

Diptford C of E Primary School

Diptford

Totnes

Devon

TQ9 7NY

Tel: 01548 821352

Email: amindiptford@thelink.devon.sch.uk



6th October 2017

Whole School Newsletter

It's hard to believe we're into October already, this half term is whizzing past! We've had a busy fortnight, with several sporting events and Hawks class visited Dartington Hall estate. Thank you to all the parents who have made these events possible by helping with transport.

Open Day

A small friendly school set in a beautiful rural location where all children are encouraged to be curious, creative learners.



DIPTFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL
OPEN DAY
2017

Wednesday 1st November
3.20pm to 6.00pm

Help us to celebrate the opening of our brand new Preschool building.
Experience the magic of Diptford with Emazdad the magician.
Come and try some exciting forest school skills with our trained leader.
Fun craft activities for all ages.
Free refreshments



Alternatively, contact the school office to arrange a convenient time for you to visit
Diptford, Totnes, TQ9 7NY. Tel: 01548 821 352
Email: amindiptford@thelink.devon.sch.uk
Website: diptford.thelink.academy

The new building continues to make good progress. Posters and fliers to promote our Open Day on **1st November** arrived this week.

If you are able to deliver or put posters / fliers up locally, please ask Mrs Vickers for some copies.

Your help and support in promoting the Open day is very much appreciated.

FODs also organising a school sparkle day on **Saturday 28th October** so please save the date



and join us in tidying the school buildings and grounds in preparation for our grand Open day on **1st November!**

Parents Evening

Parent's evenings took place this week. If you couldn't make an appointment this week, please contact your child's class teacher to arrange a convenient time.

Y6 Application Process for Secondary School Admission

With the deadline fast approaching of 31st October 2017 can we please remind parents of Y6 that you need to apply for a secondary school place by either using the online

system www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline or by contacting My Devon customer service centre on 0845 155 1019 to request an application form. The application form should be returned to the Admissions Team before the deadline. Late applications will not be offered a place at a school at the expense of an application which was on time. Please ensure you submit your application by the closing date.

National Poetry Day

Last week we celebrated National poetry day by sharing our favourite poems and creating and performing poems. Thank you for all the wonderful poem contributions the children brought in from home which helped to make this day a real success.

Hawks Trip to Dartington Hall

Hawks flew over to Dartington Hall, with help from some very kind parent volunteer drivers which was very much appreciated! The weather was kind to us and the children enjoyed a full day of outdoor learning. We were able to see the deer in the deer park on our way to and from the woodland area, where the children enjoyed an archaeological dig experience and a mapping activity. For more details and photos please visit:

<http://diptford.thelink.academy/hawks/>



Sporting News and Events

Tag Rugby (see more photos on the website)

On Wednesday 4th October the pupils from Kingfishers class and half of Hawks class attended a tag rugby competition at Newton Abbot Rugby Club. There were three teams in total and every team played against different schools. Every team had hard games to play but they all tried really hard and showed superb teamwork. The year 5/6 team came 4th overall out of 10 teams and the Kingfishers Class (3/4 teams) won a huge trophy for their sportsmanship, as voted for by all the other teams in the competition.



Quotes from pupils who attended the event

"I had fun at rugby because I could play against other teams" (William, Year 4)

"I really liked the tag rugby because we got to work on our teamwork as a class" (Zach, Year 4)

"I persevered and tried my best"(Kai, Year 3)

Cross Country (photos to follow soon)

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils went to a cross country event at Stover School. The year 3/4 girls ran first and they all came within the top 25 runners. Ella came 5th overall in her category and Zach came 12th overall in his category. The year 5/6 pupils ran afterwards, with Zach Hawkins coming a super 6th! Every pupil who ran for Diptford did amazing as there were over 100 runners in each race! The cross country team was: Summer (23rd), Ruby Rose (22nd), Molly (19th), Ella (5th), Silas (89th), Zach (12th), Luke (93rd), Joshua (78th), Naomi (78th), Ruby (77th), Zach (6th), Max (17th) and Joe (73rd).

Quotes from pupils who attended the event.

"I really liked the cross country because it allowed us to be competitive and we did really well"
(Summer, Year 4)

"I was able to try something new" (Silas, Year 3)

"I liked cross country because everyone from our school was really supportive" (Zach, Year 4)

Spots & Stripes Mufti Day



Today we celebrated Spots & Stripes Day as a Mufti Day. Everyone looked fantastic!

We raised £57.20. All the funds raised will be donated to Paignton Zoo, Living Coasts and Newquay Zoo. These are three local registered charities dedicated to conservation both in the UK and abroad with projects in Vietnam, Africa and Indonesia. Their projects are literally helping to save critically endangered species and their habitats.



Harvest Festival Friday 13th October 9.30am at St Mary's Church Diptford

Next Friday 13th October is our whole school Harvest Festival celebration at St Mary's church. Parents and relatives are welcome to join us. Produce donations for local charities would be greatly appreciated. Could children please bring packets and tins into school which they will then carry to the church with them.

After School Club

Throughout October there will be a range of arts and crafts for the children. Please get in touch if your child would like to take part. Tuesdays and Wednesdays 3.20 -5.30pm.



Road Safety

Road Safety and Parking at School

PC Russ Broadbent our Community Officer has visited the school today, due to the complaints of speeding traffic. Please drive slowly on your way in, through and out of the village. He will continue to visit to check on speeding. PC Broadbent is also very concerned about the parking at pick up time. Please do not park in the lane leading down to the village hall, as it causes problems for those with pushchairs there is no room to get through safely. Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated to ensure all children and parents remain safe on their journeys to and from school.

Home School Diaries

Home schools diaries are a way for parents and teachers to communicate throughout the week. It is also the ideal place to keep track of your child's reading each day. Please can parents ensure that the home school diary is in school each day, being used to record reading and signed on a weekly basis.

Attendance

We are continually working to improve attendance; our target rate is 96%. Anything below 90% is considered a cause for concern by the local authority - put into context, 90% attendance rate over a school year means your child will have missed around 19 school days. Please support us in making sure your child has the best chance of succeeding in their education by arranging appointments and holidays outside school hours. All absences must be requested with the appropriate form, available from reception, and will be considered individually. Please contact school if you have any concerns.

175 non-school days in a year.

175 days for family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and appointments.

190 school days in a school year.

190 days for improving your child's education & life chances.



Facebook Page -If you are a Facebook user, please visit our page for up to date news on school events and activities.

Safeguarding and attendance figures:

Safeguarding:

If you have concerns about a child at our school please raise them with Mrs French the Designated Safeguarding Officer for Diptford C of E Primary or Mrs Neil (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officer).

E-Safety Safeguarding Question for Parents:

Are you monitoring the sites that your child uses online?

Other useful websites include:

<https://ceop.police.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-and-resources/parents-and-carers/>

Attendance: If your child is unable to come to school for any reason, please ring the office to let us know by 9am.

The attendance figures for the last 2 weeks -

Reception 94.32%

Year 1 99.65%

Year 2 100%

Year 3 100%

Year 4 95.08%

Year 5 98.48%

Year 6 97.73%

Whole School: 97.73%

Expectation: 96%

Key dates: Please see the table below for current dates that I have for your diaries for the next academic year. I will update these regularly as events come in and intend on adding this to the end of the fortnightly newsletter with new dates / events highlighted in bold. *Please note that dates and times are subject to change.*

September 2017	Time:	Children:	Event:
13th October	9.30am	All classes	Harvest Assembly - parents welcome
16 th October	4-5.30pm	Y3 -Y6	KEVICC Football League
17 th October	Daytime	All classes	Open the Book Assembly
18th October	8.30-10.30	All welcome	Tempest Photography
20 th October	-	All classes	Break up for half term
30 th October	-	All classes	First Day back to school
30 th October - 3 rd November inclusive	Daytime	Y6	Bikeability
1 st November	3.20 - 6. pm	All Classes	School Open Day
7 th November	Daytime	All classes	Open the Book Assembly
13 th -17 th November	Daytime	All classes	British Values Week
15 th November	4-5.30pm	Y3 -Y6	KEVICC Football League
17 th November	Daytime	All classes	Children in Need
21 st November	Daytime	All classes	Open the Book Assembly
21 st November	4-6pm	Y3&4	Netball Tournament
28 th November	4-6pm	Y5&6	Netball Tournament
5 th December	Daytime	All classes	Open the Book Assembly

13 th December	6pm	All classes	Christmas Carol Concert
15 th December	2.30pm	All classes	Break up for the Christmas holidays
3 rd January	8.50am	All classes	School commences
12 th -16 th March	Daytime	All classes	Science & Engineering Week
23 rd March	Daytime	All classes	Sports Relief
29 th March	9.15am	All classes	Easter Assembly - parents welcome
23 rd May	Daytime	All classes	Sports Day
4 th - 8 th June	-	Y5&6	PGL Residential

Yours Sincerely

Dawn Neil

FODs News and Events

For details about FODs activities and events or to get involved please sign up for email updates from FODS here: <https://friendsofdiptfordschool.wordpress.com/> .

A quick FODS update...

The wake up shake up pa/speaker is broken. Mrs Neil has managed to borrow one but the school can't keep it for long. Some of our lovely parents, Helen, Ben, Ros and Alex, are fundraising to replace it by running the Exeter half-marathon, all aiming for speedy sub two hour times!



You can donate via a collecting pot in reception or online here: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfu.../we-love-wake-up-shake-up>

Thank you very much, lets keep the kids dancing and the music playing in Diptford!

In case you missed them here are some other dates:

- Spooky disco - Fri 20 October from 3.30 to 5.30pm. Helpers needed, sign-up online: <http://signup.com/login/entry/77023413398476083>
 - School Sparkle - Sat 28 October - save the date and join us to tidy up the school buildings and grounds, including cleaning the new classroom ready for use!
- Thanks all for reading and a big thank you to Helen, Ben, Ros and Alex for their help.

Link Academy Trust – Registered Office Address
Landscape School, Landscape, Ashburton, Newton Abbot, Devon.

TQ13 7LY Tel:- 01803 762113 Email:- academyadmin@thelink.devon.sch.uk

