



# DILS News

Dunstable Icknield Lower School Newsletter Issue 4  
5<sup>th</sup> October 2018



**WW1 Armistice 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** – This year sees the centenary anniversary of the end of World War 1. As a mark of remembrance, Dunstable Icknield Lower School will be creating a display at the front of the school. To create this display, we are asking for donations of empty, plastic 2 litre soft drinks bottles. Like the ones shown on the right.



If you have any bottles please send them into school with your child before Friday 12 October so the children have time to prepare their display. Thank you.

**What is the PTA?** - A PTA (Parent Teacher Association) is a group of people from the school community who come together to enrich the experiences and opportunities for all children in school. Usually made up of parents and carers, the PTA have an important role to improve communication between school and home as well as raising funds to support those 'extras' that the stretched school budgets do not cover. The link below gives a brief explanation:

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/parent\\_teacher\\_association/print](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/parent_teacher_association/print)

Research shows that children in schools who have a PTA which plays an active role in school life, do better than those children in other schools that do not have a PTA. Our PTA are looking for new faces and would love to hear new ideas for raising money for the school. Last year, at this time, the PTA organised some successful cinema nights for the children, and at the beginning of December we have traditionally had a Christmas fair. Each year the PTA fund transport costs for educational visits, which keeps the cost to parents down to a minimum. In the future we hope to raise enough money to invest in a new sound system for our school hall to enhance assemblies and performances.

At the moment, we do not have enough members of our PTA to organise these wonderful events again. If you would like to get involved and inject some new life into our PTA, bringing extra-special experiences to our children, please see our Facebook page (DILS PTA) or ask the office to speak to Miss Flowers. A letter from the PTA has been sent home with all children this week.

**Priory Parents Evening for Y4** – There will be an open evening for parents of Y4 children at Priory Academy on Wednesday 17 October. More information has been sent out.

**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 two open afternoons for prospective parents and these will be on 9<sup>th</sup> October and 6<sup>th</sup> November 4-5pm. If you know someone who may be interested in these open afternoons, please let them know and ask them to call the school to book an afternoon. Our first open afternoon is taking place on Tuesday 9 October at 4pm.

**Parent Teacher Meetings** – This week parents/carers have been sent invite letters to parent teacher meetings with your child's teacher. To minimise the clash with Priory open evening for Y4, appointments on Wednesday 17 October will only be available until 6pm. Please return your preference slip to your child's class teacher by Thursday 7 October. We will do our best to offer your preferred date but cannot guarantee this.



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**Class of the Week** – This week's Class of the Week for winning the most House Points was a draw! Well done to RK and 1W.

**Class Teacher Award winners** - This week's winners had lunch with Miss Strickler and they were:

RA - Jude

RK - Amelia

**Flu Vaccination Reminder** - On Monday 8th October Year R-4 will be having the flu vaccination.

**School photo day** - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October due to photos being taken, PE for years R-3 will NOT be able to take place. Year 4 will still have PE as normal.

**Achievements** – Congratulations to Fionn and Mylan, Y2, who successfully made the AFC Dunstable U7'S squad this summer. They have both had a fantastic start with 3 out of 3 wins under their belts so far. Best of luck for the rest of the season, boys, and long may the winning streak continue!

**Parking Patrol** – Will begin again after half term. 1S will be the first class starting on Tuesday 30 October.

**Term dates** – 2018-2019 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.

**Online payments and booking system** – A log in code was sent before the summer break. This enables you to register on the Tucasi/Schools cash office system. Once registered you can 'top up' your account with credit directly from your bank account. Once your account is in credit you will be able to book the school lunches your child would like up to a day in advance, your account will be debited £2.30. Any dinners not taken will be credited back to the account. With breakfast and after school clubs, where possible please book a week in advance and can only be made when the account is in credit. You can now book a day in advance and cancel sessions online. Any sessions booked but not taken will be credited back to your account as long as 24 hours' notice has been given that you will not require the session. If you have not received your registration code, please let the school office know.

**Absences and your child's education** – Headteachers had a reminder this week of the huge impact that absence has on a child's progress and development. Did you know that children who have a 100% attendance rate at school are twice as likely to achieve their potential? You can best support your child's education and development by avoiding any unnecessary absences during term time.

**Reminder: 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** - Wednesday 17th October 3:30pm – 6:00pm & Thursday 18th October 5:00pm – 8:00pm We are very pleased to say that we will again be holding one of our very successful Book Fair's to coincide with parents evening this year. We are able to offer a fantastic selection of books to the children, that can be purchased on the night. The children will be given an opportunity to browse through the books available during their

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scheduled library lessons. Payment on the night can be made through direct cash or cheque payments or card payment via telephone. The more money raised the more books we will be able to purchase for our library.

<b>Key Dates for Term 1</b>	
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October</b>	NHS Flu vaccination day R - Y4
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 4-5pm</b>	Open Afternoon 1 for Prospective Parents
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October</b> <b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Year 2 History Days
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October</b>	School photo day – single student and sibling portraits
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Parent Teacher Meetings 15:30 – 18:00
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Parent Teacher Meetings 17:00 – 20:00
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Half term break – SCHOOL CLOSED
<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Return to school Parking Patrol - 1S
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 4-5pm</b>	Open Afternoon 2 for Prospective Parents
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Dunstable Remembrance Parade
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November 9.00am</b>	2HS Class Assembly
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 9.00am</b>	2KS Class Assembly
<b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Nursery Christmas Assembly Dunstable Torchlight Procession
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Reception Christmas Assembly Christmas Jumper Day
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019</b>	Winter holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED

<b>Letters sent home this week</b>		
<b>Letter Content:</b>	<b>Who sent to:</b>	<b>Date sent:</b>
DILS - Reception coverage of work	<b>Reception Classes</b>	04/10/2018
Parent Teacher Consultations	<b>All students</b>	05/10/2018
Invite to Dunstable Remembrance Day Parade	<b>Y4 house captains and school council</b>	04/10/2018