



# Downham Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

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Headteachers: Mrs H. Craig B.Ed. (Hons). N.P.Q.H. Mrs S. Wilson B.Ed. (Hons). N.P.Q.H.

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2012

## Assembly

Over the next two weeks we will be looking at the miracles of Jesus. Please do share one with your children during a reading session.

## Life in school

Clubs have started this week. We would like to thank the many members of staff and parents who give freely of their own time to offer clubs to the children.

Anne Schweg Fielding a professional mosaic artist has been in school this week working with some children on designing a mosaic for the entrance area of the school. She will be returning next week under the direction of Miss Bannister to work with children on the making stage. We are very excited about the outcome.

This week the children have enjoyed the NED show as part of positive attitude week in school. The children have been taught that to be "champions" in life it is vital to Never give up, Encourage others and Do your best. This was introduced by a storytelling presentation including yo-yo tricks. The children have been taught to use yo yos responsibly and these are encouraged in school within the safety boundaries set up. Yo-yos are available for sale in school until next Wednesday.

## Virtual Learning Environment

We are very much looking forward to all the benefits our new virtual learning environment will bring to all children in the school. As you know this replaces e-folio and offers a wealth of ICT opportunity including the children being able to e-mail other children in their class and their teacher within a secure environment which can be fully monitored by the school. We would like to encourage children to use the opportunity to e-mail their teachers to support their learning and pass on ideas and interesting facts about their topics. This is a facility only open to children. May we remind parents that should they need to contact the classteacher appointments can be made via the school office.

## Community

Billericay Parents Forum is offering a free 5 week course to help parents with the issues around raising children. Please see the information in the attachment if you wish to attend.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Ramsden & Downham Scout Group

The 1<sup>st</sup> Ramsden & Downham Scout Group are recruiting in the Cub Scout Section. This is aimed at children between the ages of 7½ and 10½.

Scouting is a good way to get your young people involved with many exciting activities. Skills can be learned and badges earned in Archery, Knotting, Abseiling, Fire Lighting, Camping, Canoeing, First Aid and lots more.

Scouting encourages young people to work in a team and also brings out the best in individuals. Cubs also learn to 'Do Their Best' in every situation and soon realise they can achieve more than they ever thought possible.

They are a friendly and dedicated group and enjoy our Scouting.

For a registration form or for more information please contact the Leaders:

Janet Jeffree - 01268 710559 - email [clive@jeffreec.freereserve.co.uk](mailto:clive@jeffreec.freereserve.co.uk) or

Debbie Sales - 01268 733732 - email [sailsey@gmail.com](mailto:sailsey@gmail.com)

### Home school attendance officer

Dawn Taylor has been appointed to work with Downham school. She will be completing register sweeps, lateness check and working to raise school attendance across a number of local schools.

### Safeguarding

In line with recent county guidance, best practice recommends that full names are avoided in communication to the wider community. It has been decided that in future newsletters we will use only the children's first names and the first initial of their surname.

### Green book entries

Staff sends children to us if a child has produced an especially good piece of work, tried very hard or shown very good behaviour. They receive a Headteacher sticker and they write their name into the 'Green Book'. This week the entries are:

- Charlotte L for a fantastic story
- Aaron A for reading all his words
- Bryony B for learning to count backwards and even practising on Christmas day!
- Sydney A for her guitar playing
- Charlie C, Emma N and Amy J for good writing
- Matthew G for a good book review
- Emma R for outstanding literacy work; all answers correct and neat presentation too.
- Ellie C for excellent maths completing fractions problems without a times table card.

### Out of School Successes:

Please continue to inform the school if your child achieves an out of school success and encourage them to bring certificates and awards in to assembly on a Monday. . We would love to celebrate their achievements with them.

Congratulations this week goes to:

Fynley E for his swimming certificate

Brooke for her tap dancing award

Katie B for her acting exam

Francesca W for her 'player of the match' award in her football match

Lizzy S for her 'Player of the Match' award for her football match

Meghan J for her 100 metre swimming award

Paynton H for being awarded stages 1,2,3 and 4 STA Stanley swimming certificate

### Dance Awards

We are proud to be able to award dance trophies to the following children:

**Award One** - Libusha D, Jessica D, Bella C, Katie C, Lydia B, Francesca C, Daisy C, George L, Abigail T, Demi T, Holly S.E, Antonia B, Evi E

**Award Two** - Amy J, Kira P, Emma R, Nancy S

**Award Three** - Isabella H, Charlotte R, Madeleine T, Bella B

**Award Four** - Emily W, Sophie W

**Freestyle Solo** - Michaela M.

### Star Of The Week for this week and last week

<b>Headteacher 3Cs Award</b>  <b>Sophie from ES for always being polite with a smile when delivering the registers</b>	<b>JA</b>  <b>Cory G</b>  <b>Claudia C</b>	<b>KN</b>  <b>Francesca C</b>  <b>Riley R</b>	<b>MM</b>  <b>Rosie F</b>  <b>Lola N</b>	<b>LB</b>  <b>Toby G</b>  <b>Jessica H</b>
<b>CW</b> <b>Emma G</b>  <b>Olowier G</b>	<b>ES</b> <b>Findley T</b>  <b>Charlotte L</b>	<b>GE</b> <b>Jackson F</b>  <b>Cameron B</b>	<b>VB</b> <b>Maddison M</b>  <b>Jake P</b>	<b>RP</b> <b>Eden P</b>  <b>Abigail M</b>

**Letters e-mailed last week and this week:**

**Headteachers Termly Newsletter and Questionaire**  
**Class Newsletters**  
**Great British Kids**  
**Tag Rugby for Year 3 & 4**  
**Phonics for Year 1 & 2**  
**Mosaic Artist**  
**Swimming**  
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Yours sincerely,

*Helen Craig / Sue Wilson*  
*Headteachers*

