

## Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parents,

### Coats

Please make sure your child has a coat in school. Now the temperatures are dropping we will have to keep children inside who do not have a coat to put on at playtime and lunchtime.

### Outside PE Kit

Please ensure that children in Y2-6 have an outdoor PE kit in school consisting of trainers, sweatshirt and jogging bottoms. Also, please make sure your child has an indoor PE kit in school at all times, to include a jade or white PE t-shirt and black shorts.

### Dance Club

Are there any parents, or anyone you know who would be prepared to come and run a dance club for Y3 – 6 after school on a Friday? A member of school staff would be there as well to support supervising the children. We could pay an hourly rate for this which would mean we would only have to charge the children one or two pounds per session depending on the number of children. If we can't find anyone who would like to do this, we will have to employ an external teacher and the rates quoted are £4 or £5 pounds per child per session. If anyone is interested please contact me via the school office.

### Bad Weather Policy

If snow or floods prevent enough teachers reaching school then we may have to close. Please make sure you are completely aware of the bad weather and school closure arrangements. It is the governors' policy to keep the school open whenever possible during bad weather conditions. However it will be necessary to close the school if;

- Insufficient staff are able to reach school in time to keep the school running safely
- Conditions on site are dangerous
- Conditions are considered to be or are reasonably anticipated to later become too dangerous to travel

In the event of bad weather overnight, the decision to close will be taken by the Headteacher as early as possible in the morning. Parents will be informed by e-mail and text message. All parents are urged to sign up to either or both these services and a message will be posted on the school website. School closures are no longer broadcast on the local radio. However, they are published on the Essex County Council website. <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx>

In the event of bad weather developing during the day, the decision to close will be taken by the Headteacher or most senior member of staff on site. Parents will be informed by text message or e-mail and the closure will be posted on the school website. Parents will be asked to collect their child/children who will remain at school until collected. If parents wish another person to collect their child, they must inform the school office themselves. If parents arrive at the classrooms to collect children they must be directed to the school office to ensure that every child is accounted for.

### **Bikeability Y5**

Straight after the Easter holidays we will be offering cycling proficiency lessons (now called Bikeability) to Y5 children. These are free and in school time and provided by qualified instructors from Essex County Council. However, if bikes are not in full working order then children are unable to take part. If you wish to take part please make sure any necessary repairs are undertaken on your child's bike and that they have a cycling helmet. Further information will follow in the coming months.

### **Nick Butterworth**

Please see the attached information regarding a session for parents by the author, Nick Butterworth.

### **Class Assemblies**

Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> January 10.45am	6JM		
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January 10.45am	5TH	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2.45pm	2LH
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 10.45am	4RB	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2.45pm	2NT
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February 10.45am	3LW		
<i>Half term</i>			
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 10.45am	6BH		
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 10.45am	5LO	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2.45pm	1BR
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 10.45am	4KE/RK	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2.45pm	1SH

### **Please see the message below from Home Start Uttlesford**

"We are Home-Start Uttlesford, a charity that supports families with younger children who are going through a tough time. We are looking for new volunteers to join us. We are running a 10 week training course starting on Tuesday 7th February and our co-ordinators would love to hear from you. If you are interested, please call us on 01799 520728 as soon as possible. Thanks".

Yours sincerely

Clare Griffiths