

Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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Friday 20 January 2023

Dear Parents

Learners of the Week

Congratulations to our Learners of the Week:

6BH	Bobby Austin	3RB	Ben Saunderson
6NR	Mia Clayton	3BI	Reggie Holden
5LC	Kaiden Smith	2SJ	Ralphie Clayton
5LH/HT	Emily Farrow	2BR	Halle Ferguson
4AM	Millie Free	2CC	Brooke Osborne
4LW	Elizabeth Dunn	1EW	Logan Fowler
3SC	Elise Kass	1RF/GM	Jailah Palmer

Attendance award

Each week we present the class with the best attendance the previous week with an attendance award.

Congratulations to 6NR who won this week's award with 100% attendance.

School drop off

All children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 must be accompanied to their classrooms by an adult in the morning and not left at the gate. Please ensure you are walking your child(ren) to the classroom door and allow plenty of time to do this. If you specifically want an older sibling to escort a younger one and you trust that they will always walk the child to the classroom door, please call us to discuss this.

Drinks and snacks

By way of reminder children are able to bring a healthy snack to school if they wish. All Reception, Y1 and Y2 children are provided with fruit/veg from the government each day. The healthy snack options are a plain biscuit (rich tea or digestive), a couple of plain crackers, fruit/veg of their choice, small snack pots of raisins or a tube yoghurt. Please do not send crisps, chocolate, chicken/pork bites or cereal bars with chocolate or nuts for break time snacks. If your child has one of these as a snack we will ask them not to eat it and return it to them at the end of the day.

All children are encouraged to bring a named water bottle to school containing water only which can be refilled throughout the day in class. Please note we do not allow squash or fruit juice in these. If your child does bring in a bottle containing squash this will be replaced with water or the child will be reminded to bring in plain water the next day.

Household Grant

We have been allocated a sum of money to pass to families struggling with the cost of living crisis. This could be spent on food, energy bills, blankets or energy saving devices such as a draught excluder. If you feel you would be eligible for this please contact the school office by **no later than Friday 27th January**.

PTA

Please find attached the PTA update including the amazing sum they raised for our school at the Christmas Bazaar. Their next meeting is on 28th February at The Fritch House and everyone is welcome.

Parent Questionnaire

If you have not yet completed the online parent questionnaire please note the deadline is next **Friday 27th January**.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1PYnaftqsyfhY1gPg3Rvp5IMG4pkgKlaclNwrJB1cO4I/edit?ts=63c13e29>

KS1 Disco

This is next Thursday. If you would like your child to attend but have not yet paid online please do so by 9am on Thursday morning. The cost is £3 per child. 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

Parent assemblies for 3SC and 4LW have been postponed as parents will be invited in to an event at the end of the half term. The Y2 class assemblies will now be held on Thursday 9th February at 2.55pm. Apologies for any inconvenience and confusion these changes may cause.

King Charles III Commemorative Coin

Please be reminded that the deadline for purchasing a commemorative coin is **Friday 27th January**. The coins will be sent to us in April ahead of his Coronation.

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:

Week commencing Monday 23 January	
THURSDAY 3.30-4.30	KS1 Disco

Date for your diary

9th February will be the date for our individual and sibling photos in school. Please note these are only for siblings who attend the school.

Half term events

There are a number of half term clubs and activities already available to book, including one taking place at our school every day. If you are interested in these please see the community noticeboard on our website.

School Nurse drop-ins

Drop in sessions are held once a month around the Uttlesford District. Support and advice is offered by a School Nurse and a Healthy Family Support Practitioner. Parents can ask advice about behaviour and emotional needs, bed wetting and soiling issues plus other health needs that may be impacting on both home and school life. The spring term sessions are:

7th February 3.30-5.00 - Room A Saffron Walden Hospital, Radwinter Road, Saffron Walden CB11 3HY

7th March 3.30-5.00 - Little Goslings, North Street, Great Dunmow, CM6 1AZ

Yours sincerely

Clare Charter