

Diptford C of E Primary School

Diptford

Totnes

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24th November 2017

Whole School Newsletter

Dear Parents,

We have all enjoyed another busy fortnight here at Diptford. This newsletter contains lots of news on what's happening here, along with important health information (please also see separate School Nursing Update for parents attached). Our amazing PTFA FODs are busy as ever raising funds for our school, so please read on to the end to find out how you can support them.

British Values Week

Last week we participated in three National events; Anti-bullying week, Parliament week and Children in need. Participation in these events supported us in educating the children in the five key British Values which are:

- Democracy.
- The rule of law.
- Individual liberty.
- Mutual respect.
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

Anti-Bullying

Odd socks day was successful in emphasising the fact that we are **all different, all equal and all unique**. All classes also participated in anti-bullying lessons throughout the week.



Parliament Week

Children explored what parliament means to them and got involved by participating in parliamentary themed lessons to learn more about our parliament and the work they do.

Children in Need

Children and staff looked fantastic and enjoyed lots of Pudsey themed activities led by our Dipford Diplomats and year 6 children. We raised a total of 113.20 well done and thank you to everyone for your support for this brilliant cause!

Congratulations to our Swimathon Team!



Well done to our Swimathon Team who raised an impressive £402.00!

All proceeds were in aid of Home Start South & West Devon, Devon Air Ambulance and other local Rotary sponsored charities.

Calor Gas Filming - Thursday 30th November

Next Thursday morning a small film crew will be in school to film footage of our school and will be talking to children, parents and staff about how we have used the £1000 we recently received from Calor Gas funding to support our new reading project 'Accelerated Reader'. The film crew will be in early and would like to film 'wake n shake' so please could we ask for all children to be in school on time and dressed smartly in their full uniforms.

Health Update

The 48 Hour Rule!

It's that time of year again, when unfortunately viruses and bugs can make us suffer. Please can we remind all parents of the 48 hour rule. If you or your child has had diarrhoea and/or vomiting please ensure that symptoms are clear for 48 hours before going out and about. There is a risk of spreading the infection by earlier return to school, work, leisure venues etc.

Preventing the spread.....

Remember to wash your hands cough/sneeze in to tissue and put the tissues in the bin. Use arm/hand if no tissue available and then wash hands. Stay at home if unwell.

More information and resources online at:

<http://www.e-bug.eu/>

Healthy Lunches

Please can we remind parents/carers that we are a healthy school. Meal time assistants and teachers will continue to keep an eye on school dinners and children's lunch boxes to and teachers will continue to keep an eye on school dinners and children's lunch boxes to ensure children are eating healthy balanced diets.

Medicine cards

Our school nurse has informed us that there are now medical cards for children with inhalers or other regularly prescribed medicines that need to be taken in school. Please contact your GP to ask for more details on this.

Weights and Measures

Next Wednesday morning the school nurse will be taking the weights and measures of children in reception and year 6.

Victorian Christmas Carol Service - Wednesday 13th December 6-7pm

The children and staff are busy preparing for our Victorian themed Christmas Carol Service. Please could we ask all children in KS2 - Kingfishers and Hawks class (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) to wear Victorian style clothes for the service this year.



Children in Dippers and Little Dippers (Pre-school, Reception, Years 1 and 2) will be informed of their outfits by the end of next week.

Harberton Tree Festival

One of our parents has kindly sponsored two Christmas trees to enable us to participate in this festival. The children are busy creating decorations for our trees which are entitled; '*Rockin Robins*' for our younger children and '*The Tree of Christmas Past* for our older children. Please see the poster below for further details of this event.

St Andrew's Harberton Christmas Tree Festival



Friday 1st Dec & Saturday 2nd Dec 11am – 6pm
Sunday 3rd Dec 2pm - 6pm Carols @ 6.30pm
Entrance free - donations gratefully received for restoration work
Light lunches available with teas, coffee and a cake stall

St Andrew's Church, Church Square, Harberton, Totnes, TQ9 7SD
Harberton Church Community Fund Registered Charity No. 1172549

School Spaces



We have spaces available in all classes, so please help us spread the word and tell people to visit us to find out more about the magic of Diptford!

Pond

Last weekend, some amazing pond area clean up fairies visited our school. On behalf of all the children and staff I would like to say a huge thank you to Jude, Maddoc and their parents for doing this for our school. Mrs Vickers is in the process of ordering new pond dipping kit (funded by FODs) so the pond should be back in action very soon!

Thank you Jago and Ptolemy's dad!

I would also like to say a very big thank you to Jago and Ptolemy's dad for donating a car full of paper of all types and sizes to our school. The children and staff think Christmas has come early!

Maths and Mince Pies Chat with Parents

On **Monday 4th December at 3.30pm** parents are invited to attend a maths and mince pies chat after school to learn more about how maths is taught and learnt at our school. Please put the date on your calendars.



Safeguarding and attendance figures:

<p>The Designated Safeguarding Lead Officer for Diptford is Mrs Neil Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officers are Mrs French and Mrs Siddons. If you are concerned about a child in our school please speak to one of us.</p>
<p>If you are concerned about a child or young person in Devon, and want to speak to someone, contact the MASH team on 0345 155 1071 and give as much information as you can.</p> <p>Parents can also access confidential support and advice through, Child line 0800 1111</p> <p>Useful Links For information and advice on how to protect your child from abuse on-line, follow the links below: https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/</p> <p>The following site also gives very good information for parents from the Devon Safeguarding Board http://www.devonsafeguardingchildren.org/parents-carers/</p>

<p><u>E-Safety Safeguarding Question for Parents:</u> Have you checked your security settings on devices your child uses recently?</p> <p>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/</p>
<p>Attendance: If your child is unable to come to school for any reason, please ring the office to let us know by 9am.</p>

The attendance figures for the last 2 weeks -

Reception 88.64%

Year 1 93.71%

Year 2 93.64%

Year 3 96.75%

Year 4 96.36%

Year 5 84.85%

Year 6 88.64%

Whole School: 91.48%

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.*

Date	Time:	Children:	Event:
November			
28 th November	4-6pm	Y5&6	Netball Tournament
29th November	09.45	R & Y6	Change for Life, Weights and Measurements
4th December	3.30-4.30pm	All parents	Maths and mince pies chat for parents
5 th December	Daytime	All classes	Open the Book Assembly
7th December	Daytime	Little Dippers and Preschool	Boscombe Court and Santas train
13 th December	6pm	All classes	Christmas Carol Concert
14 th December	ALL day	All classes	Christmas Crafts and lunch
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

Acting Head of School



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

FODs News and Events



Friends of Diptford School

Keep up-to date with events and fundraising by the Friends of Diptford School (FODS)

BAGS TO SCHOOL reminder

Collection date is 29 November and bags need to be at school by 9am on this date. FODS will be paid (by weight) for whatever we collect.

You can get an additional bag from the school office or Diptford Post Office - or it's fine to use a bin bag.

Christmas Craft Day & Christmas Lunch - Thurs 14 December

This is easily the most fun FODS event of the year. It's a chance for parents to join the children for festive crafty fun.

We also need helpers to serve Christmas Lunch to the children and staff - after which there is the option to stay on to share Christmas Lunch with the other helpers (for which there will be a small cost). Many thanks to Mark for cooking for us.

Please sign up to help with craft and/or lunch here - the more the merrier, ho ho ho:

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2102589/true#/invitation>

If you would like to help Mark prepare the food please contact him directly.

P.s. If you've already said you are helping then please still sign up so we know exactly what you want to do, thank you!

Please visit:

<https://friendsofdiptfordschool.wordpress.com/>

Link Academy Trust – Registered Office Address

Landscape School, Landscape, Ashburton, Newton Abbot, Devon.

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

