

Thursday 10th January 2019

www.dedham.essex.sch.uk

Telephone: 01206 322242

Head talk

We are soon back to full speed as we near the end of our first full week at school since the Christmas break. The children and staff have settled well this year so far.

I have just been told that we made an amazing £4650 at the Christmas Market in December! At school, we are all so grateful for the hard work our Parent Group do in supporting the school. In challenging financial times in education, this support allows us to think bigger and better and have a real impact on the experience we can offer your children at school. I will keep you fully informed on how we will be spending this money. On a related matter, Fiona, Helen and Natasha (our current chairs of the Parent Group) will be standing down at the end of this academic year so if you feel able, please come and join our amazing Parent Group.

I am sure many of you are beginning to think about holidays for the year ahead. Attached with this newsletter are the term dates for 2019-2020 that may be helpful with your planning.

David Larner

Headteacher

School lunches

LUNCH MENU FOR W/C 14th January 2019 is WEEK 3.

A reminder that all dinner money must be handed in, on a Monday morning, to the class

teacher. The money must be in an envelope, marked with the child's name. Thank you.

Dogs at the school gate

Please can parents/carers be considerate whilst waiting at the school gate with their dogs to ensure that their dogs do not approach any of the children, as not all children like dogs, and this can be a frightening experience coming to school/leaving school. If you have a dog please do not stand directly outside the main gate with your dog as all parents/children need full access to safely walk in/out of this entrance without being near any dogs. Thank you for your consideration.

School term dates for 2019/2020

Please find attached the school term/holiday dates for school year 2019/2020.

Also, these dates can be accessed via the home page of our website. Select 'Term Dates and scroll down the page to 2019-20.

REMINDER - Reception Class admissions for academic year starting in September 2019

The primary school (Reception) admission round opened on Monday 12 November 2018 for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2019. The statutory national closing date for applications is 15 January 2019. From 12 November 2018, applications can be made online via



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<u>www.essex.gov.uk/admissions</u>. 98% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

Letters will not be sent to parents about making an application. All of the application information is available on the website above.

The website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions also has a copy of the Primary Education in Essex 2019-20 booklet and the Schools Admissions Policies Directories contain details of all admission policies.

Cake Sale for St Helena Hospice – Thursday 17th January 2019

I am a teaching assistant in year 5 and in March I will be taking part in a 5 day trek across Iceland for St Helena Hospice.

Mr Larner has very kindly allowed me to hold a cake sale on Thursday 17th January 2019 to help me raise funds towards my £2000 target. A suggested donation is 50 pence for a cake and drink. I do hope you can support me in this fundraiser as St Helena Hospice run totally on public donations. I think we all know someone who has been affected by cancer and other terminal conditions.

Thank you so much!

Alison Phillips

Tuesday 15th January – E-mailing the school office

Please note that on Tuesday 15th January a new computer server is being installed in the school office and so the school office will have

no access to the school e-mail system. If you are reporting a child absent on that day please call on the school telephone number: 01206 322242. Thank you for your co-operation.

Music Recital and Workshop

On Monday, the whole school will watch a short performance by the Pelléas Ensemble. This opportunity has been very kindly organised and funded by Stour Valley Arts and Music. Following the performance, we hope that there will be an opportunity for part pupils to take in instrumental workshop. lf vour child receives lessons in or out of school on the guitar, ukulele, flute, saxophone, clarinet, violin, cello or another orchestral instrument, please could they have their instrument in school on Monday.

Guitar Lessons

Please note that guitar and ukulele lessons next week will take place on WEDNESDAY 16TH so that these pupils do not miss out on the music recital and workshop on Monday.

NO Celebration Assembly Friday 18th January

Please note that there will be NO Celebration Assembly on Friday 18th January due to a Class 2 event being held in the school hall.

No Netball Club - Monday 28th January & Monday 11 February



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Please note that there will be no Netball Club on Monday 28th January and 11th February due to us hosting a match on the 28th January against Highfields and the return match on the 11th February.

DEN CLUB

Please note that the DEN Club continues every week from Wed 16th Jan, meeting after school at the DEN site in the woods. We especially welcome Class R and Key stage 1 children and their families, but all pupils from the school can join in. On Wed 16th we will be making some wild bird feeders!

Thanks

Jennifer Hughes

Parent Group

Christmas Market

Initial estimates suggest that the Christmas market made an incredible £4,650, around £50 more than last year. Given the wet weather this is a fantastic result and we would be like to thank everyone involved.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

After 2 years hard work our current chairs, Fiona, Helen and Tash will be standing down at the end of this academic year so we are looking for volunteers who may be interested in taking over the role. All Parents and Carers are welcome to join, not just mums. Anyone who is interested in finding out more should contact the parent group on

<u>dedhampg@gmail.com</u> or speak to Helen, Fiona, Tash, Kate or Lara in the playground

OTHER

Enrichment Activities

Attached to this Bulletin are flyers regarding possible enrichment activities. These are organised by external organisations. Whilst Dedham Primary School is happy to share these opportunities with our parents and students we have no responsibility for them.

Concert – Sunday 13th January

At 4pm this Sunday, the Pelléas Ensemble will be performing in East Bergholt. Stour Valley Arts and Music can offer half price tickets to Dedham Primary School parents if they call/email Doreen (svamtickets@btinternet.com) and children go FREE with an adult. Please find attached a flier for more information.

Colchester Musical and Dance Festival – 22nd & 23rd March 2019

An opportunity for students to perform at Colchester Institute.

The website is <u>www.colrotfest.org</u> to register and enter.

The deadline for entries is the 31st January. The fee is £10 for solo entries.

Mistley Kids Club

Please find attached details from Mistley Kids Club regarding half term activities.



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Calendar dates for the spring term

Date	Event
3 rd Jan	First day of term
13 th Feb	Non-uniform day for DEN Site
14/15 th Feb	Non-pupil days
18-22 nd	Half term
Feb	
8 th Mar	Book day – fancy dress
	Come dressed as a favourite book
	character
12 th Mar	Parents' Evening
13 th Mar	Parents' Afternoon
5 th Apr	End of term assembly at Dedham
	Church at 10:00am
8 – 22 nd	Easter holiday
Apr	