



DILS News

Dunstable Icknield Lower School Newsletter Issue 4
29th September 2017



Thank you - to everyone who came along to the PTA AGM on Thursday evening and I am looking forward to working with our PTA over the coming months. The members of the PTA for this year are:

Chair - Laura Flowers
Vice Chair - Donna Saunders-Fern
Treasurer - Steve Kinson
Secretary - Lorraine Haynes

Look out for information about the PTA and upcoming events in future newsletters. One for the diary already is our Christmas Fayre on Saturday 2nd December from 12.00 until 3.00pm.

Congratulations - Shaan Bhadusia in 4L has been awarded his Brown Belt with one white stripe in Karate. What an achievement. Dara Scanlan in 2CS has passed her karate grading achieving her green belt. Arthur Peck in class 1W passed Level 1 of Swim England. Finally congratulations to Edward Wilkinson from 4L for winning the Dunstable Summer Library Reading Challenge. He won a signed copy of a Julia Jarman book which was presented by the author and a cake.

Seasonal illness has arrived – four weeks into the new school year, the weather has started to change and the usual childhood bugs have started to appear. To minimise the spread of bugs at home and at school, remind your children to wash their hands before they eat and after they have been to the toilet. Remembering to cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze and use a tissue to wipe noses also helps reduce the spread of common colds and bugs. Washing your hands for 20 seconds while singing happy birthday twice is a great way of making washing hands fun. Flu vaccinations will be taking place within school by NHS England, we will let you know nearer the time when this is arranged.

October is 'Walk to School' month – Did you know that a generation ago over 70% of children walked to school, whatever the weather. Now it is less than 50%. We would like all children who can walk to school to put on their warm jackets and walk to school in October. Walking is a wonderful habit for children to develop; it improves health and fitness, helps children develop their road safety skills and reduces the number of cars outside our school in the morning. So, remember October is 'Walk to School' month.

New school year, old challenges - It's challenging to send your child out into a hostile world, knowing they may struggle from time to time, but most often this is how they grow and learn. Here are some tips to help nurture independence in your child:

- Let your child manage relationships and communications for themselves; as quickly as children fall out, they become friends again.
- Help your child understand and accept the consequences for his or her actions. Many of the choices we make throughout life have consequences, and learning to deal with consequences now helps children make more carefully considered choices later.
- Encourage your children to solve their own problems by asking them to think about possible solutions.
- Listen to what your child has to say to encourage independent thought and critical thinking as this allows them to form and express their own values.
- Help children manage their own deadlines and schedules. A list or timetable in the house can help with this. For really young children pictures of things to do can be used.
- Encourage your child to respect the opinions of others.

Learn, Believe, Achieve



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Saving your child from consequences and challenges now only ensures he or she will face more challenges down the road.

Late Arrivals – If your child arrives late for school they should enter school via the front office and sign the late register. Children will then be directed to class by staff to cause minimal disruption to the other children.

Review of the Lettings Policy – We have reviewed our lettings policy and all hirers will be contacted by Rachel Norton to re-submit their paperwork by the half term holiday on Friday 20th October.

Reminder: Special menu days – We have two foodlicious special menu days coming up at school. On Thursday 5th October we have Tastes of Italy and on Tuesday 31st October we have a special Halloween menu.

Parents evenings 10th and 12th October – remember to check your child's bag for your appointment slip which teachers will be sending home next Tuesday.

Parking Wise, Saves Lives - As part of our parking campaign, next week **1W** will be undertaking the 'Parking Wise, Saves Lives' car parking patrol. Children in **1W** should come to school a little earlier, enter school through the front door and meet in the Library at 8.40am. Remember there is a free car park on West Street where parents can park for drop off and pick up to also support this initiative and encourage a short walk to school. From Monday 2nd to Friday 6th October it will be the turn of **2HS** to be on patrol.

Letters sent home this week		
Letter Content:	Who sent to:	Date sent:
Election for Parent Governors	All parents	25 th September
Parking Permit Application	All parents	29 th September
History Days	Year 2	27 th September