



Dunster First School- Friday News

Headteacher: Naomi Philp

Dear parent, carer,

My thanks go out to you all for making me feel very welcome as your new Head teacher, it has been lovely to have had so many of you welcome me personally and wish me well. I already feel very at home at Dunster First School, with these amazing young people and group of dedicated staff. It has been a very busy, but entirely positive and happy week for me; I have been particularly busy trying to learn everyone's names! I do like to know every child, every family, siblings too; it just might take longer than a week!

Parents' and carers' views are incredibly important to me, as I believe your feedback and support are vital to ensuring future successes of this wonderful school, securing it as an ongoing pride of the village. Someone said to me when I was appointed: 'Dunster First School is the jewel in the crown,' and my goodness, I want to ensure it shines brightly for many generations to come.

We have organised two events where I can meet parents and carers to talk to you about your experiences of the school, share some of my own hopes for the future and to see how we can work together strategically to ensure that Dunster First School continues to go from strength to strength. The first event will be an informal 'Coffee, Tea and Buns' morning on Tuesday 19th September at 9am-10am followed by an evening event 'Nibbles and Fizz' event on Tuesday 19th September at 6pm-7pm; food and drink supplied by our excellent kitchen staff. I hope you can make one of these gatherings; however, parent surveys will also be coming home before half term, so if you cannot make it, you can still have your say in our future.

I like to award our pupils weekly, in particular for being kind. I also like to award pupils for great effort, trying their best and, as a result, achieving something special. My class teachers will nominate pupils on a weekly basis for these awards. In addition, I will also be choosing a 'Star of the Week' who will be someone has stood out that week to myself and my staff as embodying our school values. Shortly after half term, we will invite you to come and join us for these assemblies so you can share in celebrating the pupils' successes, there will also be opportunities to share your 'good news from home.' At present, I thought I would share these awards in our weekly 'Friday News' while we get ourselves a little more organised and Reception get a little more settled in to school routines.

Please note that this 'Friday News' will not replace the 'Newsletters,' as I still intend to send a *special* newsletter to mark key moments in the academic year.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Naomi Philp
Head teacher





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Amazing Pupils:

Well done to *all* our new reception children who have come in to school so well and made such great starts!

Well done to our first award winners of the term:

- **Kindness:** Reception: Harry Parfitt & Agatha Vickery- excellent sharing! Year 1: Tyler Lynch who looked after a friend when they were feeling a bit sad. Year 2: Harley Tucker for giving up his own bag of sweets to someone who didn't have any. Year 3: Harvey Bell for being so polite and making the adults feel very proud of him. Year 4: Albert Vickery and Ben Higgins for helping look after another student all week- great friendship.
- **Achievement:** Reception: Maisy Priddy-Adams & Oscar Cox for being so clever at explaining things. Year 1: Amelia Langdon who has had her name on Mr Clever twice for excellent writing. Year 2: Blossom Whittaker for working so hard at everything and showing great geographical knowledge. Year 3: Orla Strong for her amazing mental maths speed. Year 4: Mathew Sherrin for his effort with his art.
- **Star of the Week:** Noah James for his amazing sense of humour even with his poorly ankle. He has continued to concentrate on his work, try his best and make Mrs Philp laugh!

Weekly Notices:

Safeguarding Notices:

- Thank you for driving carefully and parking safely around our school site.
- I am the new safeguarding lead, taking over from Mr Hoyland, if you have concerns about a child's safety please speak to myself, or in my absence Miss McEntee or Miss Collins. Alternatively you can contact Children's Social Care and/or the police.
- Our new attendance policy will be sent home next week, if you require any information this week, please just pop in.

Other notices:

- **Parking Update:** Letters will be coming out shortly so parents can apply for a permit to park at the castle.
- **Book club** letters have gone out today and we hope that you spot something that takes your fancy. Please place orders by half term if possible. The website and contact number is: www.scholastic.co.uk/clubs and 0845 603 9091 and ways to order are detailed on the leaflet information.
- **Menus reminder:** Please pop your child's name on the menus! Even if you gave it to us personally, as once it has gone into the file it is tricky for us to recall who handed it in.
- **Wrap around care:** Monstas and breakfast club at the Pre school have both started already this week, please pop in if you require further details.
- **Clubs:** Clubs are beginning to start after school so watch out for those letters coming home: Plus we have some new and exciting clubs starting soon, such as Fencing!