



DILS News



Dunstable Icknield Lower School Newsletter Issue 40

13th September 2019

WE HAVE JOB VACANCIES AT SCHOOL – CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

ABOUT CHILDREN

Meet the Teacher Sessions – Thank you to all those who came to out meet the teacher sessions on Thursday. It was lovely to see so many of you and we hope you found it useful. If you were unable to attend, and you have any questions about the class or your child, please contact your child's class teacher who will be happy to help.

School Admissions – School place applications are now open for children who are either due to start their education in September 2020 or transfer to Middle, Secondary or Upper school. If you are applying for a place to start school or to join a middle school, you have until Wednesday the 15th January 2020 to make an application. However, if your child is transferring to a secondary or upper school in 2020, then the deadline for your application is Thursday, 31st October 2019. Full information on applying for school places is available on the Central Bedfordshire website www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk.

Y2 History Days - As part of our 'Victorians' topic we are holding two History Days in school for Year 2. The first one, on Tuesday 15th October, will be a Victorian school day in which the children will have the opportunity to learn what schools were like, how children were expected to behave and elements of a typical day. On the second day, Tuesday 12th November, the children will be learning about what life was like for Florence Nightingale, and the conditions of the hospitals at the time. These days will be based on a series of creative activities and role play, using a variety of resources. In order to cover the cost of the materials, we are asking for a small donation of £2.50 per child. A letter has been emailed to Y2 parents.

Clubs – There are still places available in our Dance (lunchtime), Gym, Zumba, Tennis and Hotshots clubs. Places are being offered on a first come, first served basis and can be booked via our school office.

Additional Year Group PE Clubs – Starting on Monday 23rd September we are offering a weekly PE after school activity for Years 2, 3 and 4. The places are limited to 30 and on a first come, first served basis. A letter has been sent home for more information.

Educational visits and activities permissions - We have recently sent out a letter requesting permission for all of the next academic terms educational visits and activities. The aim is to reduce time parents spend consenting to activities across the school year, also reducing printing of forms. Information regarding an educational visit or activity will still be sent home before the event, and consent to attend can be declined by contacting the school office. A copy of the letter is attached to this week's newsletter and is also available on our website.

Medical Needs – If your child needs medicine stored at school, please come to the school to sign a new indemnity form. Any changes to student medical needs requires parents to complete a medical needs form.

Spelling Shed - The children in school can now use Spelling Shed to support their learning at home. Give it a go! <https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/index.html>. More learning resources can be found on our website.

Pumpkin Carving Competition – Our Halloween pumpkin carving competition is back! To enter grab a pumpkin, carve your design and send us a picture and you could be in with a chance of winning a selection of fantastic board games. Entries should be emailed to pumpkins@abmcatering.co.uk/admissions by no later than Monday 4th November. Remember to include your name and the name of your school!

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Teacher Award winners this week - Zimmer – Bella; Lloyd-Webber – Alessia; Bolt – Ryan; Beckham – Diana; Rosen – Shayan; Potter – Matthew; Attenborough – Hisha; Anning – Luca; Banksy – Joshua; O’Keefe - Giulia

FOR PARENTS

Contact details - Please ensure you have given the school office a contact telephone number for all your emergency contacts and an email address for the parent/guardian of the child. We send all our information electronically via email.

Parking Permits - We have a small amount of parking permits available for Wilkinson’s car park, giving the bearer free parking from 8.45am-9.05am and 15.10pm-15.25pm. Permits are allocated with a blind draw. More details will be sent home towards the end of September.

PTA – The Parent Teacher Association is a voluntary group who organise events and fundraisers for school. Money raised helps to pay for additional resources and educational trips for every year group. Every year, the PTA provide enough funds to make bus hire affordable. Without these extra funds, we would not be able to offer educational visits which relied on hiring buses to transport the children. Our PTA is at risk of folding this year as we desperately need more volunteers. If you are passionate about helping your child’s school, please come along to our AGM on Wednesday 25th September 2019 at 18:00.

New Parents - Parental App - We have a mobile app for parents, called Arbor, available on the Play Store or App Store. The school office can send your login details home for you. You can use this app to pay for clubs, trips and meals, see your child's attendance and we use it to push messages to you. Please note that for **Extended Day** bookings, you will need to use your Tucasi account.

Extended Day Facilities – after school and breakfast extended day are available from September to children aged 5 years and above. **You will be able to register and pay for these clubs via Schools Cash Office/Tucasi account only.**

Arbor App payments update - Over the next 18 months, new requirements for authenticating online payments called Strong Customer Authentication (SCA) are being introduced to improve security, prevent fraud and protect customers. When you make an online payment, SCA requires you to verify that you are who you say you are. In Arbor, this means parents may need to complete an extra step to verify the transaction when making a payment through the Arbor Parent Portal or Arbor App (although some payments under £30 may be exempt).

Open Afternoons for Future Prospective Parents – Do you know anyone who is thinking about applying for a place at Dunstable Icknield Lower School in the future? This year we are holding an open afternoon for prospective parents on the **10th October from 16:00 – 16:45**. If you know someone who may be interested in this open afternoon, please let them know and ask them to call the school to book their place.

Street Closure - Central Bedfordshire Council has announced that due to additional works on site, they need to extend the closure of **West Street** until the evening of the 17/9/19, (up to and including.)

School Vacancies:

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- **Midday Supervisors** – We have opportunities for relief lunchtime work at our school. You will be supervising children in the dining hall and be responsible for ensuring the safety, welfare and good conduct of pupils during the midday break. If you are interested in this position and would like more information, please call the school office on 01582 663709 and ask for Mrs White.

Key Dates for Term 1	Term dates are available on the Central Bedfordshire Council website and our own website are subject to change so please refer to CBC regularly.
Thurs 19th September	Y4 History off the peg event - in school activity for children
Wed 25th September	PTA Annual General Meeting 18:00 – 19.00 – everyone welcome.
Thurs 10th October	EYFS Prospective Parent evening 16:00 – 16:45
Mon 14th October	Photos - individual students
Tues 15th October	Y2 History Day – Victorian school day for children
Wed 16th & Thurs 17th October	Parents evenings: 16 th October from 15:30 – 18:00 17 th October from 17:00 – 20:00
Mon 21st October – Mon 28th October	Half Term – School closed for children
Thursday 7th November	Y2 Rosen Victorian day – Assembly for parents 14:30 – 15:00
Sunday 10th November	Dunstable Remembrance Parade – for Y4 nominated pupils; parents welcome to come along and watch 10:30 – 12:00
Mon 11th – 15th November	Anti-bullying week – in school activities for children
Tuesday 12th November	Y2 History Day - Florence Nightingale day – for children
Friday 15th November	Children in Need Day - in school activities for children, donations welcome
Thursday 21st November	Y2 Potter Victorian day – Assembly for parents 14:30 – 15:00
Thursday 28th November	PTA Christmas Fair - School hall from 14:30 – 16:30
Friday 29th November	Christmas Tree Carols and Torchlight Processions – Ashton Square from 19:00 for nominated pupils; parents welcome to come along and watch
Wednesday 04th December	Artsmark experience - Full House Theatre Group will perform 'By the light of the moon' for KS1 and KS2 - in school activity for children
Friday 10th December	Flu vaccination - Years R – 4 – more information and forms to follow
Friday 20th December 2019	Christmas Carol Concert at the DCC Centre 13:30 – 15:30
Mon 23rd December – Mon Fri 03rd January	End of term holiday - School closed for children



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Letters sent home this week		
Letter Content:	Who sent to:	Date sent:
DILS - Extended Day	R - Y4	09/09/2019
DILS - Y2 Brilliant Beginning	Y2	09/09/2019
DILS - Welcome to Dunstable Icknield Lower School	R	09/09/2019
DILS - Reception Zimmer	R - Zimmer	12/09/2019
DILS - Y2 History days	Y2	13/09/2019
DILS - Bank payment	R - Y4	13/09/2019
DILS - PE Clubs	Y2, Y3 & Y4	13/09/2019