

Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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20th October 2017

Dear Parents

School Awards

This week, the teachers gave awards for children who they had noticed trying exceptionally hard in their work. These are the children who received awards in the assembly on Monday:

Sophia Gelston 6TH, Katelin Ambrose 6BH, Hannah Perry 6BH, Rebekah Bullock 5LO, Sadie Rodwell 5NR, Scarlett Essex 4RB, Stan Ratford 4CJ/AC, Daniel Lejwoda 3SJ, Ava Holmes 3LW, Emilie Dulake 2BR, Poppy Wright 2NT, Adam Lejwoda 1SH, Georgina Vint 1LB

Child of Books - Whole School Topic

This week we have been working on a whole school project based around the book by Oliver Jeffers 'Child of Books'. This picture book has illustrations made from classic stories and was written to encourage children to read these stories. The teachers chose a classic book and read a version of it to the children in their class. Over the last week we have been working on a child-led project where the children were encouraged to make a book and also another response to their chosen book.

The children are incredibly proud of the work they have produced and would like to invite you into school on Tuesday 31st October to view the exhibition of their work. The work will be on view in the new hall from 3.15pm – 4.00pm.

Dinner money

You are reminded that all school dinners should be paid for in advance and all account arrears must be cleared by half term. Should your account be more than £20 in debt the provision of a school meal may be withdrawn. Where possible please pay using Scopay (<https://www.scopay.com/login.html>). If you wish to pay for dinners for the next half term this amounts to £72 per child (excluding Christmas dinner).

Facebook

It has been brought to our attention this week that several details about incidents in school have been posted on Facebook. Please can we reiterate again, if you have an issue to discuss or are concerned about anything please make a phone call, send an email or come into school to talk to somebody rather than posting online.

YouTube

A lot of our children, some as young as eight, have YouTube accounts. Please be aware of the following age restrictions for online platforms:

- The minimum age to open an account on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr, Kik, and Snapchat is **13**
- YouTube requires account holders to be **18**, but a **13**-year-old can sign up with a parent's permission

If your child has a YouTube account with your consent, please can you make sure you are monitoring their online activity and reminding them of safety aspects e.g. not posting videos of themselves in their school uniform or in their bedroom etc.

Clubs

Gardening Club has now finished and will commence in the spring term. Reading club will start on Tuesday 7th November for years 1 and 2 (from 3.15pm to 4pm). If your child would like to attend please complete and return the slip at the foot of the newsletter to the office – please note that priority will be given to children who were unable to attend this half term and places are limited to 20.

Gymnastics will also commence on Tuesday 7th November. All current clubs will continue to run after half term.

Privacy Notice

Please find attached a copy of our Privacy Notice. This is also available on the website.

Midday Assistants – urgently required

We are looking for colleagues to join us at lunchtime (1-1½ hours a day term time only) to assist with supervising the children. We have roles available in our lunch hall and outside that would suit people who enjoy working with children and are able to build positive relationships with them. There is flexibility on days and the pay is £7.90 per hour. If you know of any friends or relatives that would be interested please do pass on the details.

SEND Coffee afternoon

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent SEND coffee afternoon. There will be another one organised in the spring term. Invitations and the agenda will be sent in advance.

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.

PTA – Quiz night

The PTA Quiz Night is on Friday 10th November. Forms and money needed to be handed in to the Office as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah on dunmowstmarysprimarypta@hotmail.co.uk.

Essex Police Safety Notice

Essex Police have asked us to forward on the attached letter for your information.

Non –Pupil day

Monday 30th October is a non–pupil day. The children return to school on Tuesday 31st October.

Have a lovely half term.

Yours sincerely

Clare Griffiths

Y1 and Y2 - Reading Club – Tuesdays 3.15 – 4.00

I give permission for my child to attend Reading club on a Tuesday after school.

Name of child: Class:

Signed: