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02871398633

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

# February



# 2020

## DIARY DATES

Mon 3rd– St. Michael's play date with P1/2

Tues 4th– Highland Dancing

Thurs 6th– Rev Stockitt Assembly

Fri 7th– Families First Awards

Fri 7th– P6 and P7's swimming begins

Tues 11th– Safer Internet day

Highland Dancing

Wed 12th– Scripture Union re-starts 3-4pm

Thurs 13th– 'Den Day' (non-uniform)

Rev McCrea Assembly

Fri 14th– Wed 19th School closed (Mid Term)

Thurs 20th– School Resumes

CEF Assembly

Tues 25th– P7 Maths games begin  
NSPCC talks

Highland Dancing

Wed 26th– Scripture Union 3-4pm

Thurs 27th– Pupil of the Month Assembly

## This month's recognitions

Jake in Mrs Young and Miss Sayers' class

Maisie in Miss Nutt's class

Alfie O in Mrs McCusker and Miss Sayers' class

Adam in Mr Potts' class

Lily in Mrs Timoney's class

Rihanna Y Writer of the Month

## Fundraising

We're now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to

shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! All you need to do is sign up and remember to use easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It's easy and completely FREE! These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us.

Retailers include Argos, amazon, booking.com, EasyJet...and many more.

## AFTERSCHOOLS CLUBS

Our busy bees 2-3pm will be continuing this month. For a treat, they will be making valentine's buns. Yummy! They will also be completing lots of fun art activities, structured play, stories and puzzles.

Homework club is still available every day from 3-4pm.

During Late club, 4-5pm, children will still be cooking every Thursday throughout February. As well as cooking, children will experience art, games and have the opportunity to practise their spellings skills through Spelling Shed– this is a big favourite at the moment!

As most parents will know from previous communication, we have been hoping to see increased use of Late Club to ensure its continuation. Unfortunately numbers of children participating have remained really low and the costs associated to run it far exceed the parental contributions and Extended Schools funding which support it. We would like to express a huge thank you to Alex, Miss Browne, Joanne and Lizzie for all

their effort with the club over the last number of years and we will be very sorry to see it come to an end in June. If the ending of late club presents parents with childminding difficulties please get in touch with the school office and we will try to suggest alternatives for you.

## Our learning plans for February:

**P1/2:** Literacy: Stick Man Novel study, Key words, z, w, ng, v, u and x sounds

Numeracy: Money, Number bonds (P1) Subtraction (P2), Time word problems & Venn diagram.

WAU: If you go down to the woods today

**P2/3:** Literacy: Instruction writing and self checking

Numeracy: Money, Subtraction. Vertical Tens and Units (P3)

WAU: Animals in Winter

**P4:** Literacy: class novel- 'Hodgeheg', poetry and report writing

Numeracy: division, time and problem solving

WAU: Animals in winter

ICT: Research skills and using publisher

**P5/6:**

Literacy: poetry, creative writing, they/their/their's, prepositions and comprehension.

Numeracy: fractions, handling data, problem solving and IZAK9.

ICT: Spreadsheets

WAU: Inventions and Ingenuity

**P6/7:** Literacy: Poetry, metaphors and speech.

Numeracy: Fractions, data handling, division and multiplication.  
WAU: Blue Planet

### Half-Term Holidays

We will be enjoying our mid term break during the month of February. School will be closed from Friday 14th February and will resume on Thursday 20th February. We hope all of our wonderful pupils and staff enjoy this break!

### Road Safety Quiz

We are so delighted that four of our fantastic Primary Seven pupils came second place in the local heat of the Road Safety Quiz. It was a very close call with only one point difference between DPS and the winning team. The fabulous four are now set for the finals in Belfast on 1st March 2020. Watch this space!



### Cycling safety

Although we do encourage physical activity and think it's great to see children cycling to school, we also strongly advise our pupils to wear helmets when doing so. Please only bring your bike or scooter to school if you are wearing a helmet.  
Thanks

### 'Den Day'

Our super school council have organised a new event 'Den Day' in a bid to raise money for our school funds. This will take place on Tuesday 13th February. For this special day, pupils can wear their own clothes and bring in £1 each or £2 each for own clothes and also a teddy bear from home. During den day pupils will be making dens in their classroom to read in and complete their activities. It would be greatly appreciated if pupils could bring in old sheets, blankets, pillow cases, pegs, string etc. to make

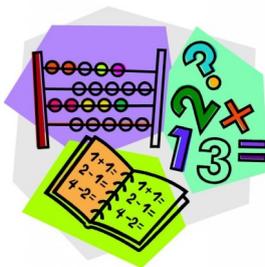
dens.

### Child protection Reminder

We continue to encourage all parents and visitors to report to the school office on entrance to the school. This is to ensure that we are aware of who is in the building at all times. Your child's safety is paramount! Thanks for your co operation.

### P7 Maths Games

Mrs Timoney will begin a 'Maths Games' after schools club on Tuesday 25th February. This will run every Tuesday 3-4pm for 6 weeks. This is open to all Primary 7 pupils and is a great opportunity to boost pupils' numeracy skills.



### ECO Afterschool club

The New Year has begun and we are looking forward to starting our ECO Afterschool club on Thursday 27th February 3-4pm. Please keep an eye on the website and social media for all the wonderful new projects which are to come! The main focus for our school this year is to reduce WASTE by reducing, re-using and recycling.

### Superstar Pupils

A very special mention to our wonderful Primary 7 pupils who all received fantastic AQE results. Their hard work and commitment in preparation as well as during the tests was something we are all very proud of. Each child followed our motto to be the 'Best they can be' well done!

### Exemplar Education

You will be receiving a letter and reply slip from a company called Exemplar Education who sell access to a website for additional help for

pupils. If we get 30% pupil return rate on the reply slips we get rewarded by the company—even if you tick 'no' so please ensure you send back in the slips—1 per child. Thank you.



### Families First Awards

We are all very excited and privileged to have been nominated as best school for the Families First awards. As well as best school, Mrs Hay has been nominated as best principal, Mrs Timoney for best teacher and Alex as best additional staff. A special thank you to everyone that has taken the time to leave a comment on the website and we look forward to the awards night. Fingers crossed for our amazing school and fabulous staff!

### Friends of DPS Association

Huge thanks to all of those parents and friends who have signed up for our new version of our PTA. There is still time to join if you missed the AGM. We are asking for a commitment to attend approximately 7 meetings a year and help plan and run 1 event per term going forwards. Contact Mrs Hay or Caroline Young to join. If you would like to put yourself forward for the position of Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer or Secretary also let us know as Committee members will be asked to vote members into these positions before half term. We can't wait for our superb pupils to benefit from more fun events and the resources that the funds raised will buy.

### Wish List

If you are out shopping and could spare a donation to the DPS store cupboards our teachers would really appreciate:

- \* PVA glue
- \* Glitter
- \* Art paper

