



Downham Feoffees
Primary Academy

Parent Newsletter 11 September 2017

Part of the CMAT family of Academies



Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely summer and your children have all enjoyed their first week back. We have been pleased by the enthusiasm of the children, as coming back after 6 weeks off is challenging. You will be aware of some of our staffing changes, but to welcome them again on our first newsletter, we have Miss Susan Jaques who will be taking on the role of Assistant Principal, as well as teaching Year 4 and leading the upper school and the schools Maths provision. We also have Mrs Sarah Mulford who will be our lower school leader and will also be working in Year 2. We also have a new face in the office, Mia Turner.

School pick up

Please ensure that if you are changing arrangements for school pick up for your child/children and it's after 2p.m. that you telephone the school office rather than email, so that a message can be sent to the appropriate class without delay to ensure they are at the correct place at the correct time.

Uniform

Any uniform ordered in the summer holidays will be arriving in the next 21 days. School trends are very busy with all their back to school orders and are working hard to get them all out as soon as possible. New uniform will most likely be implemented from next September to minimize disruption and cost to parents. We will do our best to ensure that the first basic set of logoed uniform is provided for the children who are already in the school, but we can't promise this will be the case. In the meantime, please keep your eye out for a letter regarding our current uniform expectations.

Lunchtime

Please note that the lunchtime times have slightly changed. Lunch is now 12.00-1.00 for the whole school.

Our catering contract remains with CCS so nothing has changed on the lunch front, except that the price of a meal has increased to £2.30.

Free school meals are provided to Key Stage 1, but from Year 3 upwards the meals need to be paid for as normal. At present these meals can be paid by cash or cheque. Unfortunately, we don't have an online payment system (previously we used Agora), but we are hoping that another system will be available soon. As soon as we know more we will make you aware. Please continue to pay as you have done previously with regard to frequency. A letter will be sent out every week with any monies owing with an aim of that to be cleared within 7 days.

With regard to snacks at morning break, Key Stage 1 receive a snack from the school, but again, from Year 3 upwards your child should bring in a healthy snack if they want one.

As said previously, we are awaiting the introduction of an online payment system so all services/items purchased through school i.e. Treetops, dinner monies, trips and uniform etc, need to continue to be paid by cash or cheque. An email was sent out in July about the withdrawal of the Agora payment system and this continues, so please do not make any payments using this. We appreciate that this is inconvenient, but hopefully it will just be for a short time.

Please note the new office email:
office@downhamfeoffees.org

Extra Curricular Activities



Due to popular demand All4Sports have made an extra session of Gym Club on a Tuesday and a new Drama Club on a Friday. As before, all bookings are made direct with All4Sports through their website.

Singing!

We have an exciting new extra curricular activity. We have the opportunity for our students to partake in signing lessons provided by Cambridgeshire Music. If your child is interested in this activity then please can you email the office by the end of this week (Friday 15th September), so we can assess the interest in the class and further details will follow on from there.



French club is now running Wednesday 12.30-1.00 for KS2 and Friday 12.30-1.00 for KS1. All bookings are still to be made in the normal way directly through Mrs Gallop.

Our very own, Mr Mutter was nominated as Teacher of the week and made it into 'The Week Junior'!



Parents Evening

Information for parents evenings will be sent out soon. Please keep an eye on the letters coming home with your children.

For our current Year 6 students.

On the 19th September, there will be an Ely College road show here at Downham Feoffees at 6p.m. this will be run by Richard Spencer, Ely's Principal. This is in preparation for the students to move up next September. The road show will also be held at the college on the 25th September, all are welcome to that. There is also an open evening that will take place on the 5th October at 5.30p.m. at the college.

Year 5

The final balances need to be paid for the Hilltop Visit by the end of this month.

We therefore ask that any outstanding balance be paid to the school office by cash or cheque by Monday 25th September. If you're unsure how much is left to pay please get in contact with the office.

Afterschool Club

With regard to the Treetops Afterschool Club and the Downham Feoffees website, nothing has changed. The booking forms for Treetops continue to be available through the school office or downloadable from the Downham Feoffees Primary School website.

There is no new website, although this may change in the future. It is currently being updated to reflect all the new information and staff, but this will take a little time.

From now on emails will be sent directly to you without the need for you to log into the eSchools service and Starz. There is also a facility for the school to text you.

Emails

An email was sent out over the weekend regarding clubs. Please can you let Laura in the office know if you did not receive it, either by sending an email to the office, or ringing in. We are aware some people are getting two lots of emails, we are working to get that fixed. If you are not on our mailing list and would prefer to get paper copies of the letters, could you also please let Laura know.

Thank you for your continued support as we teach your children. Please bear with us whilst we make changes and get used to our new systems!

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office@downhamfeoffees.org