

Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

High Stile, Great Dunmow, Essex CM6 1EB
Telephone 01371 872340
Facsimile 01371 875144
E-mail admin@dsmpprimary.essex.sch.uk



Friday 4th January 2019

Dear Parents

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. It was lovely to see the children back in school this week ready to enjoy their new topics.

Bad weather

With forecasts of bad weather over the next couple of months I thought I should remind you of the procedures we take should it be necessary to close the school. This is a decision I do not take lightly and will always endeavour to keep the school open as much as possible. If, however, we do need to shut the school a text message and e-mail will be sent as early as possible. A message will also be put on the website as well as Twitter and Facebook page. Likewise if we are open during the bad weather this will be confirmed by the same methods.

Please ensure the school always has your up to date e-mail address and mobile phone numbers. New details can be sent via e-mail or letter to the office.

Parents evenings

These will be held on Monday 21st January from 3.30 to 6.30 and Wednesday 23rd January from 5.30 until 8.30. These dates/times are the only sessions teachers are able to meet with parents and we cannot accommodate requests to meet parents outside of these times.

As notified at the end of last term we are going live with a new online module for booking appointments. This will be live on Monday (7th) from 9 am and parents can book online any time after that date. The closing time for booking an appointment is 11pm on Sunday 20th January.

Thank you to everyone who has activated their online account – we hope you will find this useful not just for parents evenings but also paying trip and dinner money as well as checking your child's meal history. If you are having issues activating your account or require another activation code please contact the office.

Unless there are exceptional circumstances it would be really helpful if split families could arrange to meet teachers together. There are a limited number of slots available and we believe it is important that teachers are able to deliver the same feedback to both parents.

If you have more than one child at the school please ensure you leave at least 10 minutes between appointments to move between the classrooms.

Attached you will find a parent's guide to booking an appointment which we hope will assist you with the process.

If you do not have internet access or are struggling to make an appointment please contact the office. Teachers cannot book any appointments for you.

Clubs

All after school clubs will start again from Monday 7th January. As you know we run attendance lists for these, therefore, if for any reason your child will not be attending a club on a certain day please do let the office know in advance to prevent us making unnecessary calls. We are happy to receive notification by email to admin@dsmpriamary.essex.sch.uk.

PE Kit

Please note that children should have a full PE kit in school at all times, including a tracksuit. PE is part of the National Curriculum and it is important for your child to be able to participate fully in their lessons. If possible other sportswear should be worn for after school clubs to enable their PE kit to stay in school. If your child does not have a full kit in school we will now be phoning parents to let them know and request that kit is sent in as soon as possible.

KS1 Storytelling Evening – ‘A book at bedtime’ – 4.30pm to 6pm

Miss Birchall is really excited to invite parents of our KS1 children to an interactive storytelling evening on Monday 14th January. Further details will be sent out to Reception, Year 1 and 2 early next week.

Events

Week commencing Monday 7th January	
TUESDAY	Y4 trip to Colchester Castle
Week commencing Monday 14th January	
MONDAY	A Book at bedtime storytelling evening – KS1 4.30pm – 6pm

Other events

There is a School Health Service Drop-In on Tuesday 8th January at Spangles Children’s Centre, Stansted Mountfitchet CM24 8LR between 3.30pm and 4.30pm. At the session they are able to discuss concerns around children’s growth, night-time and day-time wetting, emotional health and wellbeing or any other concerns parents/children may have. Hearing tests and basic vision screening can also be carried out.

Cantate, with whom the school has worked, are holding their Fun Sing 2019 event on Sunday 20th January. Please see the attached flyer for further details.

Yours sincerely

Clare Griffiths