

No 1 Multi Academy Trust for disadvantaged pupils' outcomes

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2019 AND NO 3 IN 2018

Top 10 National Pupil Progress

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2018 AND 2019



Friday 20th November 2020

Dear Parents

I hope that you are all well and keeping safe at this time. Can I take the time to please remind you that if you haven't yet completed the parent questionnaire then to please do so. It is so valuable to have your feedback so that we can continue to grow and progress as a school community and I would like to thank you for your support with this.

I wanted to write to you today to let you know about some of the exciting Christmas events that are coming up at Dunsford Academy. It is hard to believe that we only have 20 school days left until the end of term and the Christmas break! As I have previously stated, it is important to us as a school and staff that we ensure that we mark this special time in ways which are familiar to the children and that allows them to feel the usual sense of excitement and 'normality' at this time.

With this in mind, we will be participating in the following events:

Advent:

Advent is a time of preparation when we begin to look forward to Christmas. It can often be a time of Advent Calendars and taking sweets from behind a window! This year we are going to be marking Advent by thinking about giving and how we can give to others. From Tuesday 1st December we are inviting the children to bring into school a donation which will go towards a parcel for the Teign Valley Larder. We will be accepting donations every day up until Wednesday 16th December. You can donate as few or as many items as you wish; I know that all items are so greatly appreciated and make such a huge difference to the wider community.

Christmas Jumper Day:

On Friday 11th December we will be marking and celebrating Christmas Jumper Day. The children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper to school on this day in order to support the charity Save the Children. It will be fantastic to see all of the different designs and colours that the children will wear and I may even wear my own interesting Christmas cardigan! We are inviting the children to bring in a suggested donation of £1 to support this cause. If you would like to know more information about this then you can follow the link which will take you to the website.

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day/about>



Dunsford Community Academy

Dunsford, Exeter

Devon, EX6 7DD

T: 01626 248797 **E:** dunsford@lapsw.org

W: dunsford-lap.co.uk



TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE

Learning Academy Partnership Registered Office: Suite 4 Zealley House, Greenhill Way, Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot, TQ12 3SB Company number: 07713540

Christmas Lunch:

On Wednesday 16th December we will be having our Christmas Lunch! This will be a wonderful opportunity for staff and children to come together (in their bubbles) to enjoy lunch together, listen to some festive songs and join in our collective festivities! The menu is attached to this letter. If your child would like to order a Christmas lunch then please do this through the usual booking system on School Money by **9th December**. Mrs. Sinton will advise you of when you are able to begin booking for this. If your child wishes to have a packed lunch on this day then they can bring this in also as normal. We are all very much looking forward to this day!

Christmas Parties:

To coincide with Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 11th December, we will also be holding Christmas parties in our class bubbles. Teachers will inform you in their newsletters of the format that this will take in their individual classes in their newsletters next week so please keep a look out for this!

Christingle:

On Thursday 17th December we will be holding a virtual Christingle service in the afternoon. This will be a lovely way for the children across the school to come together virtually to celebrate this time. This will be led by Reverend Ruth Frampton and we are also planning to enable all of the children to make their own Christingle orange to take home with them. This will be a time for the children to reflect on this time of year and the importance of how light can shine in the darkness.

Christmas Cards:

This year we will be asking the children to make Christmas cards at school. The cards will then be distributed throughout the village and also to Teign Valley Larder signed from Dunsford Community Academy. We recognise the importance of community at this time of year and particularly for those people who may feel more isolated than normal during this time. If your child would also like to make any additional cards at home to support with this then they would also be greatly received.

PTFA Event:

I recently met virtually with Mr. Corbett (PTFA Chair) to discuss all of the wonderful things that the PTFA are leading and organising for the benefit of the children at Dunsford Academy. Please do keep an eye on the Dunsford PTFA social media page for updates and information. The PTFA will also be taking over the board at the entrance gate to school and they will begin to post information here also over the coming weeks.

We have an opportunity for the children to be involved in a PTFA event in school over the coming weeks. From Monday 23rd November, we will be inviting the children to bring into school any of the following:

- 1p coins
- 2p coins
- 5p coins
- 10p coins

With these coins we will be aiming to see if we can fill a large outline of a stocking on the playground. There will be an opportunity for classes to estimate how much money it will take to fill the shape and there will be a prize for the winning guess!

If you would like to send in any money to take part in this, please can you do so before Friday 11th December.

| Event | Date |
|---|--|
| Advent donations for Teign Valley Larder | Tuesday 1st December - Wednesday 16th December |
| Christmas Jumper Day | Friday 11th December |
| Christmas Parties | Friday 11th December |
| Christingle | Friday 17th December |
| Christmas card deadline (if making at home) | Monday 13th December |
| PTFA coin donations | Monday 23rd November - Friday 11th December |

Thank you all for your continued support.

Finally, if you would like to know what the children are learning at the moment so that you can discuss this with them at the end of each day, then please visit our website where you will find our



curriculum letters for this half term. I know how much you enjoy sharing in your child's learning and this will give you further opportunity to discuss this with them.

Have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you all next wee

Kind regards,

Mrs. Guntrip

Mrs Guntrip
Head of Academy