

Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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Friday 12 May 2023

Dear Parents

We were so proud of all our Y6 children who faced their SATs this week with composure and maturity. Well done to you all.

Uniform

We are seeing an increasing number of children attending school wearing rings, bracelets, trainers and long hair down. Please be reminded that school shoes must be worn (not black trainers or slip on shoes), a plain/simple watch can be worn if the child can tell the time and any hair longer than shoulder length must be tied back. Earrings should also be small studs and if you are thinking of having your child's ears pierced they are not permitted to participate in PE lessons for the six weeks that they are not allowed to take them out and after this time must remove them before any PE or swimming lessons. No earrings are permitted to be worn in the pool. It is therefore advisable to wait until the start of the summer holidays.

New TikTok Trend

We would like to make you aware of a new Tiktok trend that has emerged over the last few days. In videos promoting this 'challenge', individuals are being encouraged to go into supermarkets to the frozen aisle where they open tubs of icecream and lick them before placing them back in the freezers. If your children are talking about this challenge at home, we would encourage you to have a conversation about the appropriateness of this action and how it may affect those that may purchase the used tubs. If we hear the children talking about this in school, we will also address this with them.

Club cancellation

Please note that Athletics club is cancelled on Wednesday 17th May due to a sports competition taking place.

Sports round up

Rapid Fire cricket

Today we hosted a rapid cricket tournament for Y3/Y4 teams against local schools. Despite hitting some great balls for six and some really close games losing by just one or two runs, we didn't end up in the top three teams. Well done to everyone who took part in some miserable weather.

School day - changes to times

The Department for Education has decided to extend the amount of time that Primary schools are open to 32.5 hours per week by September 2023. This means that we need to extend our school day by ten minutes a day.

In order to cause the least amount of disruption we are going to trial starting the school day and registering the pupils at 8.45am. Many pupils are already in class by 8.40am and the staff are in their classrooms at this time. We will open the school gates at 8.30am and children will need to wait in the playground until 8.40am when we will blow a whistle. YR,1 and 2 will need to have an adult with them until this point but Y3 - 6 can wait in the playground alone if you prefer.

At 8.40am children will go into class and the register will be taken at 8.45am. Children not here at this point will be marked late.

We will trial this from Monday June 19th and see how it works. Please take careful note of the timings and put June 19th in your diaries.

Events

Please find below the event calendar for next week:

Week commencing Monday 15 May	
MONDAY	Y2 SATs week begins
TUESDAY 5.00	Y6 School Journey parent meeting
WEDNESDAY 10.40	4LW Class Assembly

Ride London - Sunday 28th May

Please note on this day there will be a number of road closures and events taking place in celebration of this event. The High Street will be closed from White Hart Way junction to the cadet drill hall from 6am to 2.30pm. Further details of road closures can be found at www.ridelondon.co.uk/community-info/essex. During the day there will be live music, free bike maintenance, bike advice and you may even make a smoothie using pedal power.

Summer Fun Day

Don't forget to make sure Saturday 10th June is in your diary for the Summer Fun Day! This year we also have performances from our choir and dance club members. More details will follow shortly.

Yours sincerely
Clare Charter