



# Dunster First School- Friday News

Headteacher: Naomi Philp

1<sup>st</sup> December 2017

Dear parents and carers,

What an amazing Advent Fair, I thought it would be magical and it was certainly that. The fun and laughter that filled the school, and the support from all the community was tremendous. We raised over £4500! This amount really makes a massive difference to us as a school and it is extraordinary for a school community this size to raise that collectively, I honestly cannot thank you all enough for this generosity.

The Christmas Film night was also another success, the staff think this was the 5<sup>th</sup> time of running this and I can see us continuing this tradition for many more years as it was truly a very sweet and calm evening. Just what was needed, a hot choccy and a feel good film, what better way to welcome in December!

Our last Community Awards Assembly today was a really nice event, well attended again, which is really great - thank you. It is one of my favourite times of the week, sharing the pupils' (and adults') achievements as a community and placing kindness at the heart of what we value.

The lanterns should look lovely tonight for Dunster by Candlelight, the parade is at 6:30pm from the National Trust Information point by the Steep Car Park. There are extra lanterns for siblings and other year groups who wish to participate.

The Big Wrap is on next week, along with all years visiting the Castle on Friday to experience 'Christmas at Dunster.'

Have a great weekend.

Mrs Naomi Philp

Head teacher



### KINDNESS AWARDS

- Reception: Millie Neale for always being ready to help her friends to do the right thing.
- Year 1: Jemima Sully for giving her teddy to another child who didn't get one at the Advent Fair and....
- Year 1: Jacob Bond for stacking the chairs every day, all term!
- Year 2: Oscar Hood for being a great team player and having amazing patience in group work.
- Year 3: Grace Rackham for looking after a peer and doing activities with them, being a kind and considerate friend.
- Year 4: Evie Ware for always coming for a nice chat with me!

### ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

- Reception: Achievement: Patrick Drake - for being a brilliant mathematician! (At the start of the year, Patrick told us he didn't know anything about numbers, but actually he is great at adding up and problem solving!).
- Year 1: Janos Gyorgy for learning his sounds well and for making his writing neat
- Year 2: Charlie Bray for great work in maths and science.
- Year 3: William Bishop for working hard at his 3x tables in maths and never giving up, even when things are hard.
- Year 4: Megan for big improvements and working hard in maths.

### BEST HOME LEARNING TEAMS

- Reception: Rylee Jackson and home for reading with a grown up at home every day.
- Year 1: Gypsy Hope Reeves & home for excellent reading and writing practise at home, and then remembering that learning at school
- Year 2: Sasha Brodie & home for reading every night and doing Sasha's spellings every week.
- Year 3: Isaac Lammiman and home, for always reading, and spending time on spellings and times tables.
- Year 4: Ben Wintermantle and home and Ben particularly for always asking Mr James for help when he is stuck and not just leaving it.

### LUNCHTIME & KITCHEN AWARDS

- Jamie Brodie for good manners & Lexie Lou McArthur for using her knife and fork
- Gabe Rackham because he is always willing to help and for being polite & Olivia Quinn for playing nicely
- Toby Payne for lovely manners, saying please and thank you & Gabriel James for always having a smiley face for Mrs Welsher
- Rose Worley for lovely table manners & Will Goble for always leaving a clean plate
- Albert Vickery for always offering to help & Kate Lancaster for always offering to help
- Kitchen's Award: Oliver Rutter for trying new foods without making a fuss & Elliott Freeguard for his great manners

### STAR OF THE TERM

This person has made so much progress this year. The way that they take on responsibility, like the recycling, and the way they are so keen to lend a hand and help is tremendous. They really are a very happy person to be around, and we can see how hard they are trying at school. This person takes time to have a smile and a joke with everyone, taking the time with both staff and peers. They do not always find learning easy, but we can see that they are trying, and that is the power of yet! You have to just keep trying and not give up. Our star of the term is...

### Cameron Hodgkins

**Safeguarding/ Safety Notices:**

**Absence Reporting** – could we please remind parents and carers that they must call and inform the school office on the **first and every** subsequent morning of an absence from school.

**Other notices:**

**Nativity Performance Creches** - to make sure that everyone is able to enjoy these performances, we will be providing a crèche on both days in the Monstas After School Club room. The crèche, which is for younger brothers and sisters, will be available from 1.35pm. If you would like your child to attend the crèche please complete the slip at the end of the newsletter and return it to the school office as soon as possible.

**School Buses after the Nativity Performances** - would parents with children who normally travel home on the bus please fill in the slip at the end of the newsletter to let us know if they will be picked up from school or whether they will be travelling home by bus after the performance. These slips should be returned to your child's class teacher.

**Inclement Weather and Emergency Closure Procedures** have been included with the Friday News this week, advising parents of our lines of communication should we be affected by severe weather.

**The Christmas Post Box** is now open! It is situated in the Year 2 cloakroom near Mrs Thrush's office. The children can post their Christmas Cards to their friends and staff and the post box will be emptied and the cards distributed as part of the fun and festivities on the last day of term. Please address cards with full name and class.

**Christmas Parties** - This year's Christmas Parties will be held on the following dates.

**Reception Class, Year 1 and Year 2  
Year 3 and Year 4**

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

Both parties will start at 2.00pm and will finish at approximately 4.00pm. *Please complete the party reply slip at the end of this letter to let us know if your child will be staying until the end of the party and return it to your child's teacher.*

**To help us prepare for the parties this year and to try and cut down on the amount of food that gets wasted, we are asking parents and carers to make a donation of £1.00 per child. This will make sure that the Friends of Dunster First School only get the food and drink for the party that we need. Please send in your donation with the reply slip for the party.**

**If your child has any special dietary needs please make sure that you inform your child's class teacher.**

On the day of the party, children are welcome to bring in party clothes to get changed into. Please send in any clothes in a named carrier bag. If you have a DBS check and are able to help with the parties, please let your child's teacher know.

The Friends of Dunster First School have kindly made the arrangements for a visit by Father Christmas.

**Key Dates for December:**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 pm

FODs Christmas Wrap

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Class visits to Dunster Castle

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00 pm

Y3 and Y4 Nativity performance at St George's Church, Dunster

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00 pm

YR, Y1 and Y2 Nativity performance at St George's Church, Dunster

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December am

Whole school carols- at Dunster Castle and the Yarn Market.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December

Y4 visit to Taunton Museum

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00 pm

YR, Y1 and Y2 Christmas Party and visit from Santa (until 4.00 pm)

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00 pm

Y3 and Y4 Christmas Party and visit from Santa (until 4.00 pm)

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December

Last day of term; Emptying the post box; Christmas Dinner

**Christmas Nativity Plays – Creches**  
**Thursday December 14<sup>th</sup> and Friday December 15<sup>th</sup>**

Name of child ..... Class .....

I would like to use the crèche facilities for my child(ren) during the performance on

Thursday December 14<sup>th</sup>

Friday December 15<sup>th</sup>

Name of child

Age

.....

.....

.....

.....

Signature of parent .....



.....

**Christmas Nativity Plays – Children Travelling by Bus**  
**Thursday December 14<sup>th</sup> and Friday December 15<sup>th</sup>**

(Please complete this slip if your child normally travels by bus)

Name of child ..... Class .....

I will be collecting my child after the performance on

Thursday December 14<sup>th</sup>

Friday December 15<sup>th</sup>

My child will be travelling home on the bus on

Thursday December 14<sup>th</sup>

Friday December 15<sup>th</sup>

(please tick as appropriate)

Signature of parent .....

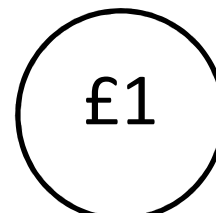
**Christmas Party (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)**  
**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

Name of child/children .....

My child will be staying until 4.00pm and will be collected by me after the party

My child will go home on the bus

I have enclosed a £1.00 donation for party food



Signed .....

**Please return to your child's teacher**



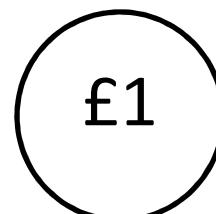
**Christmas Party (Year 3 and Year 4)**  
**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

Name of child/children .....

My child will be staying until 4.00pm and will be collected by me after the party

My child will go home on the bus

I have enclosed a £1.00 donation for party food



Signed .....

**Please return to your child's teacher**