



Dunster First School- Thursday News

Headteacher: Naomi Philp

21st December 2017

Dear parents and carers,

We hope you have enjoyed this wonderful term as much as we all have. This is the end of my first term and my first Christmas at Dunster First School, and I continue to thoroughly enjoy myself; I am incredibly proud of my lovely school.

The newsletter is full of wonderful articles about the fun we have had this term, but only goes a small way towards capturing all the learning experiences that have been on offer to the children. Many of those learning experiences could not be offered if it wasn't for our parent and carer support. I have a very dedicated and capable staff team, who are highly driven in making school life magical and special, but without all the volunteers who join us on trips, help organise events, even tidy up afterwards, we would not be able to offer this extraordinarily full curriculum with all manner of exciting experiences for the children. This enriched offer is vitally important to me and my team, so, sincerely: thank you.

Please note, we are making a slight change to morning drop offs in January in order to create a safer start to school, please check the safeguarding notices for more information.

The January and February calendars will be out during the first week of term, but all the key dates are on this letter and the newsletter. We start back on the 8th January 2018! I know 2018! What happened to the 90s?!

Have a really wonderful and safe festive holiday, and a very happy new year.

With my very best wishes,

Mrs Naomi Philp

Head teacher



Safeguarding/ Safety Notices:

From Jan 8th when you drop children off to school they will have to stay in their classrooms rather than move freely in and out to play. We are staffing every classroom from 8:40 until 9am to continue to facilitate a phased drop off, which offers perfect opportunities for that teacher parent conversation. This open door policy does not stop, we just are taking a more controlled approach to managing this morning time. This means that the playground will not be manned, so if you wish to use the playground please remain with your child/ren. **Children can be dropped off at their classes from 8:40am as usual, but they cannot go out to the playground without their parent/ carer.** Please note, teachers are less available on a Monday as we have a morning briefing, apologies if this causes any consternation, but teaching assistants and Mrs Thrush are available for messages.

Other notices:

Key dates for Spring Term – more information about events will follow

8th January – First day of the Spring Term

9th January – Street surfing workshops

12th, 19th and 26th January – Parent Awards Assemblies

16th and 29th January – Rev. Caroline Assemblies

19th January – Walk to school from Hopcott Common

23rd January – Phonic sessions for savvy parents

2nd February – Football gala

5th and 6th February – Parents evenings

8th February – Winter Sports

9th February – School closed for INSET

10th February – Half Term holiday

1st March – World Book Day

Week beginning 19th March – Easter bonnets and Easter activities

24th March – Easter holiday