

## Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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14<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Dear Parents,

### School Target Awards

*For getting better at Speedy maths:* Molly Hasler 5LO

*For pushing themselves to do the best they can:* Poppy Warwick 6BH, Loui Rayner 4KE/RK, Imogen Barnett 3AM/NR, Mahima Begum 3LW, Ava Holmes 2LH

*For showing respect:* Millie Cook 5TH, Arthur Hackshaw 1BR, Emily Tyrell 1SH

*For challenging themselves to learn new words:* Sadie France 4KE/RK, Kohl Ransom 3AM/NR

### Class Assemblies

If you would like to come to your child's assembly please come to school at 10.40am or 2.40pm and sign in at the school office. The assembly will last 15 minutes.

19<sup>th</sup> October 10.45am 6JM

20<sup>th</sup> October 2.45pm 2NT

2<sup>nd</sup> November 10.45am 5TH

9<sup>th</sup> November 10.45am 4RB

10<sup>th</sup> November 2.45pm 1BR

16<sup>th</sup> November 10.45am 3LW

17<sup>th</sup> November 2.45pm 1SH

### Clowns

#### The message below has been passed on from Essex Police for schools information.

Essex Police are aware of a number of reports from concerned residents across the county relating to persons dressed as clowns, specifically near to schools during opening times. It would appear the intentions of these 'clowns' is to scare members of the public however to date there have been no reports of physical threats of harm or violence being caused. These incidents follow on from a 'craze' originating in the USA whereby persons dressed as clowns have been photographed or filmed carrying out various acts with the intention of scaring or causing fear. There has been huge public interest in these photographs and videos, particularly on social media networking sites which more often than not do not represent accurate reporting. This inaccurate reporting is further fuelling the 'craze' and creating a perception of fear in the community.

Essex Police would also like to warn persons who are thinking of being actively involved in this 'craze' that in doing so they may commit offences under the Public Order Act 1986 and to be more considerate of the feelings of others, especially young children and the elderly.

### Y5 Parents

Are you a Year 5 Parent? Have you been wondering what your child has been up to this half term? Then join us for an incredible Indian experience next Thursday afternoon from 2.30pm:

- Watch a traditional shadow puppet show.
- Listen to authentic Indian music.
- Experience enthralling story-telling dances.
- Be decorated in intricate Mehndi patterns.

Come next week to sneak a peek at the colourful array of work on display!

### **Winter Clothes**

As the weather cools down, please make sure that children have a **named** coat in school. After half term, all children will be reminded to take a coat out onto the playground with them. Please also remember that novelty hats and scarfs should not be worn, particularly the scarves that are attached to a hat and look like animal heads.

### **Disco Y3-6**

On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October there is a disco for Y3-6 children in school from 6.00pm – 7.30pm. The children should be dropped off at 6pm and parents are asked to come into the school hall to collect the children at **7.30pm**. The price of the disco is £2 payable **on the night**. A selection of flashing jewellery is available to buy all at £1 each and drinks and crisps are also on sale (50 for a drink and a packet of crisps). All Y3 – 6 children are welcome.

### **Y6 Parents**

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October we are holding a meeting for Y6 parents at 6 pm in the school hall. This meeting will be dual purpose. In the first part of the meeting we will be discussing the school journey this year (May 15 – 19 for 6JM and May 22 – 26 for 6BH). In the second part of the meeting Mr Harris will be talking about expectations for the children in Y6 and how parents can support at home. This meeting is aimed at parents. We will giving the children the information about the school journey in school time. However, if you cannot arrange child care they are welcome to come and sit with you. We anticipate that this meeting will be over by 7.17pm.

### **Children's behaviour in school**

I'm sure you are aware how hard we have been working to ensure that children's behaviour in school is always excellent. It would really help us if at times when we are trying to ensure that children are quiet that the parents could be quiet as well to model the behaviour we expect. The times it would particularly help are when the four whistles go for quiet for Y3 – 6 lining up at the beginning of the school day and when children are coming into assemblies where parents are watching. Thank you for your understanding.

### **Mrs. Ralph**

Sadly Mrs. Ralph our Pastoral Care Manager, is leaving us and her last day will be next Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> October. If any parents would like to contribute to her leaving collection, please do so via the school office.

If you need to contact a member of the school Pastoral Team after half term please ask for Mrs. Waldock, Mrs. Murnane or Mrs. Stock.

### **Nick Butterworth - author visit to school**

We are delighted to announce that author/illustrator Nick Butterworth will be visiting the school on Thursday 3rd November. Our Reception, Year 1 and 2 children will have the opportunity to meet Nick and watch as he uses live drawing to foster in the children a love of books, stories and reading. Nick will also be signing books on the day and there will be an opportunity for parents to buy a selection of his books after school in the new hall.

Further details of an opportunity to pre-order books will be sent to the relevant year groups later today, however, the after-school book sale is open to all parents and children regardless of year group.

### **Second Hand Book Sale**

Every lunchtime next week the library will be holding a Big Fantastic Gigantic book sale of second hand children's books. There is a large selection of books for all ages including Classics and Picture books. The books will be 20p each or 6 for a £1. **All monies should be in a named purse or envelope please with no more than £2 in total.** The book sale will also be open after school on Monday, Wednesday and Friday if you prefer to come in with your child. All money raised goes to help buy resources for our wonderful library.

### **Parents' Evenings**

Advance warning – keep the date.

Parents' evenings will be on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 3.30 – 6.30 and Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 5.30 – 8.30. More information and a sign up slip to follow immediately after half term.

Yours sincerely

Clare Griffiths