

Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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Friday 14th September 2018

Dear Parents

Congratulations to the first recipients of the "Learner of the Week" awards for this year:

6BH	Adam Conway	3SJ	Quinn Wilby
6TH	Emily James	3RB	Joseph Crawley
5LH	Harry Pittuck	2BR	Georgina Vint
5NR	Angus Whelan	2NT	Chloe Marshall
4LW	Dylan Stuart	1BI	Melissa Murphy
4LRW	Cameron Maycock	1SH	Grace Smith

Harvest festival

Our Harvest festival is fast approaching and we would like to welcome you, alongside our Year 2 – 6 children, to our service at St Mary's Church on the 1st October at 9.45am. Our value this term is 'Compassion' and to show this in action, we would like to support the Uttlesford Food Bank as part of our service by creating donation boxes. Each class (including Reception and Year One) will have its own donation box for items for the Food Bank and this will be offered during the service. These are the items that can be donated:

- Sugar, tea, coffee, long- life milk;
- Shampoo, shower gel, shaving gel;
- Toilet paper, toothpaste and toothbrushes;
- Chocolates, sweets, treats;
- Pasta, rice, sauces;
- Tinned soup, fruit, vegetables, meat;
- Long—life juice, squash.

You can send your child in with any of the above items from Monday 17th September. Please check the items are in date before you send them in. Many thanks for your generosity.

Year 6 – School Journey

A reminder that the meeting for parents to learn more about this year's School Journey is taking place on **Tuesday** evening at 6 pm. Parents can bring children if they have no childcare but the meeting is aimed at adults.

Dunmow Carnival

Our gymnastics team will be performing at 2.00 pm and the steel drum band will be performing at 3.25 pm. Please do come along and support them.

Library update

"Books shouldn't be daunting they should be funny, exciting and wonderful and learning to be a reader gives a terrific advantage." Roald Dahl

Every class has a dedicated library slot. The schedule can be found on our website at <http://www.dsmprimary.essex.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Library-Timetable-2018-19.pdf>

Year R and 1 are able to take out one book, normally a picture or information book and would be expected to change these weekly in their library session. Years 2-6 are able to take out two books, one of these must be from their reading colour band and the other a book of their choice. Again they would be expected to change these weekly (years 2 and 3) or as they finish them (years 4, 5 and 6).

Loan Period

All books have a loan period of 21 days. Once they become overdue class teachers are notified. Every half term parents/carers will receive an e-mail detailing any overdue books and children will not be able to take out another book until the book is returned. If books become lost or damaged we ask that a replacement of that book be purchased (good quality second hand is fine) or that £5 per lost book be given to the library for us to purchase a copy.

Parent Consultations

If you haven't already booked your appointment to see your child's teacher please ensure you return the forms by next Friday. A copy of the form was attached to last week's newsletter and can be found on our website at <http://www.dsmprimary.essex.sch.uk/newsletter-7-september-2018/>

Year 7 admissions

As you may be aware, the new secondary school admission round opened on Wednesday for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2019. The statutory national closing date for applications is 31st October 2018.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. Essex will not be sending letters to parents about making an application and all of the application information is available on the website above. The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2019-20 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies but here is a link for you:

http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Admissions/Documents/econdary_Admissions_Booklet.pdf

Events

Week commencing Monday 17 th September	
Tuesday	Y4 River Walk – please ensure the children have wellies or alternative waterproof footwear in school
Tuesday 3.15	Y2 parent meeting – Supporting your child in Maths
Tuesday 6.00	Y6 parent meeting – School Journey

Thursday	Y5 Indian Dance Workshop
Friday 2.30	Y1 parents invited in for storytime

Other events

Sunday 16th September is Apple & Austin day at the Gardens of Easton Lodge. They will be celebrating apples and other garden and orchard produce and the Essex Austin 7 club will be showing their classic cars. Children will be able to help make apple juice and taste it, of course, as well as a wide range of apple and/or honey cakes. Their beekeepers will be explaining how our bees live in their hive and make honey. There will be children's activities and garden produce for sale. Gates open at 11.30am, last entry at 4.00pm and closed at 5.00pm, entry £4.50 for adults, free for children and well behaved dogs. More information can be found on their website: www.eastonlodge.co.uk.

Please find attached a flyer regarding the #SafeWellSecure activities being delivered in Saffron Walden between 24th and 29th September.

Yours sincerely

Clare Griffiths