



Dunster First School- Friday News

Headteacher: Naomi Philp

6th October 2017

Dear parent, carer,

We hope you enjoyed our Harvest Festival this morning and thank you so much for your kind donations. We all enjoyed ourselves. We have had good fun learning about the history of the harvest and preparing our poems, prayers, songs and hats! **Our Lord and Lady of the Harvest, Gypsy Reeves and Isaac Lammiman**, chosen for their kind and thoughtful behaviours, did us very proud in helping to oversee the service, much like the Lord would have overseen the harvest long ago. As it said in our programme, we extend thanks to Reverend Caroline Ralph and the Church warden team for all their help, support and kindness.

We have been investigating our theme of the week in our assemblies, 'having the confidence to try and the power of yet.' Our older pupils showed our younger ones a clip from Sesame Street, with the song, "The Power of Yet" and we discussed how it is ok to need help, to make a mistake, as that is about learning - we just have to keep trying and we will get there. The pupils summed this up with the following phrase: 'We may not know things, or be able to do certain things 'yet,' but we will, because we are going to keep trying!' I am so proud of their determination, perseverance and kindness in helping each other to succeed.



I hope you had a good 'switch off fortnight,' do let me know if it made a difference to those bills! We will be having another one in November.

If you are looking for something to do this weekend, the Tithe Barn has the Exmoor Bees and Honey exhibition occurring.

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: **Layla Thrush** for always being so smiley and making everyone else happy!
Year 1: **Olivia Quinn**, for setting a great example by always sharing brilliantly.
Year 2: **Gabriel James** for helping his classmates with their costumes in the Florence Nightingale workshop.
Year 3: **Noah Antonelli** for suggesting charities when we were writing pretend cheques in maths.
Year 4: **Cameron Hodgkins** for helping out more than he needed to at lunchtime.
- **Achievement:** Reception: **Ben Price** for working hard on his 'magic writing' and telling Mrs Philp all about the story. Year 1: **Kaiden Winter** for excellent sounding out in phonics and writing. Year 2: **Cormac Corley** for his independent writing and all round hard work in literacy (nominated by Mrs Evans). Year 3: **Ellis Nurton** for working really hard in his handwriting and still getting a lovely poem written about harvest.
Year 4: **Ben Beadell** for working really hard in all areas of the curriculum, especially literacy.
- **Lunchtime manners and great eating awards:** **Dorothy Lammiman** for being first to eat all her dinner nicely. **Jasper Mayhew** for always having good manners. **Oscar Hood** for making up nicely with his friends. **Kenzie Cox** for helping to do the chairs quickly. **Logon O'Connor** for not making a fuss when doing his jobs. **Kitchen's Award:** **Amelia Marsh and Kate Lancaster** for always doing their jobs with no prompting.
- **Good News from Home:** **Ben and Lottie Higgins** have achieved phenomenally in swimming. **Ben has achieved a 'swimming stroke' award** where he had to demonstrate perfect front crawl for a sustained period of time and distance, and **Charlotte has achieved an amazing 200m certificate!** Two future olympians no doubt! We are proud to share this achievement with them both, as part of our Dunster First School team.
- **Star of the Week:** This person has really impressed me (and their teachers) with how well they have settled into being at school. They are behaving in a very grown up manner, coming in to lunch really sensibly, participating in all their learning and being a good friend. They are leading the way for their peers, by modelling our values and expected behaviours. This person should be very proud of their excellent attitude and commitment to our school and to their education. A bright future awaits, no doubt, for our star of the week... **Jacob Coles**

Weekly Notices:

Safeguarding/ Safety Notices:

- We are aware a number of dogs are being left outside the school unattended and this is causing some concerns. Although the dogs all seem very calm and well behaved, with this being such a 'bottle neck' of an area it is not without risk. Although most of our school children are confident and calm around animals, some are less so. We would really appreciate it if owners could consider alternatives. We appreciate it must be a good time to get the dogs out for a walk and we like to encourage people to walk to school, but this is becoming of a concern to both some of you and us and we appreciate everyone's thoughtfulness in addressing this.

Other notices:

- **Parent and Teacher Meetings**

A reminder that meetings for parents and carers with teachers will take place on the following dates:

Monday October 16th 5.00 pm – 8.00 pm

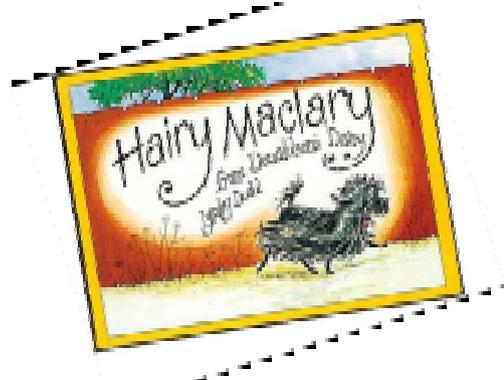
Tuesday October 17th 4.00 pm - 7.00 pm

If you still need to arrange your appointment, please complete the return slip that was sent out last week or speak directly with the class teacher.

- **Parking:** At most schools parking is an issue, and at Dunster First School, in this beautiful National Park village, we are no different. We fully appreciate that in the mornings parking can be a little hectic, as we only have the castle parking in the afternoon, but please refrain from parking in the allotments. This is a private area and the school rents just enough spaces for our staff, at a reasonable cost, thanks to the kindness of the owners. Therefore, we really appreciate you finding other locations to park, such as the Steep car park, which is free in the mornings. Thank you for your cooperation and support in this.
- **Dark Skies Planetarium visits:** On Friday 20th October, all our children will have the exciting opportunity to visit the Dark Skies Planetarium at the Tithe Barn with their class – further details to follow. There will be no cost to parents for this visit.
- **Advent Fair Planning Meeting:** Thursday October 12th at 7.00 pm in Year 4 Classroom. This is our biggest fundraising event of the year and FODs need as much help as possible with the planning and preparation. If you would like to get involved, please do come along to the meeting.
- **World Food Week:** Week commencing 16th October marks the beginning of World Food Week at Dunster First School. Miss Masters has created a special menu to mark this week with an exciting array of dishes from around the world. It would be lovely if you could make your menu choices together and encourage your child to be really adventurous!

Libraries Week

9 – 14 October 2017



Celebrate **Libraries Week** by coming along to a story time
at **Minehead Library**

Libraries from across Libraries West will be simultaneously
reading "*Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy*" at

11am on Saturday 14th October

There will also be lots of exciting activities to take part in.

No need to book, just drop in

LibrariesWest

Charity Fundraiser & Table Top Sale

Raising Awareness of **Kawasaki Disease**
and fundraising for **societi**
The UK Foundation for Kawasaki Disease



Saturday, 7th October

10.30am - 3pm

at Minehead Methodist Church Hall

The Avenue (opposite Co-op)

Entry 50p for Adults

Kids Free

Kawasaki Disease is the leading cause of acquired heart disease
in children in the UK - we want every parent and doctor to be
able to recognise the symptoms and help to save tiny hearts.

Come along to find out more!