This year's challenge focuses on the walking superpowers that benefit individuals, communities and the planet. Each class will work collectively to make as many active journeys to school as possible across the week. The teachers

will record the number of active journeys made on the classroom wall chart and learn about a new walking superpower.

You may be able to walk, scooter or cycle with your child. If not, you may be able to park a 10-minute walk away from school and complete the journey on foot. Please remember that we have permission from Tesco to use their car park for this purpose.

If you would like to read more about this initiative please visit livingstreets.org.uk/family

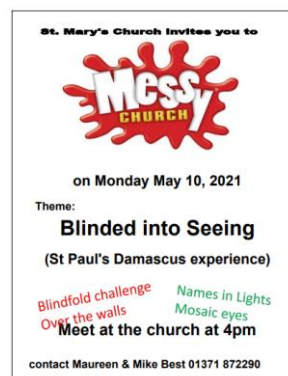
Messy Church

St Mary's Church are holding their next Messy Church event on Monday 10th May at 4pm. Please see attached flyer for details on how you can participate. Details can also be found on our community noticeboard page of our website.

Individual/sibling School Photos

The proofs have been sent home with children today so please check your child's bag.

If your child is not in school these will be kept in their classroom until their return. The deadline for orders is Tuesday 18th May.



Teaching Assistant vacancy

We are seeking an experienced teaching assistant to join our team. The role involves providing class support in both small group situations and the whole class, source, prepare and adapt resources, provide pupil feedback to the teachers and encourage pupils to interact with others and develop their social skills. Please see attached advert for further details. The closing date for applications is Friday 21st May.

Midday Assistant Required

We are looking for a friendly and approachable person to join our Midday Assistant Team working initially with children in Y1. The role involves closely supervising the children while on their lunch break; escorting them to and from the dinner hall; engaging with the children to encourage them to have a positive play time and dealing with minor first aid issues. Please see attached advert for further details. The closing date for applications is Friday 14th May.

Early Years Outdoor classroom

We plan this year to start a re-vamp of our Early Years Outdoor classroom. We are so fortunate to have this amazing space that all our children use and enjoy when they start at Dunmow St Mary's and we want to make it as engaging and exciting as possible to support the learning of our reception children. With such a big space as you would expect we are constrained to a certain extent by funding and will be looking at ways to fundraise for this. In the meantime, if you are aware of anyone who might be able to volunteer some time for clearance/groundworks or general maintenance then please email our Business Manager at jess.horrocks@dsdmprimary.essex.sch.uk. We would be extremely grateful for any support that can be offered.

Events

Please find below the event calendar for next week:

Week commencing Monday 10 th May	
FRIDAY - pm	Y4 Swimming
FRIDAY	Closing date for school uniform questionnaire

Yours sincerely
Clare Griffiths