

Diptford C of E Primary School

Diptford

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22nd September 2017

Whole School Newsletter

(Please insert little dippers pic outside new build)

Our Little Dippers joined the builders this week to see how their classroom is taking shape.

Today I had the opportunity to have a proper look at our fantastic new building and I am excited about how big it feels inside. The building is now water tight, next week will see the start of the roof going on and wiring going in. Mrs Siddons, Teresa and Paula have been busy choosing paint colours, carpets etc. It is all moving in the right direction.

After School Club

Currently our after school club is running at a loss. I'm afraid it is going to have to be a case of use it or lose it as we can't continue to subsidise the provision. For this term we have got two brand new leaders who have had glowing reviews from the pupils so far. For this half term they are focusing on net and wall games outside for the first part of the session and then the children come inside to do a variety of activities. Next week the activities will be games based and 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.

Curriculum information

Over the last two weeks teachers have put on a number of information meetings for parents. Curriculum meetings, phonics information and accelerated reader guidance. Thank you for those parents who came along. It is important to us that parents have an understanding of how we approach learning at Diptford and how you can help support us at home.

Parents Evening

Parents evening sign-up sheets will be displayed on the office door from Monday. Parents will have a 10minute slot to meet their child's class teacher and discuss how they have settled in to their new year so far. See dates for each class below:

Tuesday 3rd October - Hawks (Y5&Y6)

Kingfishers (Y3&Y4)

Wednesday 4th October - Little Dippers (Rec)

Dippers (Y1&Y2)

Hawks (Y5&Y6)

Thursday 5th October - Kingfishers (Y3&Y4)

Dippers (Y1&Y2)

Meal Time Assistant

We have appointed a new meal time assistant to work at Diptford. Gill Grantham lives locally in North Huish and previously worked in the school Kitchen as assistant cook. She has settled in really well and in a short time has built great relationships with the children.



We are still looking for a meal time assistant to work on a wed, thurs and fri 12.15-1.30pm. This is a paid position and more details can be found on the school website or from the school office.

Homework

As children are now getting in the swing of being back at school, teachers will begin to send homework home. This will include:

Daily reading - all children

Phonics - Reception and Year 1 - weekly sounds

Spellings -Y2 to Y6 - weekly

Maths - My maths homework for Y2 -Y6

Guided reading - Hawks class will be sent chapters to read to support their guided sessions.

Writing - Children may be asked to consolidate learning at home or prepare for a write by orally talking to family about their class text.

Topic - Occasional topic based learning will be sent home.

National Poetry Day

It is national poetry day on Thursday 28th September and we are going to be celebrating our favourite poems at Diptford School. If your child has a favourite poem or book of poems they can bring this in to share with their class.

Spots & Stripes Mufti Day



On Friday 6th October 2017 we will be celebrating Spots & Stripes Day as a Mufti Day. This is a fundraising event in which pupils are invited to donate £1 for wearing their own clothes.

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.

Everyone at school is invited to support the day by wearing non-uniform especially something with either spots or stripes.

Mrs Dayment

A huge congratulations to Mrs Dayment on the birth of her daughter Matilda Anne Dayment. Mrs Dayment popped into school this week, looking fabulous, and hopefully she will return again soon during school hours so the children can meet Matilda.

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.

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 our 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.

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 95.31%
- Year 1 98.82%
- Year 2 100%
- Year 3 99.45%
- Year 4 97.44%
- Year 5 100%
- Year 6 98.40%
- Whole School: 98.58%
- 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:
25 th September	4.30-5.30pm	Y6	ICC parent meeting at Diptford
26 th September	Daytime	Y5&Y6	Class trip to Dartington
26 th September	4-6pm	Y3-6	Cross Country Event at Stover
28 th September	Daytime	All classes	National Poetry Day
3 rd October	Daytime	All classes	Open the Book Assembly
4 th October	TBC	Y3-6	Tag Rugby Competition
4 th October	TBC	R, 1,2,5 & 6	Parents Evening
5 th October	TBC	Y3&4	Parents Evening
6 th October	10-12pm	Y5&6	Netball Festival at KEVICC
6th October	Daytime	All Classes	Spots and stripes day

13 th October	9.15am	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
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	TBC	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

Ginny French

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/> .

FODS Parents Netball Club. If you follow us on Facebook you'll have seen there was a positive response when we asked if people were interested in having an informal netball club. This would be for adults, all welcome, we'll play at the school, for fun and fitness - no netball experience required. £2 per play and all proceeds to FODS.

Now here is a Doodle poll to fix the date of the first Netball club session - if you've not used Doodle before all you need to do is click this link, type in your name and tick all of the dates you can do: <https://beta.doodle.com/poll/ep7rwn22iri47zcg>

I know the evening time is a bit early but it is starting to get dark around 7.30. The most popular date will be the one we go with, exciting times! Also this event is open to all so spread the word amongst your friends.

And last, but the very opposite of least...

We'll soon be holding the first FODS meeting of the school year (date tbc) and we'd love to welcome new members. FODS needs some new members if we are to keep up our momentum as our Secretary and three long-standing committee members are standing down from those roles, due to their children having left the school and/or other family commitments. AT FODS meetings you can contribute to the plan for 2017-18, have your say and vote on how we spend the money raised by the school community. You only do what you want to do, you don't have to volunteer for anything though any help is very much appreciated.

If you'd like to find out more about FODS or the Secretary role then please stop any of the current committee for a chat. They are Laura - Chairperson and Mum to Amy Yr 6, Luke Yr 4 and Holly Yr 1, Roger - Treasurer and Dad to Ben and Millie in Reception, Charlie who is Mum to Frida in Yr 5 and Edna in Yr 1 and Alison who is Mum to Eleanor in Y

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