

Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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Friday 9 September 2022

Dear Parents

Following yesterday's sad news we held a special assembly this morning to celebrate the life of Queen Elizabeth through pictures, words and watching her Jubilee tea with Paddington. We also sang the new National Anthem. As we discover more about the national mourning period and what it means for schools we will keep you updated. If you would like to lay flowers by way of tribute in Dunmow these may be placed at a memorial on Talberds Ley next to Foakes Hall.

On a brighter note the children it has been lovely to see all the children getting involved in their new topics this week. In Y5 they have been making their very own trojan horse, eating greek food and playing Pattedia. Whilst in Y4 they have been discovering all about the school grounds in Roman times.



School meals

Following the storms and water leaks we were delighted to offer hot meals to our children again from Tuesday. Unfortunately due to the current climate, the ingredients delivered and general stock shortage levels we do have to make some last minute changes to menus and are not always able to communicate these to parents. We apologise for any disappointment this may cause.

As you are no doubt aware, through shopping for your own families, the cost of food items is increasing. In order to keep our costs and stock as low as possible without compromising service it would be very helpful if families in KS2 could pre-order their meals via Scopay as far in advance as is possible. If you are unsure how to do this please contact the school office.

Parent Consultations

The first parent consultation meetings of this year are taking place on Monday 3rd October (virtual) and Wednesday 5th October (face to face). These appointments can be made via your child's online account at www.scopay.com. Please note that if you have more than one child the app cannot handle booking more than one appointment so it is best to use an Internet browser for this. It is advisable to leave 10 minutes between appointments. Only one appointment can be made per child. Whilst we understand this may cause difficulties for our split families it does ensure that the same message is delivered to both parents. If you have not yet activated your child's online account and require a new activation code or have any issues making an appointment please contact the school office. *The booking system will be open from Monday 12th September 9am and will close on Thursday 29th September.*

Service dog

We have a parent who requires a service dog. Please be aware that this dog will be accompanying its owner around school and will at all times be on a marked lead. No other dogs are permitted on our premises.

PTA Bouncy Fun

Due to the period of national mourning and advice from Essex County Council we are postponing the Bouncy Fun event that was due to be held next week. As soon as we have a revised date we will let you know how you can purchase a wristband for this.

Catering and Midday Assistants required

We are currently looking for a Catering Assistant (to work in our lunch hall) and Midday Assistants (to work in the playground). If you, a friend or family member is interested in either of these roles please contact the School Office in the first instance.

Parent Assemblies

Parents are very welcome to attend the parent assemblies for their child's class however please don't feel that it is expected that you will be there. KS2 Assemblies are from 10.40 – 10.55am and KS1 assemblies are in the classroom at 2.55pm on a Wednesday afternoon. If you do wish to come, please make sure you arrive at 10.35 to sign in at the office for KS2 assemblies and at 2.50pm at the office for KS1 assemblies. The back gate does not open early for parent assemblies. The schedule for this term is as follows but please do check the newsletter for any necessary amendments:

Wednesday 28 September 10.40am	3SC		
Wednesday 5 October 10.40am	4LW	Wednesday 5 October 2.55pm	2BR
Wednesday 12 October 10.40am	5LH/HT	Wednesday 12 October 2.55pm	2CC
Wednesday 19 October 10.40am	6NR	Wednesday 19 October 2.55pm	2SJ
<i>Half Term</i>		<i>Half Term</i>	
Wednesday 2 November 10.40am	3BI	Wednesday 2 November 2.55pm	1RF/GM
Wednesday 9 November 10.40am	4AM	Wednesday 9 November 2.55pm	1EW
Wednesday 16 November 10.40am	5LC		
Wednesday 23 November 10.40am	6BH		
Wednesday 30 November 10.40am	3RB		

Parking

Please be reminded that parents are not allowed to park in the Banks Court car park at the back of the school. This is a private car park.

Nits

This week we have had a number of reported cases of nits, especially in Y4. Could you please check your child's hair on a daily basis. Should you require any further advice please consult the NHS website

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Guitar/brass lessons (Y1-Y6)

Matthew Jones, one of our music teachers, can offer tuition in guitar and brass instruments (trumpet/cornet, trombone, French horn). Guitar lessons are organised as either individual 15 minute sessions at a cost of £80.00 per term or as paired 15 minute sessions at a cost of £40.00 each per term. There are 10 lessons each term. Brass tuition is only offered as individual sessions. Lessons will start next week (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday). If you have any questions about tuition or instruments, then please do not hesitate to contact Mr Jones directly. Should your child wish to take lessons, please confirm that you are in agreement with both the length of lesson and the cost, and contact him directly by email (info@rpvmusic.co.uk) or on 07907 645643.

Events

Please find attached a list of dates for this academic year. These dates are subject to change so please do check the newsletter each week for any amendments.

Please find below the event calendar for next week:

Week commencing Monday 12 September	
TUESDAY 3.15	Y4 and Y5 11+ Club meeting for parents

Yours sincerely
Clare Charter