



DILS News

Dunstable Icknield Lower School Newsletter Issue 44

11th October 2019



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

ABOUT CHILDREN



Hello Yellow - Thursday 10th October – It was lovely to see so many children dressed in yellow yesterday to mark World Mental Health Day. The children also took part in activities to promote looking after their mental health. Thank you to everyone for your donations, we raised a fantastic £225.32 for the Young Minds charity.

The Next Generation Youth Theatre have also been supporting Young Minds this week. Creative expression through things like dance, music, drama and art are

fantastic outlets for children to express themselves, helping to foster positive self-images and well-being. At DILS we use Artsmark and its principles to explore and value creative expression.

You can find out more about NGYT and Young Minds by following the links below:

<https://ngyt.co.uk/>

<https://youngminds.org.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.

Year 1 Fantastic Finish - Superhero dress up - As part of our fantastic finish for our current topic 'Super me' we would like the children to come in dressed as superheroes. This will be on **Friday 18th October**. Please do not feel that you need to go and spend lots of money on an outfit. The children could decorate an old t-shirt, make eye masks out of paper or card, and use old pillowcases as capes. You could even ask other parents if they would kindly let your child borrow an outfit for the day. Please ensure the children all have suitable sturdy footwear for the day at school and that they are dressed for the weather. Playtimes and lunchtime will still be held outside.

Clubs – There are still places available in our Dance (lunchtime), Gym, Zumba, Tennis 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.** See letter that was sent home 23rd September 2019 with more information.

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

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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!

Art Club - DILS School Art Club is taking bookings for **next half term** from Monday the 7th October 2019. This has been really successful and the children that have taken part so far have loved working with a professional artist on a range of art skills. Only 1 space left, book soon to secure it and avoid disappointment!

Visit <http://www.loveartandcraft.co.uk> and click on classes/after school classes. There you will see a list of schools, click on Dunstable Icknield Lower School.

Book Fair - Thankyou to everyone that entered the Book Fair competition, it was difficult to choose a winner from each year group. Congratulations to the following who have each won a £5 voucher to come and spend at the Book Fair.

The winners are: Archie - **Lloyd Webber**, Kaiyen - **Bolt**, Blossom - **Rosen**, Mylan- **Anning**, Vivian - **Banksy**.

Children will come home with their voucher today. We look forward to seeing you at the book fair. Payment for any books can be made by cash or card also with contactless facility.

Save the date - DILS PTA are very pleased to announce that they will be hosting Icknield's first Halloween Disco! It will take place on Wednesday 30th October in the school hall. Reception and year 1 disco will be 4.30-5.30pm and Year 2-year 4 will be 6-7pm. Letters have been sent home in the school bags, copies are also available in the school office. This event will only be able to run if we have enough supervision so if you are able to help please email dilsppta@gmail.com.

Any donations or spare Halloween costumes would be greatly appreciated. There is a box in the school office for them. Thank you!

Teacher Award winners this week - Zimmer – Bradley; Lloyd-Webber – Charles; Bolt – Ashvi; Beckham – Pari; Rosen – Travis; Potter – Vyom; Attenborough – Jessica; Anning – Vidhi; Banksy – Soham; O’Keeffe - Benjamin.

Children’s Safety in School – Please note that the wearing of jewellery is strongly discouraged in school and all jewellery must be removed before PE lessons. Permitted jewellery items are a simple ‘stud’ earring and a watch. Children are totally responsible for the safe keeping of these items.

Parking Wise, Saves Lives - Children in **Y2 Potter** will be doing parking patrol week commencing **14/10/2019**, 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

EYFS Open Afternoon – Thank you to everyone who came along to our EYFS open evening on Thursday afternoon. We will hold another open afternoon for prospective parents on Tuesday **3 December at 4pm – 4.45pm**.

Once a week, Take a peek! – Head lice is a very common problem in schools, and we would recommend that all parents / carers check their child's hair at least once a week. If you would like advice on how to treat head lice or what you are looking for then you can find more information at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

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Priory Academy Open evening - Open Evening for Year 4 pupils and their parents/carers Tuesday 15th October 2019, 5:45-7:30pm Headteacher's address 6:00 and 7:00, School's Hall. You are warmly invited to our Open Evening on Wednesday 15th October between 5:45 - 7:30pm. Come and see our wonderful community: tour the school, meet students and staff; and enjoy exciting activities to get the flavour of Priory Academy's education. For further information, please visit www.prioryacademy.co.uk

Medical Appointments During School Time – This is a reminder to parents that if your child is late into school due to a medical appointment, or is collected early from school, documented evidence of this appointment is required. This can be an appointment card or a copy of an email. We are also aware that many surgeries send a confirmation text which is also acceptable proof. If proof of appointments cannot be given the child will be marked as an unauthorised absence.

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 SHOWCASE - Deli-bar option for school lunches opening after half term – Fed up of making packed lunches for your child? School lunches will include an option from the deli-bar starting after half term. ABM will be showcasing what will be on offer to parents/carers during our upcoming Parent Teacher Meeting evenings on 16 and 17 October.

AUTISM BEDFORDSHIRE - CHILDREN'S SERVICES are holding a conference on the 30th October 2019 for parents/carers of children with autism: both diagnosed and going through the process. It's an information-packed day and evening with speakers covering various topics, as well as stall holders providing advice and support for families. Please find attached a flyer with more information.

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!

Arbor Parents Evening - if you are struggling to book a parents evening slot it may be because the slot has already been booked. only available slots will be shown on the app.



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Extended Day Facilities – After school and breakfast extended day are available 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.
Every Friday until Fri 13 th Dec	Family Fridays – weekly event for children and parents
Tues 15 th October	Y2 History Day – Victorian school day for children
Tues 15 th October	Priory Academy Open evening - 16:00 – 16:45
Wed 16 th & Thurs 17 th October	Parents evenings: 16 th October from 15:30 – 18:00 17 th October from 17:00 – 20:00
Wed 16 th & Thurs 17 th October	Book Fair – school library 16 th October from 15:30 – 18:00 17 th October from 17:00 – 20:00
Friday 18 th October	Year 1 Fantastic Finish - Superhero dress up
Mon 21 st October – Mon 28 th October	Half Term – School closed for children
Wed 30 th October	DILS PTA –Whole school Halloween Disco Reception and year 1 disco will be 4.30-5.30pm Year 2-year 4 will be 6-7pm
Thursday 31 st October	Change of date - School Photo Day - individual students
Thurs 7 th November	Y2 Rosen Victorian day – Assembly for parents 14:30 – 15:00
Sun 10 th November	Dunstable Remembrance Parade – for Y4 nominated pupils; parents welcome to come along and watch 10:00 – 12:00
Mon 11 th – Fri 15 th November	Anti-bullying week – in school activities for children
Tue 12 th November	Y2 History Day - Florence Nightingale day – for children
Fri 15 th November	Children in Need Day - in school activities for children, donations welcome
Thurs 21 st November	Y2 Potter Victorian day – Assembly for parents 14:30 – 15:00
Thurs 28 th November	PTA Christmas Fair - School hall from 14:30 – 16:30 [This is dependent on having an active PTA group]
Fri 29 th November	Christmas Tree Carols and Torchlight Processions – Ashton Square from 19:00 for nominated pupils; parents welcome to come along and watch



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Tue 03rd December	EYFS Prospective Parent evening 2 16:00 – 16:45
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
Wed 11th December	School Christmas Dinner
Thurs 12th December	Reception Christmas Performance for parents 14:30-15:00
Fri 13th December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper day
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 - Y2 Rosen - Teddy Bear picnic	Y2 Rosen	07.10.2019
DILS - Hello Yellow	N - Y4	08.10.2019
DILS - Online parents evening is now LIVE	N - Y4	09.10.2019
DILS - SEN Plans	N - Y4	09.10.2019
DILS - Reception Coverage of works W/C 14.10.2019	Reception	11.10.2019
DILS - Nursery Coverage of works W/C 14.10.2019	Nursery	11.10.2019