

## Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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10th November 2017

Dear Parents

### School Awards

The following children received our first 'Learner of the Week' awards on Monday:

Oliver Ledgerton 6TH  
Isla Hamilton 6BH  
Tom McKean 5LO  
Ruby Gaunt 5NR  
Kohl Ransom 4RB  
Elizabeth Pendle 4CJ/AC

Cameron Maycock 3SJ  
Macey Mann 3LW  
Tobie Beedle 2BR  
Ffion Mann 2NT  
Quinn Deakin Faux 1LB  
Ava Gray 1SH

### Clevertouch interactive screens

It is always exciting to introduce new technology into our classrooms. It was clear that a number of our existing interactive whiteboards were no longer fit for purpose. Whilst budgets remain stretched the Governors believed this investment was essential to support teaching in the classrooms. At the moment Years 2, 3 and 4 have benefitted and we hope to be able to continue to roll these out across the other year groups in due course.

### Children in Need

We are looking forward to celebrating Children in Need next week. Pupil Voice will be selling Pudsey merchandise throughout the week costing £1 per item to raise funds for this worthy cause. If your child would like to purchase an item please ensure money is in named envelope/purse/wallet. We only have a limited amount to sell so it is likely that they will only be able to buy one item.

We have a really exciting day planned on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> with visits from 'The Laughter Specialists' and a very special guest arriving in the afternoon. **As part of our fundraising we will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> with the option of either spots or pyjamas.** Donations on Friday will be gratefully received by either the office or via the classes.

### PTA

Our Christmas Bazaar is fast approaching! It is being held this year on Friday 1st December 3.30pm-5.30pm. We are always trying to find new ways to improve the event and raise vital funds for our school and children. This year we are trialling a new raffle. This raffle is held in schools across the country; but the prizes are fantastic - a car and a massive tech bundle to name just a few!

In addition we will also be offering our own raffle prizes in the form of Christmas hampers and are asking for donations to create these. Items you might consider donating are mince pies, biscuits, savoury snacks, Christmas pud/cake, chocolate, cranberry sauce.

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We will be having our traditional non-uniform day on Friday 1st, in exchange for an in date bottle for our popular Bottle Tombola. Please also send in any filled jars for our jar tombola stall. Sweets are always popular but be as creative as you like.

Thank you for your donations of bric-a-brac and gifts too. Please keep them coming in, especially anything that can be used as a gift for our Gift Table. The children love the opportunity to buy their own presents at this table for their family and friends.

Good luck to everyone attending the Quiz tonight!

### **Winter Childhood Illnesses – Guide for parents**

Please see the message below from the NHS regarding a guide for parents on winter childhood illnesses which is being sent out alongside this newsletter.

“As you are aware hospital Emergency Departments experience great levels of pressure all year, this increases over the winter months. To reduce unnecessary childhood admissions to A&E the NHS along with Essex County Council have produced a helpful guide for parents and guardians. This guide aims to advise on getting treatment, seeing a GP or pharmacist and restrictions for school attendance.”

### **Online Safety**

Miss Bussell (our Computing co-ordinator) has produced a second online safety information sheet which is also being sent out alongside this newsletter. This is around the subject of YouTube which many parents have been asking about.

### **Nut Allergies**

As some of our children have nut allergies, please remember that we are a nut free school. We ask you to support this by making sure that snacks and packed lunches sent into school do not contain nuts.

### **Headlice**

A few incidents of headlice in school have been reported. Please check your child’s head regularly. This website answers many common questions about headlice [www.nhs.uk/conditions/Headlice/Pages/Introduction.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Headlice/Pages/Introduction.aspx).

### **Class Assemblies**

Next week’s class assemblies are listed in the event table at the foot of the newsletter. Please come to school at 10.40am or 2.50pm and sign in at the school office. Each assembly will last 15 minutes.

### **PE Kit**

Now that the weather is turning colder, please make sure that your child has appropriate outdoor PE in school as well as their indoor kit. This should be a black tracksuit. If you wish to purchase a logo tracksuit top they are available from School Trends.

### **Messy church**

Please see attached flyer regarding Messy Church on Monday.

### **Events**

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<b>Week commencing Monday 13th November</b>	
Tuesday 9.00am	Prospective Parents welcome in school for a tour
Wednesday 10.45am	6TH Class Assembly
Thursday 2.55pm	1SH Class Assembly
Friday	Children in Need day – please come to school in pyjamas or spots!

Yours sincerely  
Clare Griffiths

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