



Dunster First School- Friday News

Headteacher: Naomi Philp

19th January 2018

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With my very best wishes,

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Duncan is currently in Bristol Children's Hospital starting a 3 year programme of treatment including chemo therapy and hopes to return home in the next few weeks. It is understood that he will then continue as an outpatient at Musgrove allowing him to gradually return to school and everyday life with his parents, elder sister Kyla and younger brother Fenton.

The family would like to thank everyone for their offers of help and support at this difficult time.

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Dunster First School- Friday News

Headteacher: Naomi Philp

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Dunster First School- Friday News

Headteacher: Naomi Philp

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OTHER NOTICES:

REMINDER: The next FODS (Friends of Dunster School) meeting is on Thursday 25th January at 7.00 pm in the school hall. This is an opportunity to get involved with essential fundraising for our school – meetings are informal, fun and there are biscuits too! Everybody is welcome ☺

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29th January – Rev. Caroline Assemblies

22nd January – Phonic sessions for savvy parents

25th January 7pm – FODs meeting in the school hall

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10th February – Half Term holiday

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26th February - World Book Week Celebrations start with Steve Manning Workshop

1st March – World Book Day

Week beginning 19th March – Easter bonnets and Easter activities

24th March – Easter holiday



Dunster First School- Friday News

Headteacher: Naomi Philp

19th January 2018

Dear parents and carers,

We share with you some difficult news this week. On Monday, I received heart wrenching information regarding the family member of one of our members of staff. The son of Sarah Masters, our Head Chef and Kitchen Lead, was diagnosed with Leukaemia. There is a special notice from the family that they have asked us to share with the school community in this letter. There are no words at this difficult time, only actions and we have extended offers of our practical support for the family. Sarah is a dedicated, highly competent, and deeply valued member of staff who we know needs to be able to be with her son at this time without worrying about us. Filling Sarah's critical role has not been easy, yet with the support of our community, local businesses and our own staff we have been able to ensure that our lunches have continued. Susan Sly, an ex parent and qualified chef, has stepped in supported by our staff Mrs Thrush, Miss Olsanska and Mrs Sutcliffe, but also by staff provided by the Luttrell Arms. Head Chef at the Luttrell's, Barrie Tucker, has sent staffing reinforcements when we have really needed the help. Amazingly, Mark Stothard, despite caring for his other two children whilst Sarah is with Duncan, also washed all the aprons and tea towels and returned them to us. These extraordinary actions are not only helping us, but also demonstrate what a uniquely proactive and caring community we have. Thank you all for this critical help.

I don't wish to populate my letter to you this week with other seemingly frivolous news in comparison and so I ask you to please review the notices section to ensure that key dates coming up are not missed.

With my very best wishes,

Mrs Naomi Philp

Head teacher



SPECIAL NOTICE

**This information is shared with our school community at the request of
Sarah Masters and Mark Stothard:**

Duncan Stothard, former pupil and son of Miss Masters, is normally a fit and healthy boy. It is well known by many of his fellow year 9 students that he has never had a day off school since he first started at Dunster First School in 2008.

Over the Christmas break, like so many others, he suffered from flu like symptoms and a chest infection. After subsequent visits to his G.P and Musgrove Hospital, Duncan has been diagnosed with a form of Leukaemia, a cancer of the blood and immune system, which usually develops quickly and needs treatment straight away: T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (T-ALL)



Duncan is currently in Bristol Children's Hospital starting a 3 year programme of treatment including chemo therapy and hopes to return home in the next few weeks. It is understood that he will then continue as an outpatient at Musgrove allowing him to gradually return to school and everyday life with his parents, elder sister Kyla and younger brother Fenton.

The family would like to thank everyone for their offers of help and support at this difficult time.

Kindness Awards:

Reception: Seb Nicholls for pointing out when other people are doing well, celebrating their successes.

Year 1: Olivia Quinn for helping a friend to change quickly after PE

Year 2: Eva Furse-Sowden for helping Martha in reception with the milk.

Year 3: Harry Wallace for quietly and sensibly letting someone know what to do in the lesson when they had been out for a piano lesson.

Year 4: Cameron Hodgkins for working so well with the younger children in the school - many members of staff have mentioned how good he is at helping and playing with them and the children think he is great!

Mrs Thrush for being a great support for everyone in the absence of key staff – and everyone who has stepped up to ensure that the kitchen runs smoothly without Miss Masters.

Achievement Awards:

Reception: Rylee Jackson for amazing reading and phonics.

Year 1: Maisie Lawley for excellent fairy tale writing and sounding out

Year 2: Stephen Stokes for some great writing in literacy and making sure his handwriting was very neat.

Year 3: Chloe Griffiths for achievement in Maths as she always tries to work things out for herself using her number skills.

Year 4: Hannah Richards for excellent maths and working really well with her fraction problem solving.

Star of the Week:

This person is someone who is always polite, always holds a lovely conversation with both peers and adults. They see where help is needed and don't wait to be asked to solve a problem and get things done. This person has impeccable manners and a great attitude to learning where they always try their best. They are an excellent ambassador for our school with visitors and help to look after the younger pupils. I am so proud to have this special young person in our school.

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