

1st October 2021

Dear Parents

I hope that you have all had a lovely week and that you are looking forward to a weekend together as a family. We have been very busy this week in school rehearsing our songs for the Harvest service and I know that the children are excited to share them with you at the service on Thursday 14th October at St. Mary's Church at 2pm.

As always, please do take the time to read the class newsletters this week to find out more about what has been happening in each class and to celebrate with us in the children's successes this week.

Clubs

Next week extra-curricular clubs and Forest School provision will begin, and we are very much looking forward to this. Forest School will begin on Wednesday 6th October and every child will be engaging in Forest School throughout the day. Please can you ensure that your child brings wellies to school on this day and that they are dressed in clothes that they are able to 'get muddy.' As we are currently experiencing wet weather, please can you also send your child to school with a spare pair of clothes on the days that they have Forest School. Thank you for your support with this.

This year we will be working with Premier Education to provide additional clubs for the children to participate in. Each Friday lunchtime we will be holding a Key Stage 1 Multi-skills club (for children in Year 1 and Year 2) and Netball for Years 3-6. There is a maximum of 20 children permitted in each club and places will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. Please book via School Money. if you wish for your child to attend. Each club will run for 30 minutes allowing time for the children to also eat their lunch.

Finally, on a Thursday lunchtime, Mr Blurton will be leading singing club for us! We are very grateful to Mr Blurton for giving both his time and expertise to continue to inspire and nurture the musical talents that the children at Dunsford have. This club is open to anyone who wishes to attend, and I would encourage any child who loves to sing to attend!

Please can I also remind you that Key Stage 2 Multi-skills club is also taking place afterschool on a Tuesday with Mr Kirk and there are several spaces still available. If your child would like to attend, then please book their place via School Money.

Lunches

I have recently spoken with some of our parents regarding school lunch provision. As promised, I have been moving forwards with this and I would like to consult parents as we move forwards. Please can I ask that any parent who currently orders a school lunch for their child, or is looking to in the future, follows the link below and complete the questions on the form (this is inclusive of parents who also have children in Nursery). Thank you for your support in this and I look forward to being able to provide you with information in the coming weeks regarding this and moving forwards.

<https://forms.office.com/r/8zFR1tuA21>



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Residential

I would just like to take this opportunity to inform the parents in Year 5/6 that we are currently working with All Saints Marsh C of E Academy (our hub sister school) to plan a Year 5/6 residential. I will be communicating with you in the coming weeks with further information regarding the place of the residential, dates, costings etc. We recognise the importance of these experiences for the children this year, especially following the last few years where such experiences have not been able to happen, and we are excited to be able to organise a residential this year.

School Council and Eco Council

I would like to begin to work with the School and Eco Council once again to look at ways in which we can continue to develop our school, support the community and support charitable causes within the wider world. I am inviting children to express an interest in either joining the School Council or the Eco Council. Some children who are already part of these groups may wish to continue and we welcome new members and their ideas. If your child is interested in taking part in either of these groups, please support them in writing to me to outline which group they would like to join, why they would like to join and what ideas they feel that they can bring. I look forward to reading many different letters!

Silver Stories

I am excited to share with you that we are currently in the process of becoming a Silver Stories school! The aim of the Silver Stories project is to connect generations and share in a love of stories. The project connects schools with older generations of people who do not have very much social interaction and works to both support children with a love of reading while also combatting isolation and loneliness and bringing joy into people's lives. I am looking forward to this project beginning (and growing) and I will be sharing with you news regarding this. It is a wonderful project to be involved with and I am looking forward to seeing the benefits for both the children and people who we will be working with.

Communication

Thank you all for your ongoing communication with us here at school. As I have previously stated, we value feedback from our parents as this enables us to continue to move forwards and grow as a school community. Please can I remind you that when communicating with school staff it is important to remain calm and respectful. We recognise that some things that you will need to discuss with staff will sometimes be emotional. However, it is important that we continue to all work within our school values in order to ensure effective communication. Thank you for your support with this.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Guntrip
Head of Academy

