



Dalton St Mary's CE Primary School

Autumn Term

Newsletter 3

19th September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

As we are now getting into the routines of the Autumn term the children are settling well and the structure of the school day is well established. There is one small area where parents could help to prepare their child for the beginning of the school day. When children line up at the start of the day we ask that you encourage them to line up independently and do not line up with them. This request applies to all year groups, thank you.

Swimming

During the second half of the Autumn term children from Years 4, 5 and 6 will have their swimming lessons from November 1st until December 13th. Swimming lessons remain on Thursdays and all children need to wear swimming costumes in line with our uniform policy. *In accordance with the County Swimming Policy, boys should wear swimming trunks and girls should wear a one-piece costume for swimming lessons. Earrings must be removed.*

We would also ask that parents do not speak with their child either before or after their lesson and I also ask that parents do not try to communicate with their children through the viewing gallery. This can be distracting for the children and also for the adults who are instructing the children whilst they are swimming. Thank you.

Text Messages

We would just like to make parents aware that when school are sending text messages we do have a limited number of characters we can use. We would not want parents to find the tone of our texts abrupt as a result of the limited words we can use. We do hope that you find this means of communication effective.

Applying for Reception and Secondary School Places

I know the new school year has only just begun but for parents of children in our Nursery and Year 6 classes it is the time of year to be thinking ahead and making applications for the next stage of your child's learning.

The closing date to apply for a **Year 7 secondary school place is 31st October 2018** and the closing date to apply a **Reception place is 15th January 2019**.

If your child is in Nursery or Year 6 they will have brought home with them, yesterday, a two sided information leaflet explaining the process. If you have not received this information, or need help to complete an application please call the school office and we will be happy to help.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

This event is taking place in school on Friday 28th September. Parents and family members are invited into school between 10.00-11.00am to buy cakes and refreshments and vote for the winners of the cake design competition.

Children will be taking part in activities throughout the day which must be signed up and paid for before the event. Every child will have brought home a letter about these activities. Attached to the letter was a slip which detailed the activity choices for the event and the cost of each activity. Just like last year, there is a deadline for signing up to the activities. **All slips and money should be sent to school before 4.00pm on Tuesday 25th September**. Any requests for activities or money sent in after this time will not be included in the planning for the event.

Volunteering

If any Parents/Grandparents or friends of DSM 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

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
DSM Bake Off		Friday 19 th October 2018
Finish for Half Term		Friday 19 th October 2018
Back to School		Monday 29 th October 2018
Parent Evening		Monday 29 th October 2018
Whole School Individual Photographs		Wednesday 31 st October 2018

Extra-Curricular Activities

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

After School Clubs

Club	Leader	Day	Time	Comments
Multi Sports	Onside Sports	Monday	3.30 to 4.30	Reception and KS1 (2 places still available)
Craft Club	Mrs Rowe	Monday	3.30 to 4.30	Letters will come out next week to begin 24/09/18
Story Time	Mrs Ryder	Tuesday	3.30 to 4.00	Nursery and Reception – in the Reception Classroom – Just turn up!
Gymnastics	Mrs Dixon	Tuesday	3.30 to 4.30	Y4/Y5/Y6
Science and DT	Mrs Spence	Tuesday	3.30 to 4.30	
Netball	Mrs Pearson & Miss Brough	Tuesday	3.30 to 4.30	
Multi Sports	Onside Sports	Wednesday	3.30 to 4.30	KS2 (3 places still available)
Colouring Club	Mrs Ryder	Wednesday	3.30 to 4.15	To be held in Nursery
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	Currently Full
Performing Arts & Singing for Fun	Mrs Croskery/ Mrs Wright	Thursday	3.30 to 4.30	In the 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 (Closing date 28/09/18), April 2019 and September 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 totalling 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