**Weekly SchoolComms e-mail – Thursday 22nd February 2018**

Dear All,

Please find attached the weekly SchoolComms e-mail. Thank you.

LUNCH MENU FOR W/C 26th February IS WEEK 2.

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 days the lunches are required, and the child’s name. Thank you.

**Lunch money for this half term**

**If you are paying for school lunches for this half term the amount is £58.00 (from 19.02.18 – 29.03.18). Thank you.**

**ALL**

**School Staff Update**

I write to inform you all of some upcoming changes to the teaching staff at Dedham Primary School. Miss Turner (Yr2) and Miss Fletcher (Yr4) are both relocating to locations that are too far away to commute and so will both be leaving the school at the end of the spring term to take up new teaching posts. We are currently recruiting for two new teachers to join the team in September and are in the process of making arrangements for the summer term. Parents of pupils in these classes have been informed and will be kept up to date on these arrangements.

If you have any questions in relation to this matter, please speak with me on the school gate or arrange an appointment. I’m sure you will join me in wishing Miss Turner and Miss Fletcher every success in their new roles.

Mr Aylott

**NO Celebration Assembly Friday 23rd February due to author visit**

As we are having an author visit our school on Friday 23rd February to help us prepare for World Book Week, there will be no Celebration Assembly on Friday 23rd February.

**Author Visit – TOMORROW – Friday 23rd February**

We are very excited to be welcoming children's author Will Mabbitt to school on Friday.  He will be running workshops with every class during the day and will also be selling and signing copies of his books after school in the hall.  All picture and chapter books will be £6.99.  If possible, please try to bring along correct money (we will have plenty of pennies but not so many pounds!)

Please collect your children from the small playground as usual then enter the hall via the side doors near the staff carpark. Thank you.

**NO Netball Club on Monday 26th February**

Please note there will be no Netball Club on Tuesday 26th February due to a Netball Match with Years 5 & 6 against Highfields. Good luck!

**Science & Gardening Club – This Half Term - KS2**

Please note this half term Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 will have the opportunity to attend this club. The club will start on Monday 26th February and finish on Monday 26th March.

**Art Club**

Please note that this half term Miss Peake will be continuing with Years 1 & 2. The club will start on Tuesday 27th February and continue until Tuesday 27th March apart from **Tuesday 20th March when there will be NO Art Club.**

If your child was already in Art Club before half term then they will automatically carry on with Art Club this half term.

**Fancy Dress Day – Friday 2nd March**

The theme for this year's fancy dress day will be pirates. If this causes any difficulties, children can of course come dressed as any character from a book about pirates, which could for example include Peter Pan, Treasure Island and the Jonny Duddle stories. As always, if possible, it would be super if children could bring in a copy of the book which their character is from to share with their class.

**Parking in Staff Car Park**

Please note that parking in the car park is for staff only unless you are a Blue Badge holder. Also please do not use this area to turn around in as there are often children crossing the dropped path area between and the school and the car park. Thank you.

**Lost property and lunch boxes**

Please can you come and claim any lost property and/or lunch boxes that have been left behind over the half term holiday. Thank you. Items left behind on Friday 23rd February will be disposed of.

**Parent Consultation Evening/Afternoon - Tuesday 6th March (5-9pm) and Wednesday 7th March (3.30-6pm)**

**REMINDER: Online Appointment Booking available until Monday 5th March at 11pm.**

**Gymnastics After School Club – cancelled Wed 7th March and Wed 14th March**

Unfortunately the after school Gymnastics Club will be cancelled on Wednesday 7th March due to Parent Consultation Afternoon, and also cancelled on Wednesday 14th March due to a whole school staff meeting, requiring the hall.

**Mother’s Day Surprise Room**

The Parent Group is opening the door to this year’s Surprise Room on Thursday 8th March. It will be filled with a selection of wonderful presents. Participating children can make their choice and therefore have a little gift for any significant adult in their lives on Mother’s Day. Please look out for the forms coming home in book bags from today or alternatively form attached.

Also, if anyone can spare some time to help out at the Surprise Room on the morning of 8th March we would very much appreciate it!

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**Parent Group**

We hope everyone had a lovely half term. We have a few updates to share.

The Parent Group is opening the door to this year's Surprise Room on Thursday 8th March. It will be filled with a selection of wonderful presents. Participating children can make their choice and therefore have a little gift for Mother's Day. Please look out for the forms coming home in book bags very soon.

Also, if anyone can spare some time to help out at the Surprise Room on the morning of 8th March, we would very much appreciate it!

Old £1 coins

Do you have any old style £1 coins lying around the house? Behind sofa cushions etc? You can no longer spend them in shops but if you’re happy to donate them to the parent group we can cash them at the bank.

We will place a jar in the reception if you’d like to donate any please bring into the office or place in an envelope and hand to Kate in the playground.

Christmas Grotto (yes, seriously!!)

Due to personal reasons, the wonderful organisers of the Christmas Grotto are hanging up their Santa hats this year. We would love to hear from anyone interested in taking on the decoration and organisation of the grotto. Alternatively, we are very open to suggestions of a different way to approach all things Santa (e.g. a Santa parade/ meet & greet at the beginning of the Fair). We have the option to buy the decorations from the previous grotto and would love to hear from anyone interested so that we can decide whether to go ahead with the purchase.

Minutes

Please find the minutes from the Parent Group meeting on 6th February attached.

Many thanks,

Jessie, Kate, Helen, Natasha and Fiona

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**DEN Site Donations**

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated to the DEN Site on the non-uniform day on Friday 9th February. £180 was raised. Thank you for your contributions.

**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.

**Rise N Shine**

Please find attached a newsletter from the Church with information regarding Rise N Shine – all-together worship, 1st Sunday each month, Dedham Church, 9:30-10:15am.

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**Is your child Safe Online? Adult Community Learning Colchester – Free Workshop. Wednesday 28th March 2018 10am – 12 noon.**

Please find attached details of on adult free workshop on Wednesday 28th March.

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Thank you.