



# Dunster First School

Headteacher: Peter Hoyland

## Newsletter No 8



**Christmas Holidays**  
**Saturday December 17<sup>th</sup> 2016**  
**to**  
**Monday January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017**

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[www.dunsterfirstschool.org.uk](http://www.dunsterfirstschool.org.uk)

13 St Georges Street  
Dunster, Minehead  
TA24 6RX



# Dunster First School

Headteacher: Peter Hoyland

08.12.16

Dear Parents and Carers,

Further to Mr Hoyland stepping down as Headteacher at the end of this academic year, I am writing to update you on progress with securing a new Headteacher for Dunster First School.

Following a successful advertising campaign, which included an advert on the Times Educational Standard website running for a 4 week period as well as the online recruitment film which I'm sure many of you will have seen, I'm very pleased to tell you that we received a number of applications.

We have subsequently shortlisted 4 candidates for interview. The interviews will be taking place on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January with all candidates attending both days. The selection panel will consist of Dunster First School governors as well as an external advisor, a representative from the Local Authority and Mr Marcus Capel, Headteacher of Timberscombe & Cutcombe First Schools and Executive Head of the Exmoor Coast Federation. A range of activities are planned over the course of the 2 days with minimal disruption to the children.

On behalf of the Board of Governors, I'd like to thank Mr Hoyland and the school staff for their support with the recruitment process.

Should any parents have any queries or concerns please contact me via the school office.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Sarah Stanbury  
Chair of Governors

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Member 2015-2016



# Dunster First School

Headteacher: Peter Hoyland

01 February 2017

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Dear Parents,  
May I please bring the following to your attention:

### Diary Dates

<b>Wednesday December 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Reception Class and Key Stage 1 Christmas Party - 2.00pm to 4.00pm</b>
Thursday December 15 <sup>th</sup>	Key Stage 2 Christmas Party - 2.00pm to 4.00pm
<b>Friday December 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Last day of Autumn Term</b>
	<b>Christmas Post-box</b>
	<b>Christmas Dinner</b>
	<b>Carol Service</b>
Saturday December 17 <sup>th</sup> to	Christmas Holiday
Monday December 2 <sup>nd</sup>	
<b>Tuesday December 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>First day of Spring Term 2017</b>

### Christmas Nativity Plays

Thank you to everyone who came along to watch our Nativity plays. I hope that you enjoyed the performances. We were all very proud of the children.

The collections taken at the end of the two plays raised £735.46. This money has been shared between St George's Church, Dunster and the Shackleford family.

Thank you to everyone for your extremely generous contributions.



### BBC Songs of Praise

A reminder that BBC Songs of Praise on Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup> will feature Dunster by Candlelight and children from our school taking part in the lantern procession and singing the Dunster Carol. The programme is scheduled to start at 16:40.

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### Collection for the West Somerset Food Cupboard

Over the final week of term Monstas After School Club will be making a collection for the **West Somerset Food Cupboard**.

Any donations for the West Somerset Food Cupboard can be left in the Monstas After School Club room.



### Christmas Post-box

For those parents and carers who are new to the school, one of our most popular traditions is the Christmas Post-box where children are invited to send cards to all of their friends through the school's internal mail system.

To take part, your child will need to write cards to their friends making sure that on the envelope they put their friend's full name and the class or year group that they are in. Cards can then be posted in the post-box in the main cloakroom.



On the last day of term the whole school gathers in the hall and the cards are tipped out (into a huge pile) and given out by school staff. It would be helpful if children could bring a named carrier bag to school on the last day of term so that their cards can be kept safe.

### School Clubs

Please find below a reminder about when our school clubs will be starting again after the Christmas holidays.

Name of Club	Year Group	Day	Name of Club Leader	Date club restarts next term/ notes
DASH Club	R to 4	Mondays and Fridays	Mr Hoyland	Monday January 9 <sup>th</sup>
Fundamentals Club	1	Tuesdays	1610	Tuesday January 10 <sup>th</sup>
Tennis Club	3 & 4	Wednesdays	Simon Barmby-King	Wednesday January 11 <sup>th</sup>
Football Club	3 & 4	Thursdays	Mr James	Thursday January 5 <sup>th</sup>
Film Club	3 & 4	Thursdays	Mrs Vickery	Thursday January 5 <sup>th</sup>

To date we have only had eleven children sign up for the Year 1 Fundamentals Club on Tuesday evenings (3.30pm to 4.30pm). If you have a child in Year 1 who would like to attend, please contact me at school and I will send a copy of the Fundamentals Club letter home.

A letter confirming children's places at the Fundamentals Club will be sent home once we return to school in January.

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### Inclement Weather Procedures

As a school, we will always aim to keep the school open and will only close when to remain open could endanger children and staff. Any decision to close the school will be made by myself in conjunction with the school's Chair of Governors. If we have to close the school we will aim to make the decision by 8.00am.



In the event of severe weather conditions preventing the school from opening, we are grateful to the following people for agreeing to be contact points for parents to ring.

Minehead	Anne Leworthy	07783 569959 (unable to respond to texts)
Carhampton	Greta Thrush	01643 821670
Luxborough	Elizabeth Worley	01984 640307

In order to keep the school telephone lines free for essential calls, parents enquiring about possible school closure should contact one of the above volunteers. Should computer links allow, we will endeavour to contact those parents who have registered their mobile numbers with the school by text message and will also post closure details on the news page of the school website, [www.dunsterfirstschool.org.uk](http://www.dunsterfirstschool.org.uk).

To enable information to be circulated as early as possible, and to reduce the burden on the school's systems, School Transport will notify those parents who have provided up to date contact details if school buses are running late, have broken down or are not running due to poor weather conditions.

Information about closures will be broadcast by the following local radio stations:

BBC Somerset	95.5FM and 1566MHz
Heart Somerset FM	102.6FM, 96.5FM and 97.1FM
Breeze FM	107.2FM

Finally as this will be the last newsletter of this term may I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year as we step Into Tomorrow in 2017.

Yours truly,

Peter Hoyland  
Headteacher

Merry  
Christmas

A decorative graphic of holly leaves and berries. The leaves are green with white veins, and the berries are red. The graphic is positioned to the right of the word 'Merry' and partially overlaps the word 'Christmas'.