



Dunster First School- Friday News

Headteacher: Naomi Philp

22nd September 2017

Dear parent, carer,

Thank you to everyone who attended one of our various events this week, in particular a big thank you to everyone who came to our FODs meeting. This group are clearly set to raise much needed funds for our school whilst having lots of fun. Please do not think it is too late to become involved, as there will be a 'helpers sheet' coming out soon where you will be able to sign up to volunteering in all manner of ways.

This is a busy week for letters: year 4 parents have the letters for the Middle School open evening, plus there is a Moorland Federation letter and there are two parent surveys. We do apologise if that feels a little overwhelming, we did consider taking some of the post out, but it all felt relevant and important.

In regards to the surveys: your views are highly valued and will help us to inform our school development planning and school evaluations. All your views will be captured in a parent stakeholder report known as the 'Butterfly Report.' Please return the surveys to either the class teacher or the office by the 29th September. Every member of our community who participates in helping to improve our school becomes a Dunster First School Guardian, a role established alongside the newly formed Moorland Federation. School Guardians may be involved in many ways from simply completing a survey to volunteering to work on a specific development project. Within the Moorland Federation there has been elected a Chair and two Vice Chairs, as detailed in the letter. The Chair, Mr John Hill, is also our nominated School Champion and will no doubt become a familiar figure around our school.

Next week, we have our curriculum evenings, which should be exceptionally useful for parents to get clued up on what topics we are teaching, how we teach certain things and to hear about what assessments the children may have in their particular year group. A letter has been sent home with the details of these meetings for each year group.

It is also the first of our 'Switch off Fortnight' events next week, where we are encouraging an eco friendly approach by saving energy! As part of our commitment to ensure our children are becoming aware of sustainability, this fun and family orientated event will start. For those of you with electricity meters, perhaps you can chart if this 'Switch off Fortnight' has any impact in your house and let us know.

Have a great weekend,

Mrs Naomi Philp
Head teacher

Tel: 01643 821254 Fax: 01643 821243

dunsterfirstschool@educ.somerset.gov.uk

www.dunsterfirstschool.org.uk

13 St Georges Street
Dunster, Minehead
TA24 6RX





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Amazing Pupils:

- **Kindness:** Reception: **Finley Westrip** for solving problems and helping his friends to listen. Year 1: **Gabriel Rackham** for cleaning the tables for everyone after snack time. Year 2: **Toby Payne** for helping tidy up after our 'healthy picnic' in Science. Year 3: **Jodie Lyddon** for helping Sophie with her homework on more than one occasion. Year 4: **Amelia Marsh** for being a good friend when someone was upset.
- **Achievement:** Reception: **Wilson Heard** for knowing lots about shape and for making some great shape pictures. Year 1: **Jacob Bond** for remembering capital letters, full stops and finger spaces in his writing. Year 2: **Milla Cridland** for working very hard on her Florence Nightingale book. Year 3: **Toby Beadell** for a very neat second draft report about himself. Year 4: **Tilly Nicholls** for some excellent maths. She also said maths was her least favourite subject but told me today that she now quite enjoys it!
- **Star of the Week:** This person is always happy, they are always keen to show me their learning when I come in to their class. They follow our school rules really well and have lovely manners. They are super kind to both their peers and the adults in the school and in general are a little ray of sunshine helping to make our school a happy place to be. **So, our Star of the Week is Poppy Stone.**
- **Lunchtime manners and great eating awards:** Gypsy Reeves, Rose Seacombe, Esme Priddle, Ben Beadell, Alice Tytler.
- **Good News from Home:** A huge well done to **Toby Payne**, who cycled an amazing 45.2 miles last week! He cycled to Dunster, Carhampton, Blue Anchor, Wooton Courtney, Nutcombe Bottom and other places too – and his legs didn't even ache!

Weekly Notices:

Safeguarding/ Safety Notices:

- Please do not send siblings to collect from after school clubs unless they are over 14 years. We are not able to release a child from an after school club unless they are collected by an appropriate adult. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Other notices:

- **Change of time for the Year 4 Parents Open Evening at Minehead Middle School:** Please note that the open evening on Tuesday 3rd October will now start at 6.00 pm. A letter from Minehead Middle School with more details about this evening has been sent home with your child today.
- **Harvest Festival:** Please join us at our Harvest Festival on Friday 6th October at 9:30am at St Georges Church, Dunster. Once again we will be collecting groceries (tins and packets) and fresh produce for the MENCAP residential home in Bampton Street, Minehead. Bampton Court is home to a number of adults with learning difficulties and has been in existence since 1993. As a charity, MENCAP receives no financial support from the government.
Harvest gifts can be brought into school on the morning of the service and taken to your child's classroom. A collection for St Georges Church will also be taken at the end of the service.