



DILTON MARSH PRIMARY SCHOOL

FRIDAY NEWS

Friday 9th September 2016

A message from Mrs Farndale...

Welcome back to the start of another busy and exciting school year. It was lovely to see the children arriving on Monday morning with big smiles and exciting stories to tell of their adventures over the holiday. It seems as if many of you have had a wonderful break, keeping busy and enjoying the sunshine.

I would like to extend an extra warm welcome to all our new families and children as we start our journey together. We welcome Emilie, Eliza, Evie, Harry, Ruby, Ayden, Khloe, Alex, Alexander, Ellie, Evelyn, Rhys, Alfie, Poppy, James, Harley, Nate, Grace, Allanah, Finley, Olivia, Finlay-Ray, Seraphina, Eleanor, Brinley, Archie, Hollie, Heidi, Wilson and Mia to Lime class. We also welcome Harley, Harriet, Liberty, Lottie and Sakura. We hope they will all be very happy at Dilton Marsh Primary School.

I am delighted to say that the term has started exceptionally well and I have particularly enjoyed dropping into each class to see how well the children have settled. It has been truly wonderful to feel the school once again come alive with learning and laughter. The classes are already buzzing with curiosity, and the engagement of all the children in lessons this week has been really impressive.

As you've walked through the school on a morning hopefully you have spotted some of the changes that have happened over the summer holiday. We have been fortunate to have the IT team from Kingdown in during the summer and they have revamped the IT infrastructure throughout school. We have new computers and smart boards in classes, along with 24 new desktop computers, 6 laptops and 10 iPads in the IT Suite – now to be called “The Hub!” I watched Chestnut and Oak class enjoy The Hub this week and they were relishing the new facilities and also the new space we have available in the room. Next time you are in school have a look in. There is a great deal planned this year both in terms of learning projects and the development of our school overall. This week we have launched our new House Teams and House Point System. Mrs Broad led an assembly on Tuesday morning where after watching the Hogwarts “Sorting Hat” we were introduced to our new House Team Captains. The children applied for the position before the summer holiday and the successful applicants were presented with their house captain badges this week. All the year 6 children are wearing a star badge showing the colour of their team. Look out next week for the first house points being poured into the collection tubes in the corridor. There is an exciting buzz around school with great anticipation as to which house team will have the most points on Monday.

Don't forget Roald Dahl Day on Tuesday...

Join the fun and dress as a character from one of the Roald Dahl books

£1 donation to Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity on the day please

<http://www.roalddahl.com/charity/fundraising-and-events/dahlicious-dress-up-day/information-for-parents>



School Registration times:

KS2-8.45am (Willow, Chestnut, Beech, Oak)

KS1- 8.55am (Lime, Cherry & Ash)

Contact us:

Tel: 01373 822902

E-mail: office@diltonmarsh.wilts.sch.uk

Website: www.diltonmarsh.wilts.sch.uk



Regular Reading Awards

As many of you were aware we have been offering an award system for regular reading for many years now. Like everything there comes a time when rewards need to be refreshed and re-launched. Therefore we are stopping our current regular reading award scheme and linking a new reading award to our House Point System.

Regular reading is crucial in developing reading skills and therefore to reward regular reading the teachers will be collecting the reading records books each week and giving out house points to the children who have read 4 or more times during the week. In addition to earning house points for their team the children will also be able to earn themselves a special reward at the end of each term (Christmas, Easter and Summer) by seeing if they can read 4 times a week for every week of the term! This is a real challenge and one we are sure our children will enjoy trying to achieve.

Also look out for a recommended reading list for each year group - packed with lots of suitable books to read.

Meet the Teacher w/c 19th Sept

Please join us to find out more about the coming year in school for your child.

Meetings will take place in your child's classroom and the timetable is as follows:

Oak	-	Mon 3.15 - 3.45pm
Beech	-	Mon 3.15 - 3.45pm
Chestnut	-	Mon 3.45 - 4.15pm
Willow	-	Tues 3.15 - 3.45pm
Ash	-	Tues 3.15 - 3.45pm
Cherry	-	Tues 3.45 - 4.15pm
Lime	-	Tues 3.15 - 3.45pm

We look forward to seeing you.

If you can't make it to the meetings there will be a handout available after the meeting so please just ask your child's teacher for a copy.

Reporting Absence

Please notify the office of absence before 9.00am each day. If we do not hear from you, we will phone you to ascertain the nature of absence. *Please note:* a child with sickness or an upset stomach should remain away from school for 48hrs after the last episode of illness.

Tel: **01373 822902**

E-mail: office@diltonmarsh.wilts.sch.uk

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This week: Attendance: 98.2% Absence: 1.8%
Learning lost = 17.5 days

Weekly Class Attendance Trophy

This week the winners are Willow and Beech

Congratulations



Attendance

As you know, attendance is carefully monitored by the Government and Local Authority; so please help us by ensuring your child is at school unless they are poorly. Wherever possible please book any appointments and holiday to coincide with the school holidays.

90% attendance or less is considered 'Persistent Absence' by the Government. This will need following up by school. If attendance does not improve, the Educational Welfare Officer will become involved.

Raise Your Childs Attendance - Raise their Chances!

What does "**Good attendance**" mean?

90% attendance - Is that good?

90% attendance = ½ day missed every week!!

(Would your boss like you to be off work this much??). That's practically part time!

1 school year at 90% attendance = 4 whole weeks of lessons MISSED!!!

Percentage Attendance Weekly

- 90% = ½ day lost learning each week
- 80% = 1 day lost learning each week
- 70% = 1 ½ days lost learning each week

Every Lesson Counts....

Snacks for playtime

The children in Reception and KS1 are provided with fruit on a daily basis as part of the National 5 a day Scheme. Any extra fruit we have is offered to KS2 however, if your child is in KS2 (Yr3-6), it is advisable to provide them with something to eat mid-morning to keep up their energy levels until lunchtime. As a healthy school we encourage healthy snacks please. Also, each child is encouraged to bring a named water bottle each day to allow them to drink plenty. Thank you.

New Staff

As well as new children joining our school, we are delighted to welcome some new members of staff to the team. This term Mr Bullen is our new Year 5 teacher and Miss Cray our new Year 1 teacher. We also welcome Mrs Turner to our teaching staff team. Mrs Turner will be teaching in Oak class one day a week and also covering release time in both Year 1 and Year 2 throughout the week.

As well as teachers, we also welcome Mr Johnson and Miss Bailey to our teaching assistant team and Mrs Farndale to her new role as as Head.

All our new staff have already made a positive impact not just within the classrooms they are based, but across the school, bringing lots of enthusiasm and new ideas.


Thank you to everyone for helping to make them feel so welcome.

New Website

Have a look at our new website www.diltonmarsh.wilts.sch.uk.

Each week the 'Friday News' newsletter will be uploaded onto the website. We will no longer be sending home a paper copy each week. If you don't have access to the internet and require a printed copy, please speak to the office staff.

Our new website provider E-Schools also enables us to provide each family with a log-in password and a downloadable app which will enable you to access information about your child's attendance, class homework and an e-mail copy of the newsletter. Please look out for further information regarding this in the next couple of weeks.

 can be found in the Parent information tab, so please remember to log-in and place your dinner orders as soon as possible.

New Emblem and motto

Just before the summer holiday the staff decided upon a new motto for the school 'Learning Together, Growing Together', we are sure you will agree, those four words say it all!

To compliment this, Mrs Tracy Masters very kindly designed us a new school emblem. Look carefully and see if you can spot a leaf or fruit for each of our class names. There are also acorns to represent our link as part of the Acorn Multi Academy Trust. A big thank you to our 'resident' artist for designing such an amazing emblem.

New House System

In assembly on Tuesday we launched our new House System. Each child now belongs to a house - either Hawk(yellow), Falcon(green), Merlin(red) or Kestrel(blue). In our houses we will take part in challenges, competitions and various events throughout the year. We are already earning lots of house points for doing our best, helping each other, kindness and many other wonderful, positive and challenging things. The running total can be seen in the tubes on the wall in the corridor.



Lily-Grace(10) Imogen(8)
Milo(6) Ben(11) Izabella(11) Coco(7)
Courtneigh(11) Thandoe(9)
Poppy Y(10)

Dates for your Diary

September

Tue 13th	Roald Dahl Dress-up Day
Wed 14th	Bikeability
Wed 14 th	Fizzpop Science Club starts
Thu 15th	Reception stay for lunch
Fri 15th	Reception stay for lunch
Mon 19th	Reception in full-time
Wed 21st	Bikeability
Wed 21 st	Ash Class Celebration Assembly
Thu 22 nd	Matravers Open Evening
Wed 28 th	Willow Class Celebration Assembly
Wed 28 th	FODS AGM 7pm at school
Fri 30 th	Macmillan Coffee Morning 9-10am

October

w/c 24th Holiday

December

Fri 16th Last day of term

January

Tue 3rd Teacher Training Day

Wed 4th Return to school

Annual Flu Vaccination Programme

If your child is in years 1, 2 or 3 they will have brought home a consent form for a Flu vaccination, please read the leaflet, complete the form and return to school next week. Our school nurse will be visiting school on the afternoon of Friday 25th November to carry out the vaccinations.

We need the completed form whether or not you want your child vaccinated please.

Community Cohesion

Macmillan Coffee morning
Friday 30th September
9am -10am in the school hall



Please bring cake donations & join us to help raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support

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Our Christian value for the month is: **Courage**
Each month we will have a focus on an important value in our school and within the community which will be high profile in class and feature in Assemblies

If your child is due to start school in September 2017 you are invited to visit our school.

We are holding new parent
Open Days

Tuesday 20th September'16

Tours 1.30 to 2.30pm

Tuesday 27th September'16

Tours 9.30 – 10.00am

and 11.00 – 11.30am

Please pop in or ring 01373 822902 to book a tour.

We look forward to meeting you.

If you have changed your home/mobile number or e-mail address, please inform the office immediately.

Please place your dinner orders on



N.B Willow Class now pay for meals & all meals have increased to £2.20 a day

Achievements

- Evie passed Grade 3 singing with distinction and has been selected to perform in the ABRSM High Achievers Concert
- Erin and Mia M passed Grade 1 violin with merit
- Jaidon passed Stage 3 swimming
- Oscar passed Stage 3 swimming and won 1st prize in the Village Handicraft Show with his salt dough owl
- Mia F won 2nd prize in the Village Handicraft Show with her salt dough bear and was runner-up in the tray garden competition at the Carnival

