



Downham Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

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Autumn Term 2011

Friday 7th October 2011

Assembly

We are looking at the theme of saying thank you as we prepare for the time of Harvest.

Life in school

Thank you to everyone for coming to our Harvest Thanksgiving Service and well done to all the children for their singing and narration. A special thank you for the donations of food. These have been boxed up by the children this week and will be collected by 'Harvest for the Hungry' and distributed to people in Bulgaria. Our thanks also to Miss Boyd for organising the assembly and to Simon Cox and Stephen Robertson for leading the prayers.



All children in Key Stage 2 are currently working on a multiplication maths target. Children will be using their Times Table Award Cards to help them identify which table and skill they need to learn next. For example, if a child achieves the bronze level sticker, then they can say a table in order from zero to twelve. A silver level means a child can answer questions about a table in any order and gold level means that a child can also say the related division fact. This year we have introduced the 'Terrific Tabler' board. Children add their names to the display once they have completed that aim. We also have the 'Fill in 5' board where children have to complete a blank times table square in less than 5 minutes. If anyone can complete a blank square in less than 3 minutes, they must compete against Mrs Craig! For our able mathematicians, the challenge is to complete a blank times table square where the tables can be in any order. Children in Key Stage 1 are also working on a number related target. Please speak to your child about their maths target and help them to practise at home. **Tip for Parents - Why not google "Hit the button" for some quick fire tables and number bonds practice. You will find a variety of interactive games to help your children.**

We welcomed back Sam our drumming teacher this week. Each class will work with Sam for a drumming lesson each fortnight as part of their learning in music. Sam also teaches an extra enrichment lesson with our talented drummers.

Class ES enjoyed their trip to Hyde Hall to support their learning about plants. Thank you to the parents who helped on this trip

PTA News

The disco raised £193.02. Thank you to all the parents and staff who gave their time in running the event. You will shortly be receiving your child's Christmas card design and ordering arrangements from the PTA. Please be aware that you will need to have this returned to school by Friday 12th October so that the printing and prompt return to school can be secured.

Harrods Coach Trip - Saturday 12th November

There are still spaces available - please leave a message for Georgie Berry via the school office to book your place.

School Ball Raffle & Auction Plea

As you are aware the school ball taking place at Stock Brook is upon us and we are requesting donations for Auction prizes and Raffle prizes to help us raise as much money as possible for our school. Please let us know if you can donate anything or if you have any great ideas that you have seen at past events that we can use. All donations can go via the school office or contact either of the following: Louise Pease, Jo Flood, Georgie Berry, Lianne Bull or Frances Foley.

Notice Board

Please take time to look at the notice board at the front of the playground for new and useful PTA information.

School Closure Insurance

Please take a look at the school closure insurance leaflet coming home in your child's book bag. For every insurance policy taken out, the school receive £2.

Golf Day - 18th November

Please see the notice attached to this newsletter for further details.

School Council News

The school council have held their second meeting of the year this week. They have identified new play equipment that they would like and new storage and the PTA will be funding this. They are currently working on ways to ensure play equipment is looked after and thinking of ways to raise money for Children in Need next month such as a sponsored event.

Parent Helpers

Each year many parents volunteer to help in school. This can be in different ways such as supporting with PTA events, helping on class trips, helping with gardening and clubs. Another way you can help is by supporting a class for a morning or afternoon each week. If you are interested in doing this, please leave your contact details with the school office and Miss Edwards will contact you to arrange a meeting to talk about helping in school and our policy.

Out of School Successes:

Please continue to inform the school if your child achieves an out of school success. We would love to celebrate their achievements with them. We share out of school successes in our whole school assembly on Monday. Congratulations this week goes to:

- ✓ Georgia Murrells for swimming a whole length on her back
- ✓ Holly Wheeler for swimming 100metres and achieving her rainbow award.

Green book entries

Staff send 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 Josiah for her spelling homework
- ✓ Ben paradise for neat work
- ✓ Charlotte Richbell for her homework about lions
- ✓ Ella-May Smith for good writing
- ✓ Charlie Cole for his work on saving the lion cub
- ✓ Abbie Kirkman for her art work and explanation about the sun, moon and Earth

- ✓ Ellie Sherwin for completing the times table square in 4 minutes and 28 seconds (twice!)
- ✓ Harry Baker for trying hard with presentation and producing neat work

Star of the Week

Each class has a star of the week. This is a different child or adult every week. The class share what they believe are the qualities of that child. Congratulations to the children who are 'stars of the week'.

Apologies to Lauren Webber (who achieved the Headteacher Award last week) as we misspelt her surname.

Headteachers' Award Matthew Gill for being considerate by finding and putting play equipment away at hometime	Class JA Rachael Hunter-Beal	Class KN Teddy Rutland	Class LB Daisy Collins	Class MM Alfie Aiderton
Class G/E Marney Easen	Class ES Thalia Mitchell	Class CW Peter Cronin	Class VB Nathan Wallbank	Class RP Morgan Teichman

Yours sincerely,

Helen Craig / Sue Wilson

Mrs Craig and Mrs Wilson

Headteachers

Letters that have been emailed this week:

Year 1 & 2 Phonics letters

Year 5 Enhancement Trip to Mayflower



Registered Charity Number: 1133430
Company Number: 6997931



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Golf Day – 18th Nov 2011

Raising Funds for the PTA



- Arrive from 9:30am
- Coffee and Bacon Roll
- Tee opens 10:30am for 18 Holes
- 19th Hole.....
- Ham Egg & Chips
- Raffle & Presentations
- Back to Nags Head Pub for Live Band

For more information / to book you place either as a team or individual please contact:

Gary Panaghiston Mb: 07793 425279

email: gary.panaghiston@baesystems.com

Cost of day £40 (£10 deposit required)



Could you or your company
sponsor prizes or trophies?
Please call me – Thank you



Max. numbers apply so book early !!!!!