

## Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

High Stile, Great Dunmow, Essex CM6 1EB

Telephone 01371 872340

E-mail admin@dsmprimary.essex.sch.uk



Friday 13 January 2023

Dear Parents

The weather is really turning cold and wet now. With more snow forecast for this month please ensure we have the correct contact details for you and check your emails/texts for any news on school openings/closures etc during adverse weather conditions. Please email the school office with any changes. Clubs may also be cancelled at the last minute so again please keep an eye on your emails on the days your child is due to attend an outdoor club. If you cannot collect your child at the usual time then we will keep him/her either in a classroom setting, the school office or they may join another club depending on numbers.

### Parent Questionnaire

We would like parents to tell us what you think about our school. There are 14 questions which you are asked to agree or disagree with. These questions are also the ones that OFSTED ask when they visit a school so, if you have filled in the OFSTED parent view, you may already be familiar with them. The questionnaire will close on **Friday 27th January**. Thank you for taking the time to share your views.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1PYnaftqsyfhY1gPg3Rvp5IMG4pkgKlaLNwrJB1cQ4I/edit?ts=63c13e29>

### KS1 Disco

On Thursday 26th January children in YR, Y1 and Y2 are invited to a disco and games party from 3.30-4.30. The cost of this is £3 per child. This covers the cost of the games, disco, drink and a biscuit. If you would like your child to join us then please pay the £3 online via your child's online account at [www.scopay.com](http://www.scopay.com) or via the Scopay app. If your child would like a change of clothes for this event please send this in on the day in a named bag. Children will get changed at 3.15 ready for the 3.30 start. At the end of the event children can be collected from their classroom doors at 4.30. Please note that the back gate will not be open at this time. Children going to Olivers Lodge will be escorted there once all the other children have departed.

### Assemblies

Set out below are the provisional dates for the class assemblies this term. Please therefore be aware that there may be occasions where we need to cancel or rearrange these dates. KS2 Assemblies are from 10.40 – 10.55. Please don't feel that it is expected that you will be there. If you do wish to come, please make sure you are here at 10.35 when the gate will open for you to make your way to the office. KS1 assemblies are in the classroom at 2.55 on a Wednesday afternoon. Access will be via the front gate at 2.45 where you will make your way to the office before being taken to the classroom.

Wednesday 25 January 10.40am	3SC		
Wednesday 1 February 10.40am	4LW		
Wednesday 8 February 10.40am	5LH/HT	Wednesday 8 February 2.55pm	Y2
<i>Half term</i>		<i>Half term</i>	
Wednesday 22 February 10.40am	6NR		
Wednesday 1 March 10.40am	3BI	Wednesday 1 March 2.55pm	1RF/GM
Wednesday 8 March 10.40am	4AM	Wednesday 8 March 2.55pm	1EW
Wednesday 15 March 10.40am	5LC		
Wednesday 22 March 10.40am	6BH		
Wednesday 29 March 10.40am	3RB		

### Toilets

At drop off/pick up please do not use the children's toilets. If you/your younger child needs the toilet during this time please go to the school office where they will show you to the adult toilet. This is to safeguard our children.

### Engines

If you do arrive early for drop off/pick up and are parked outside the school please do not leave your engine running. Rule 123 of The Highway Code looks at 'The Driver and the Environment'. It states that drivers must not leave a parked vehicle unattended with the engine running or leave a vehicle engine running unnecessarily while the vehicle is stationary on a public road. Local authorities are able to charge a £20 fixed penalty notice for emission offences and stationary idling under The Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) (England) Regulations 2002 with the potential for the fine to be increased to £80. RAC research found that 26% of those caught idling are spotted doing so outside schools. Idling increases the amount of exhaust fumes in the air. These fumes contain a number of harmful gases including carbon dioxide, which is bad for the environment and contributes towards climate change, as well as a range of other harmful gases including nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons which are linked to asthma and other lung diseases.

### Hair

Please ensure all hair if longer than shoulder length is tied up neatly for school. Clips, scrunchies, headbands and hair bands should be either black or jade green only.



### King Charles III Commemorative Coin

Last year we offered parents the opportunity to purchase the Jubilee commemorative coin at a reduced rate from Tower Mint. We have now been offered the King Charles III coin for parents to purchase. The coin is £2.99 and will be available via your child's Scopay account. If you would like to purchase a coin please note the deadline for orders is **Friday 27th January**. The coins will be sent to us in April ahead of his Coronation. We have a sample coin in the office if you would like to take a look before ordering.

### Pastoral Care Assistants required

If you are looking for something new at the start of 2023, joining our team of pastoral care assistants working in the school playground during the busy lunchtime periods could be for you.

Our friendly, caring midday pastoral team quickly builds relationships with the children as well as getting to know their individual characters and personalities. Children are always keen to show off their play skills and share their stories and actively seek feedback from the adults around them. By role modelling important social skills such as taking turns,

listening to each other, being inclusive and working constructively on problems you can positively impact so many young lives. Our priority is to keep our children safe and the midday pastoral team is critical in ensuring we are able to do this. The role is from 12.00pm to 1.15pm during term time only paying £10.50 per hour. If you, friends or family are interested please do not hesitate to contact the office in the first instance.

### Events

Please find below the event calendar next week:

<b>Week commencing Monday 16 January</b>	
FRIDAY	Y5 Young Voices at O2

Yours sincerely  
Clare Charter