



NEWSLETTER

Thursday 15th July 2021

www.dedham.essex.sch.uk

Telephone: 01206 322242

Head Talk

Dear families of Dedham CE Primary School,

Welcome to our penultimate newsletter of this academic year. The final newsletter will be on Wednesday 21st July.

As the last day of term is approaching, I have been thinking about the accomplishments, hard work and resilience of everyone in our school family.

Firstly, we should congratulate your children on how they have dealt with all of the new experiences with such a positive attitude. Remote learning, class bubbles, new routines, regular handwashing – they have taken them all in their stride and we are all so impressed by them.

For parents and carers, this has been a tremendously difficult time, yet throughout it all you have supported your children and the school which has enabled them to have the best possible experience during the most challenging of years. I cannot thank you enough for your patience and understanding, your support with our protective measures and, of course, the unparalleled challenge of supporting your child's remote learning too. We have the strongest of school communities which stands us in great stead to make the most of the opportunities that lie ahead.

Finally to our staff, who have been such an amazing team where every single member has played their part. The extra cleaning routines so cheerfully undertaken, working in class bubbles, restrictions on rest areas, many new rules and endless risk assessments, the acquisition of new skills associated with remote learning, the list seems endless.

Although we are filled with hope with the positive changes to school organisation in September, I will finish with a note of caution. Numbers of positive cases of Covid-19 are rising significantly both locally and nationally. An increasing number of our school community are finding themselves self-isolating after contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 outside of school. This includes children, parents and two members of staff. For this reason, our current risk assessment will remain unchanged and we will maintain our protective measures until school finishes next Wednesday 21st July.

Thank you for your continued support.

My very best wishes,

Mr David Larnar
Headteacher

School lunches

W/C MONDAY 19th July will be WEEK 1 of the menu

The menu is available on our school app and via our website [here](#).

Earrings – ear piercing

Please note that earrings cannot be worn for PE. If you are considering ear piercing for your child then please remember that it is recommended that earrings remain in for six weeks to allow ears to heal. Therefore, the beginning of the holiday would be the best time to get ears pierced to avoid your child being unable to participate in PE lessons in September.



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REMINDER - Notice for Parents of Children in Year 3 from September 2021 - Free School Meals

Automatic entitlement to a free school meal finishes at the end of Year 2.

Your child may be able to continue to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Applications should be made online as soon as possible at

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

Important Message - Year 6 Mersea Day Trip Friday 16th July – arrive at school at 7:45am

Please ensure that you arrive at school by 7.45am. The coach will leave promptly at 8am. Anyone who arrives late will

unfortunately have to find their own way to Essex Outdoors in Mersea.

As a reminder all pupils will be provided with a packed lunch.

Parent Group

Summer Raffle

Many thanks to all those who have bought raffle tickets. The draw will take place at school tomorrow, Friday 16th July and winners will be contacted over the weekend. Prizes will need to be collected before the end of term.

A full prize list is attached with this newsletter. Sincere thanks to all those who have donated prizes and contributed to the hampers.

Thank you as always for your continued support and please remember we are looking for new members so do please come and speak with us if you have any questions or drop us a line at the email address below.

dedhampg@gmail.com

Many thanks,

Kate, Christine and Lara

Free school meals – Have your circumstances changed?

If you believe your circumstances have changed during the period of lockdown and you could be eligible for free school meals then you can find the criteria and application process by following the link below:

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/free-school-meals>



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Dedham School App



Please do download our app. It is a great place to easily access this newsletter, other school news and much more!

How to purchase our new school uniform with logo



Please follow the link below to purchase school uniform with our logo. You can also access our uniform shop by clicking on links in our school app.

<https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/dedham>

A bi-monthly delivery to school is free or items can be delivered directly to your home for a small charge.

News from St Mary's Church, Dedham

We now have a dedicated page on our website where you can find out more about upcoming services and events at St Mary's Church, Dedham.

To find out more please follow the link below;

<https://www.dedham.essex.sch.uk/news-from-st-marys-church-dedham>

Calendar dates

Date	Event
Friday 16 th July	Annual School Reports sent home
Wednesday 21 st July	End of term