



DILS News

Dunstable Icknield Lower School Newsletter Issue 42
27th September 2019



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

ABOUT CHILDREN

Y2 Harvest Visitor – We had a visit from the Foodbank who gave an excellent presentation all about the support they offer to our local community. The children even got to dress up in their special uniforms!



Harvest Festival – DILS has a strong partnership with Priory Church and this Harvest the **whole school** are collecting items to contribute to their Harvest service, which will then be donated to Dunstable Food Bank. If you would like to participate in this event please send in a non-perishable food item such as tinned meat, vegetables or fruit. The last day for donations is **Tuesday 8th October** so we can get it to the church on time. Teachers will have a Harvest collection box in their classrooms. This website has lots of ideas and highlights what they are most in need of:

<https://dunstable.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Online Safety – This week a parent has shared with us a brilliant app especially designed for children, helping them to make the right choices when using phones. If your child has access to their own phone, we would recommend this app. Follow the link below for more information:

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit/take-control/own-it-app>

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 – There are still some places for our new PE clubs for Y2, Y3 and Y4. The clubs are limited to 30 places per year group and on a first come, first served basis. **Please be advised that the Clubs will cost £5.50 for the entire 11 weeks booking, even if you miss any sessions.** A letter was sent home last week with more information.



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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!

Class of the Week – Year 4 O’Keefe

Teacher Award winners this week - Zimmer – Jass; Lloyd-Webber – Chase; Bolt – Owen; Beckham – Gautam; Rosen – Reuben; Potter – Jasmine; Attenborough – Beau; Anning – Olivia; Banksy – Saraya & Izzy; O’Keefe - Millie & Giulia.

Parking Wise, Saves Lives - Children in **Y3 Attenborough** will be doing parking patrol week commencing **30/09/2019**, they should come to school a little earlier, enter school through the front door and meet in the Library area at 8.40am. Remember there is a free car park on West Street where parents can park for drop off and pick up to also support this initiative and encourage a short walk to school.

FOR PARENTS

First Family Friday – This morning we had our first Family Friday reading morning for parents and carers. We hope you enjoyed it as much as the children did and look forward to seeing you again next Friday.

Book Fair - It’s that time of year again when the travelling book fair will be visiting our school. This event raises valuable money for the school to purchase new books for our library and for use in class. The book fair will be open for purchasing books during our parent’s evenings, **16th and 17th October**. A leaflet will be sent home with the children shortly.

Deli-bar Opening after half term – school lunches will include an option from the deli-bar starting after half term. More information about this will be sent home in a letter next week.

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 available on our website.

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.

Parking Permits – **See letter sent to parents/carers** 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. All applications **MUST** be received by Friday the 4th October (forms have been emailed

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to all parents and can also be found in the school office). Only one application per child must be submitted, no secondary application will be placed into the draw. Permits will be issued on Monday the 7th October 2019.

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.

Arbor App Update - Thank you to all the parents who have logged on and started to use the Arbor app. We hope you are enjoying the features. Lots of parents have requested changes to the data we hold - thank you! We will review these changes once a week and accept or reject them. Rejections of changes have only been done so far if we already hold the data. For example, we have had lots of requests to add a parent or carers details into the system. We already hold these, so the request has been rejected saving data being duplicated.

Arbor App Update - Dietary requirement changes requested through the Arbor app will not be accepted by our school caterer ABM. If your child has a dietary requirement that does not show on the app, please come to the school office and fill in an ABM dietary requirement form. Thank you!

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.**

School Vacancies:

- **Midday Supervisors** – We have opportunities for 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. Dates are subject to change so please refer to CBC regularly.
Mon 23rd Sept – Tues 8th Oct	Harvest Festival Donations – all non-perishable food donations welcome
Every Friday until Fri 13th Dec	Family Fridays – weekly event for children and parents
Thurs 10th October	EYFS Prospective Parent evening 16:00 – 16:45
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
Wed 16th & Thurs 17th October	Book Fair – school library 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 31st October	Change of date - School Photo Day - individual students

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Thurs 7th November	Y2 Rosen Victorian day – Assembly for parents 14:30 – 15:00
Sun 10th November	Dunstable Remembrance Parade – for Y4 nominated pupils; parents welcome to come along and watch 10:00 – 12:00
Mon 11th – Fri 15th November	Anti-bullying week – in school activities for children
Tue 12th November	Y2 History Day - Florence Nightingale day – for children
Fri 15th November	Children in Need Day - in school activities for children, donations welcome
Thurs 21st November	Y2 Potter Victorian day – Assembly for parents 14:30 – 15:00
Thurs 28th November	PTA Christmas Fair - School hall from 14:30 – 16:30 [This is dependent on having an active PTA group]
Fri 29th November	Christmas Tree Carols and Torchlight Processions – Ashton Square from 19:00 for nominated pupils; parents welcome to come along and watch
Wed 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
Tues 10th December	Flu vaccination - Years R – 4 – more information and forms to follow
Thurs 12th December	Reception Christmas Performance for parents 14:30-15:00
Thurs 19th December	Nursery Christmas Performance for parents 14:30-15:00
Fri 20th December 2019	Christmas Carol Concert at the DCC Centre 13:30 – 15:30
Mon 23rd December – Fri 03rd January	End of term holiday - School closed for children

Letters sent home this week		
Letter Content:	Who sent to:	Date sent:
DILS - PE Clubs REMINDER	Y2, Y3, Y4	23/09/2019
DILS - Parking Permits	N - Y4	23/09/2019
DILS - Y2 Potter Parents announcement	Y2 Potter	24/09/2019
DILS - Lunch menu for week 30.09.2019 - 04.10.2019	R - Y4	25/09/2019
DILS - Reception coverage of works - Week 5	R	26/09/2019
DILS - Y2 Potter Parents announcement update	Y2 Potter	26/09/2019
DILS - Nursery Coverage of Works - 30.09.2019	Nursery	27/09/2019