

Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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Friday 23rd November 2018

Dear Parents

Congratulations to the following children who were our Learners of the Week:

6BH	Matilda Heath	3SJ	Charlotte Plummer
6TH	Robert Carter	3RB	Harry Wooddisse
5LH	Arabella Pitchford	2BR	William Rogers
5NR	Aiden Cooper	2NT	Adam Lejwoda
4LW	Lewis Barnett	1BI	Ava Bingham
4LRW	Christopher Jones	1SH	Jacob Backhouse



PTA Christmas Bazaar

We are so excited that next week is our Christmas Bazaar. We have been working really hard behind the scenes to ensure that it is a fun filled festive event for all the family. Because of this and in return for a donation of an in-date bottle of your choice our children will be able to wear non-school uniform for the day.



We couldn't run this event without your support and are so grateful for the donations we have received to date. Please keep them coming in especially teddies as we would love to give them a new home. Please also send in any filled jars by Wednesday 28th November for the jar tombola stall. Let's get creative – but sweets are always a winner.



We will be selling tea and coffee, soft drinks, cakes, mince pies and crisps to keep the after school hunger pangs at bay. If you have any of these items that you would like to donate for our Christmas café please do send them in on Friday.

School will finish at 3.15pm as usual and once you have collected your child we expect to have no more than a 15 minute turn around before you are welcome back into school. This just gives us time to make sure all children have been collected safely and for the teachers to get to their stalls. This year to keep the queuing to a minimum we will have a number of different entry points into the bazaar including the front entrance, the new and old hall. We are making Miss Whittick's classroom available for children to leave their coats and bags should they wish to. Whilst we wouldn't advise leaving handbags or valuables we hope this will help with the amount you have to hold/carry around while enjoying the bazaar.



Clubs

Please note that due to the Christmas Bazaar no clubs will take place next Friday after school. MRFA football will be running their Friday football club on Monday 3rd December instead.

Parking on yellow Lines

I have noticed that as the weather worsens, more people are driving to school and the traffic situation is becoming difficult in High Stile in the mornings again. Several people have started to stop on the yellow lines to let their children out. This can result in an instant £60 fine when we have traffic enforcement officers attending but, much worse, could result in a child being injured. I appreciate that it is annoying that you may not be able to park but I am sure everyone would agree that the safety of the 410 children in our school has to be the most important thing. Please drive and park responsibly and, if needs be, set off a couple of minutes earlier.

Online Safety

Musical.ly has a new name - TikTok

The social network app Musical.ly has often given adults cause for concern, because of the way that children use it to generate and share their own short videos and lip sync to popular audio clips. The app has a new name (TikTok) and new features, and now includes live streaming. Although the app has an age-limit of 13 years old, in practice there will be younger children using it, and the content may not be suitable.

Profiles on TikTok are automatically set to public, so that any content you post can be seen by anyone within the app. There is also a Restricted Mode which can help to filter out inappropriate content and prevent the user from being able to start their own live streams.

You can find out more here: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/what-tiktok-looking-latest-lip-syncing-app>

Please also find attached our latest online safety update. It details concerning updates in particular to Roblox and Fortnite.

Christmas Shows

It's the time of year when you need to think about requesting tickets for the Christmas productions.

YR, Y1 and Y2 are doing three joint shows:

Tuesday 11th December at 9.15am

Tuesday 11th December at 2.30pm

Wednesday 11th December at 9.15am

Y3, Y4 and Y5 are performing on:

Monday 17th December at 7.00pm

Tuesday 18th December at 9.15am

Tuesday 18th December at 7.00pm

Each *family* can request two tickets for each of the key stage performances. This can be one ticket for one performance and one for another or two for the same show. Unfortunately, it does mean that there are only two tickets *per family* which we understand is difficult for some separated families. Please do bear with us on this – it is because of fire regulations and safety and four performances is simply too much for the children. If you require additional tickets then please do note this on your reply and we will do our very best to accommodate this. These will be given out on a first come first served.

If children are taking part, we expect them to be at all three performances so please do put these dates in your diary. If you are unable to bring your child back for the evening shows, please let us know and we will not allocate your child a part. It is very difficult for the other children if there are people missing and it is different to rehearsals.

Please complete the reply slip at the end of the newsletter to request tickets.

Christmas Post Boxes

Our Christmas post boxes will be put in the entrance hall on Monday 3rd December. We would like all children who are giving Christmas cards out to put them in the post box so they can be delivered to the classes and the teachers can give them out at the end of the day. This means they need to have both names and the class on the envelope. There is one YR/1/2 post box and another post box for Y3/4/5/6. Please don't send Christmas cards into school ahead of this date.

Christmas lunch

You should have received the details for the Christmas lunch earlier this week. Please be reminded that the menu choices should be returned to the office by next Friday. On the day of the lunch (13th December) children are able to wear their Christmas jumpers. Further details will be distributed nearer the time.

Sports roundup

Dodgeball

A team from Year 6 attended the Uttlesford Dodgeball finals this week. They played in the first pool and made it through to the final eight. They then played again and came 8th out of a total of 14 teams – well done to everyone who participated.

Live Nativity

We would love our children to join us to sing in the Live Nativity on Sunday 9th December. Together with their parents, they can follow the procession then join Mr Harris outside the church to take part in the Live Nativity. The procession begins at 3pm. Please return the reply slip to school if your child can come.

Events

Week commencing Monday 26 th November	
WEDNESDAY 10.40	6TH Class Assembly
FRIDAY	Deadline for Christmas lunch choices
FRIDAY	Y6 School Journey payment due for those parents paying by 9 instalments
FRIDAY am	'Flu vaccinations
FRIDAY 3.30 – 5.30	PTA Christmas Bazaar <i>No clubs taking place</i>

Yours sincerely

Clare Griffiths

YR/1/2 Christmas Show

Name of child _____ Class _____

I would like the following tickets (up to two):

I would like the following number of extra tickets:

- Tuesday 11th December 9.15am
- Tuesday 11th December 2.30pm
- Wednesday 12th December 9.15am

These will be sent home in the week beginning 3rd December. Any spare tickets will be given out from the office on Monday 10th December

Signed _____

Y3/4/5 Christmas Show

Name of child _____ Class _____

I would like the following tickets (up to two):

I would like the following number of extra tickets:

- Monday 17th December 9.15am
- Tuesday 18th December 9.15am
- Tuesday 18th December 7.00pm

These will be sent home in the week beginning 10th December. Any spare tickets will be given out from the office on Friday 14th December.

Signed _____

Live Nativity – Sunday 9th December

Name of child(ren): Class(es):

I confirm my child(ren) will be singing on Sunday 9th December as part of the Live Nativity.

Signed
Parent/carer