

Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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Friday 10 December 2021

Dear Parents

Covid

As you are aware Mrs Griffiths tested positive for Covid earlier this week. A number of staff are also currently away having also tested positive and we have had to instigate remote learning for our Y2 children. We understand that our school community will be concerned about our number of cases however our number of reported cases for children remains extremely low. Our children learn best when they are in school and we are doing everything possible to keep them here.

Christmas Jumper Day



Don't forget next Thursday we will be supporting Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day. Children are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper instead of their school jumper for the day in exchange for a donation to this worthy charity. We also have our own Christmas Jumper Day JustGiving page if you prefer to donate money online - <https://christmas.savethechildren.org.uk/fundraising/cjd210000641>

Class Parties

The children will be having their class Christmas parties next Friday afternoon. We are not asking parents to send in any food due to Natasha's Law now being in place but will instead be purchasing treats for each class.

Christmas Bazaar

Thank you to everyone who attended last Friday's bazaar. We think you will agree it was lovely to be able to do this again and that the PTA managed to run a wide variety of stalls and events to keep everyone entertained. Please find attached their newsletter which reveals the class winners of the Best Decorated Christmas Tree as well as the wonderful amount raised for the school. Thank you to all the volunteers who gave up their time to prepare, decorate and run this event.

Clubs

Please note that the only clubs running next week are Athletics and MRFA Football on Monday to make up for the missed one last week. Please note that clubs for next term are currently being compiled and we hope to let you have details of these by the end of term.

Parking

We have been contacted by a number of residents this week together with photos of cars parked on double yellow lines, parking across driveways and on bends. Please be considerate of our neighbours as well as traffic laws. If you see any traffic violations you or our residents are able to report this to the Police by completing an online form or if you believe the public are in imminent danger you are able to call 999 to report this and have the vehicle registration details to hand <https://www.essex.police.uk/ro/report/asb/asb/report-antisocial-behaviour/>

Homework

No homework will be set next week.

Late children

Please note that registration is at 8.55am. If for any reason your child arrives after the gate has closed you will need to come to the office to sign him/her in. Please do not walk through the playgrounds and around to class.

Library books and Hannukkah

At this time of year, Jewish people celebrate Hanukkah (the festival of lights). Jewish households light a candle on a Menorah for eight days. In Mrs Wood's and many Jewish households a gift is given to the children on each of these eight days as the candles are lit. In the spirit of Hanukkah, the library has gifted eight books to children whose names were plucked randomly from the box:

- 1 Kian 3SC
- 2 Rubie 5NR
- 3 Jonas 4LH/HT
- 4 Alan 2CC
- 5 Tilly 4LH/HT
- 6 Quinn 5SM
- 7 Isla RLEB
- 8 Elsie 2TH

If you believe your child has a library book that may be outstanding now is the time to return it! We will be contacting you next week if we believe your child has an outstanding book on loan. If a library book is lost or damaged we do ask for £5 per book to purchase a replacement.

Sports

Y6 Dodgeball

On Wednesday a group of Y6 children attended the Uttlesford Dodgeball Finals. They all played really well and we saw some great teamwork in action. They came 10th overall out of the 16 teams in attendance. Well done to you all.

Toys needed

If you are clearing toy boxes and cupboards to make way for new toys in the coming weeks our pastoral care team would be very grateful for any unwanted cars, little figures, play mats/play road mats. These can be dropped off at the school office. Thank you.

Head Lice

We have had reports of head lice. Could you please ensure you are checking your child's head daily for signs as well as ensuring all children (boys or girls) have their hair tied back if it is longer than shoulder length. More information on head lice and treatment is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Events

Please find below the event calendar for the final week of term:

Week commencing Monday 13th December	
TUESDAY 9.15	Y3-Y5 Christmas Play
TUESDAY 2.00	Y3-Y5 Christmas Play
WEDNESDAY 9.15	Y3-Y5 Christmas Play
WEDNESDAY 6.30	Y3-Y5 Christmas Play
THURSDAY	Christmas Dinner
THURSDAY	Christmas Jumper Day
FRIDAY	End of Autumn term

Yours sincerely
Chris Jarvis