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Principal: Mrs G Hay B.Ed. (Hons.) PQH

January



2020

Welcome Back

A huge welcome back to a brand new year! We hope you have all had a lovely Christmas Break and enjoyed New Year celebrations. We look forward to progressing and seeing what 2020 has in store for DPS!

DIARY DATES

Mon 6th: Staff Training
 Tues 7th: School Resumes
 P1 applications open
 Highland Dancing
 P6 Maths games homework begin
 Wed 8th: Musical Pathways
 Thurs 9th: Rev Stockitt Assembly
 Mon 13th: Non uniform day
 P1/2 Shared play @ St Michael's
 Flute resumes
 Tues: 14th: Highland Dancing
 P5/6's Shared Education begins
 Choir begins (during school day)
 Wed 15th: Musical Pathways
 P2/3 and P4's Shared Education begins
 Road Safety Competition
 Thurs 16th: CEF Assembly
 Tues 21st - Thurs 23rd: Parent Interviews
 Thurs 23rd: Rev McCrea Assembly
 Strabane Academy visit to P7
 Saturday 25th: AQE results
 Tues 28th: P6 parents AQE information meeting
 Thurs 30th: P1 applications closing date

This month's recognitions

HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to our pupil of the month in each class for December!

Ara in Mrs Young and Miss Sayers' class

David H in Miss Nutt's class
 in Mrs McCusker and Miss Sayer's class

Alesha in Mr Potts' class
 Erin in Mrs Timoney's class

Christmas Show

We are absolutely delighted to inform you all that our production of 'The Grumpiest Angel' made a grand total of £656. This is extremely valuable for our school funds to purchase useful resources for our school. We are extremely proud of how well the show went and every child gave their best performance! There most definitely is a lot of talented children in DPS. Thanks again for all of your support, it was amazing to see a packed hall.

Community Nominated Achievement Award

We are still running our community nominated award every month. This special award is for a child you feel has been going above and beyond outside of school. Maybe they have been helping a lot around the house, achieving in clubs outside of school or have been very brave to overcome something challenging. Pupils can be nominated by parents, grandparents, other family members or anyone from the community. If you or some-

one you know has someone in mind for this nomination please inform Mrs McCusker before the end of every month.

AFTERSCHOOLS CLUBS

Don't forget about our fabulous after school clubs. Spaces are still available in all clubs. During January Busy Bees (2-3pm) will be enjoying literacy and numeracy booster games for 10 minutes every day plus the following:

Monday: Indoor Play

Tuesday: Highland dancing / Construction Play

Wednesday: Story and Arts/Crafts
 Thursday: Outdoor Play / Physical games...

Friday: Free Choice Fridays!

Homework Club (3-4pm): complete homework with help from staff and complete AR reading, spelling shed games and mental maths activities.
 Late Club (4-5pm): spelling shed, activity sheets, table top games and construction toys available every day as well as the following planned activities:

Monday: PE games

Tuesday and Wednesday: Arts and Crafts

Thursday: Cooking

Friday: Football / Free Choice Fridays!

Join in any day 😊

School Tea towels

Every child in our school drew a picture of themselves and it was trans-

ferred on to a tea towel. They cost £5 each and are available from Miss Nutt. These tea towels would make a lovely gift or something to keep as a special memory of Donemana Primary School.

New Year, new start—Healthy Breaks

We would like to remind all children and parents of our healthy eating guidelines for breaktime, taken from the Department of Education's Food in Schools Policy: Children may bring:

- **fruit or vegetables**

Not suitable - fruit tinned in syrup, dried fruit (eg raisins, sultanas) and processed fruit bars (eg fruit winders, fruit flakes etc). These are high in sugar and can cause tooth decay.

- **bread based snacks**

This includes white or wholemeal bread, rolls or baguettes, plain bagels, wheaten, soda, potato or pitta bread, spread thinly with a little margarine, low-fat spread or butter; plain bread sticks or crackers, a small sandwich with a sugar-free filling such as tomato, tuna, chicken, cheese. Not suitable - Sugary spreads, including jam, honey, marmalade or chocolate spread as these are harmful to teeth. Peanut butter is high in fat and salt so is not recommended. No cereal bars, or sweetened breads and pastries, eg pancakes, fruit bread, malt loaf, brioche, croissants and Danish pastries as these contain a lot of sugar and/or fat and salt.

- **water** only in water bottles

House points will be awarded to children who follow the guidelines above at breaktime and a leaderboard of 'healthy' points will be on display in the assembly hall.

If you have any ideas as to how

we can further encourage healthy eating within school or any comments on what we are doing so far, please pop them into our school suggestion box outside Mrs Hay's office. Thank you

Parent Interviews

We plan to hold parent interviews on Tuesday 21st, Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd January. Parent interviews are extremely important for parents to get an insight into their child's learning and progress. An appointment letter will be sent out in advance. We hope you can attend!



AQE meeting

Mrs Timoney will be holding an AQE meeting on Tuesday 28th January @ 5.30pm. This meeting is optional and would be very beneficial if your child is in Primary 6 and plans to complete the AQE test.

Shared Education Plans

Our Shared Education journey with St. Michael's PS continues this year. Our P1/2 class had an excellent experience throughout the months of November and December meeting for play and studying the 'Toys' topic. P5/6 will be studying 'Victorians' together every Tuesday, P2/3 and P4 will be studying 'Animals and Winter'. At the end of January P6/7 will be studying 'The Blue Planet' together. Both schools will be visiting each other throughout these projects.



Our learning plans for January:

P1/2: Literacy: Jolly phonics g, o, u, l, f, b, ai, j and oa sounds. CVC word building and key words. (P1) Key words, capital letters and full stops. Recount writing (P1) Numeracy: Time. Number bonds within 5 and money (P1) Addition, Doubles and number names (P2) WAU: If you go into the woods today.

P2/3: Literacy: Rhyme and Poetry. Numeracy: Money (change) and subtraction. WAU: Animals in Winter

P4: Literacy: Poetry topic, commas in list and speech. Numeracy: Division and Time WAU: Animals in Winter ICT: Excel

P5/6: Literacy: Poetry, adverbs, comprehension, their/there/they're, homophones Numeracy: x10/x100/x1000, Long Multiplication, Fractions, Calendars, IZAK9 and Handling Data ICT: Spreadsheets WAU: Inventions and Ingenuity

P6/7: Literacy: story writing, poetry, similes, onomatopoeia, haiku and conjunctions. Numeracy: area, time, decimals and fractions. WAU: Reach for the Stars