

November / December

2021

Diary Dates

1st Nov: Closed
2nd Nov: Staff Development Day
10th Nov: School Photos (Tempest)
16th Nov: CEF bubble assemblies
20th Nov: AQE test 1
27th Nov: AQE test 2
3rd Dec: Christmas Daily mile
4th Dec: Final AQE test
9th Dec: Flu vaccinations
10th Dec: Christmas treat for our pupils (and teachers!) Tom Sweeny bubble concerts
14th: CEF bubble assemblies
15th: PTA Santa Event—subject to Government Covid Regulations
21st Dec: Half Day

Entry to the school site

In the interest of health and safety for all pupils and community members please only enter the school site via the pedestrian gate. Safety crossing the staff car park cannot be assured especially as there can be buses and delivery lorries reversing out of this car park.

Bus safety

A leaflet for parents is available at:

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/Road%20safety%20education%20leaflet%20-%20Bus%20safety%202019.pdf>
Please ensure you reinforce with your children the importance of being sensible and safe on the school bus. Also, that they must wear their seatbelt at all times and not distract the driver.

Healthy Break

Parents are reminded that we operate a healthy break policy in Donemana Primary School. Please refer to this leaflet: <https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/2019-06/Healthy%20Breaks%20for%20Schools%20A5%20Leaflet%20ENGLISH.pdf> for items that are allowed for break in school. Crisps, biscuits, buns and cakes are not allowed for break. Also, only water is allowed in water bottles, not juice. Thank you for your cooperation.

Christmas Daily Mile

On Friday 3rd December we will be participating in the Christmas Daily Mile. All children are asked to wear Christmas jumpers to school and we will be going on a 1 mile walk around the village.

We will also be posting our Santa letters on our walk. A permission slip will come out via the app and only children for whom we receive permission will be able to join us.

Christmas Production

Due to the current restrictions our Christmas production will be online this year. Watch out for the release in December and enjoy sharing it with friends and family.

DPS Family and Friends Association

Halloween Disco

A HUGE THANKYOU to all those who helped make our school disco such a success. The children had great fun and just over £300 was raised for PTA funds, all of which will be spent on improving our school facilities and resources for all pupils to enjoy.

Christmas event

Our Family and Friends association is busy planning a Christmas extravaganza! If current Covid government regulations remain as they are we will be having a fun family event on

15th December 2021. More information is included with this newsletter...keep reading :-)

Sickness

If your child is unwell and not attending school please telephone us on the first day of their sickness to let us know.

IF YOUR CHILD HAS ANY SYMPTOMS OF COVID 19 THEY MUST STAY AT HOME AND TAKE A PCR TEST. IF POSITIVE THEY MUST ISOLATE FOR 10 DAYS AND IF NEGATIVE THEY CAN ATTEND SCHOOL.

It is vital that all families follow this guidance to ensure we can keep our full school community safe.

Where a pupil displays gastrointestinal symptoms such as diarrhoea or vomiting they must not attend school until they have been symptom free for 2 days.

Money

Dinner money must be sent to the school on a **Monday for the week ahead, clearly labelled with your child's name and the days he/she is eating dinner.**

All other money coming to school must be sent in a clearly labelled envelope, a different envelope for each activity please.

Face coverings

Thanks so much for your co-operation so far, you have all been fantastic! We continue to ask parents to wear a face covering if they have made an ap-

pointment to meet a teacher. Parents are not permitted to enter the school building if they have not made an appointment.

October Pupil of the Month Awards

We had Pupil of the Month awards given to pupils for some excellent work throughout the month of October. They were:

Lily in Mrs Young and Mrs Hay's class

Hannah in Mrs Connor's class

Taylor in Mrs McCusker/Miss Sayers' class

Ollie in Mr Potts' class

Matilda in Mrs Timoney's class

Learning For The Month

All classes will continue to focus on health and well being as well as respiratory hygiene. Other things we will be covering:

P1/2: Literacy: word building with the first set of sounds; learning ck, e, r,m,d, g, o, u, l, f, b, word blending and building, Listening skills, pencil skills; writing skills, reading for fluency, key words (P2)

Numeracy: Numbers 0-5, sorting (P1) Numbers 0-20, bigger/smaller numbers, number names, (P2)

WAU: Toys and CHRISTMAS :-)

P2/3: Literacy: Reviewing letter sounds, phonics spelling and independent sentence writing. Numeracy: Addition/subtraction, Time: o'clock and half past times

WAU– Autumn and Christmas

P3/4: Literacy: Nouns, verbs and adjectives. Santa letters and 'Flat Stanley' (novel study). Numeracy: 3D Shape, Addition and Subtraction and Problem solving.

WAU: 'I am unique' (focus on the body organs and their roles)



P5/6: Literacy: Adjectives, Verbs, Alliteration, Proofreading and

Comprehension.

Class Novel: 'Danny the Champion of the World.'

Numeracy: Time (Durations), Column Addition, Column Subtraction (Decomposition) and Problem Solving.

ICT: Coding using Scratch.

WAU: The Animal Kingdom.

P6/7: Literacy: letter writing, newspaper reports, speech marks, onomatopoeia, alliteration, proofreading, comprehension, 'Boy in the back of the class' (novel study)

Numeracy: measure, coordinates, shape and angles

WAU: Space.

Wish List

There are a few items which we are looking for and if you can help that would be great :-)

P1/2 are wishing for:

Old shallow small trays you no longer need, e.g. old cake tins

Thank you!



The new DPS Friends and Family Association are planning a Santa evening on Wednesday 15th December 2021. Due to current Covid restrictions the event will be **strictly timed** and numbers will have to be limited. Due to this we are asking families only to book if you **do not** already have a family Santa experience booked elsewhere. After this we will open for general admission. This event is only open to enrolled pupils, younger siblings and parents. We are asking support bubbles to book in at the same time slots. The event will be mainly outdoors, regardless of the weather, and our elves will be reminding families to maintain social distancing.

All included in the price, there will be a:
Winter woodland of lights to explore and take photos in
Christmas decoration to make and take home
Reindeer food to make and take home
And an outdoor movie playing to watch

Children will also receive a snack pack and a gift from Santa.
Adults will receive a hot drink and a festive treat.
A photo in a festive sleeve is also included.

Cost:
£10 per child
£5 for children aged 1-3
Free for children under 1
£2.50 for adults

This is all subject to Covid regulations remaining as they are. Changes in Government regulations could mean the cancellation of the event.

Bookings will be done via an online form which will be sent out via our school app and no money will be requested until closer to the time.

We understand that there may be some disappointment as we cannot accommodate all families due to the current pandemic, however, the most important thing is that all our pupils have the opportunity to see Santa somewhere and have a magical Christmas experience.