



Dalton St Mary's CE Primary School

Autumn Term

Newsletter 1

5th September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

Welcome to the new school year I hope you have all had a wonderful summer and the children are excited for the new school year. I am delighted to welcome the children and families who have just joined us this year, please pop in and introduce yourselves to me, I look forward to meeting you. I will continue to send a weekly Newsletter to keep you informed of celebrations and future events. Please look out for the Newsletter in your child's schoolbag each Wednesday, as it is an important source of information. The Newsletter is also uploaded onto the school website each Wednesday.

Uniform

It was lovely to see the children arriving looking smart in their uniforms yesterday, I really appreciate the effort that you put in to supporting school in this area. As we begin the new school year I just have a couple of reminders from the uniform policy:

Hair : Girls: Should be traditional, conventional, of natural colour, neat and tidy and not follow extremes of fashion in terms of cut, style and length. Long hair (below shoulder length) should be tied back when determined by a teacher for Health and Safety reasons. Accessories should be understated and minimal.

Hair : Boys: Should be traditional, conventional, of natural colour, neat and tidy and not follow extremes of fashion in terms of cut, style and length. Hair must not obstruct the eyes or the face.

Just to clarify – haircuts/styles will be considered on an individual basis; girls' hair accessories - large bows/Jo-Jo bows should not be worn; I do understand the current hair fashion for boys is the shaved sides/parting and a longer top. This will be accepted as it does look smart however I ask that there are no shaved patterns included in the style and the long top does not become too extreme.

Building work

Over the summer we have been busy with external and internal building work. The Y4/Y6 side of the junior building has now had the girders replaced and new windows fitted. The Junior cloakrooms have been removed and remodelled creating two new learning spaces and children all have their own lockers in their classroom.

Lockers

As mentioned above the children in Y3/Y4/Y5 and Y6 now have their own individual locker within their classroom. This was very exciting yesterday and teachers had discussions with children about the items they bring to school. I understand that this caused some confusion with some children asking parents for new backpacks. Parents do not have to replace any backpacks that have already been purchased for this academic year but we do ask that children consider what they are bringing to school each day. PE kits are best stored in a small PE bag and these can be left safely in lockers returning home occasionally to launder. Lunch boxes will be stored in separate boxes/trolleys and not stored in lockers. Each class has an identified set of coat pegs where children can hang coats to dry on wet days, on dry days coats can be stored safely in lockers. This is a new routine that I am sure we will all get used to and I feel it is a great improvement on the old style cloakroom, along with creating new learning spaces.

Outdoors

We were very fortunate during the summer break to be offered an 'Orange Day' by Glaxo Smith Kline. The 'Orange Day' is a team of volunteers from the company spending time at school undertaking set tasks. We secured this day as a result of Mr Smithson kindly nominating our school; a big thank you to Mr Smithson. I would also like to thank the team who came along on the day ready to tackle, with a smile, everything I asked of them. As a result, our garden is now ready and prepared for planting, also the outdoor classroom and outdoor ball area are now treated with wood preserve and looking very smart. A big thank you also to Sovereign Chemicals who kindly donated the material for this work, it is very much appreciated.

Volunteering

If any Parents/Grandparents are interested in volunteering in school, even if you only have an hour to spare we would love to hear from you. We always require extra help with Reading, Maths and Crafts. If there are any green fingered Parents/Grandparents who would like to help with the gardens and grounds, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the school office with any offers of volunteering.

L Woodburn

Dates for Diaries

Parent Voice Meeting (All welcome)	5.45	Monday 10 th September 2018
Y2 Parent Meeting	3.15	Tuesday 11 th September 2018
Harvest Festival (In school – Parents Welcome)	10.00	Friday 21 st September 2018
Macmillan Coffee Morning	10.00 – 11.00	Friday 28 th September 2018
Parent Drop-in Week – every day Monday to Friday	3.00 – 3.30	Week Beg. 15 th October 2018
Finish for Half Term		Friday 19 th October 2018
Back to School		Monday 29 th October 2018
Whole School Individual Photographs		Wednesday 31 st October 2018

Extra-Curricular Activities – to begin next week

Morning / Lunchtime Clubs

Club	Leader	Day	Time	Comments
Scrabble	Mrs Rowe	Tuesday	12.25	Y4/Y5/Y6 (Library)
Gardening	Mrs Croskery	Friday	12.30	Y5/Y6 Children
Craft Club	Mrs Rowe	Friday	12.25	Y6 (Library)

After School Clubs

Club	Leader	Day	Time	Comments
Multi Sports	Onside Sports	Monday	3.30 to 4.30	Reception and KS1 (Full)
Story Time	Mrs Ryder	Tuesday	3.30 to 4.00	Nursery and Reception – in the Reception Classroom
Gymnastics	Mrs Dixon	Tuesday	3.30 to 4.30	Y4/Y5/Y6 (Limited Places)
Science and DT	Mrs Spence	Tuesday	3.30 to 4.30	
Singing for Fun	Mrs Wright	Tuesday	3.30 to 4.15	Reception/Y1/Y2 (Y4 classroom)
Multi Sports	Onside Sports	Wednesday	3.30 to 4.30	KS2 (Booking forms from the Office)
Colouring Club	Mrs Ryder	Wednesday	3.30 to 4.15	To be held in Nursery
Netball	Mrs Pearson & Miss Brough	Wednesday	3.30 to 4.30	
Debate Club	Mrs Judd	Wednesday	3.30 to 4.15	Y4/Y5/Y6
Guitar Club	James (Cumbria Music Service)	Wednesday	3.30 to 4.00	Booking through the school office
Performing Arts	Mrs Croskery	Thursday	3.30 to 4.30	KS2 Children (in Hall)
Football	Mr Maguire	Friday	3.30 to 4.30	Limited Places

Nursery Applications and Extended Hours

Applications for places in our Nursery are now being accepted for the next academic year; January 2019 and April 2019. Application forms are available from the school office and we are able to provide the **30 hour offer for those parents who qualify**. Parents who do not qualify for the 30 hour offer are still able to book and pay for their children to stay for the full day (£10.00 per extra session). If anyone would like any further information please ask Mrs Irving in the office or email her at h.irving@dsmprimary.com.

Please note these holiday dates before booking family holidays, particularly with the changes to the Local Authority Policy relating to holidays in term time.

Fixed penalty notices may be considered by the LA where there have been **5 days** or more of unauthorised leave of absence, this had previously been **10 days**. This would be considered alongside your child's overall attendance on an individual basis. The LA will also consider issuing fixed penalty notices where a child is taking a second leave of absence in the same academic year totaling more than **5 days**. I feel it is important that parents are clear on the Local Authority policy. During the last academic year 72 children took leave of absence from DSM and we lost 330 days of learning as a result of holidays. I ask that all parents consider carefully the possible impact of absence upon your child's learning.

AUTUMN TERM 2018

STARTS	ENDS	HALF – TERM HOLIDAY
Tuesday 4 September	Friday 21 December	Monday 22 October – Friday 26 October

SPRING TERM 2019

STARTS	ENDS	HALF – TERM HOLIDAY
Tuesday 8 January	Friday 29 March	Monday 18 February – Friday 22 February

SUMMER TERM 2019

STARTS	ENDS	HALF – TERM HOLIDAY
Monday 15 April	Friday 19 July	Bank Holiday: Monday 6 May 2019 Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May Good Friday – 19 April Easter Sunday – 21 April Easter Monday 22 April