



Downham Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

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Friday 25th November 2011

Assembly

This week we have continued our theme on the disciples.

School life

As you may recall from our initial Headteacher letter in September we are having a big focus on encouraging children to be organised and responsible for their own equipment. Children in KS2 were all given a labelled pencil, (pen from year 4) ruler and eraser at the school at the start of the year and they will be expected to look after this equipment. This week we have asked all the children in Key stage 2 to show us these resources. We are proud to say 64 children out of 148 still had all these resources. Congratulations to all these children. It is fantastic to see them taking greater responsibility for their equipment. Please encourage your child to look after their equipment and if they are taking their school equipment home for homework, please ensure they return it the next day.

Health and Safety

One of our parents has warned us that when cars are parked by the last four houses along Church Road there is a ditch to the side of the road. If people pull over to give way, cars may fall down ditch and the road becomes gridlocked. This has already happened three times. Please be careful with your parking.

PTA News

The golf day £2700 and the ball raised £3874. This is a fantastic amount. Thank you so much for all our parents and their friends who attended either event. We are very grateful to the PTA who worked so hard at arranging such fantastic events.

Tickets

We have been offered two tickets for the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Film Music gala in the Royal Albert Hall at 7.30pm on Saturday 5th May. The ticket price is £48. If any parent is interested in bidding for these tickets, please let the school office know your name and bid. It could make a lovely present. The money raised will go to the PTA as they are fund raising for pupil laptops.

Netball

Our netball teams took part in the Central Venue League netball opening matches last week. Our A Team came second, putting up a great display with one win, one defeat and they also drew two. Our B team finished overall fourth. Well done to all the girls who took part.

Tag rugby

Last week our Year 5 and 6 Tag Rugby team took part in the Billericay Tag Rugby Festival and came first. This put us through to the Partnership Tag Rugby Final which took place on Tuesday evening. What a fantastic achievement! We finished overall fifth out of the 40 primary schools in the William De Ferrers Sports Partnership. Congratulations to our tag rugby team and a very big thank you to one of our parents, Mr Beadle, for all his hard work and dedication supporting our team.



Community

Ramsden Preschool are holding their Spring ball on Saturday 14th January. Tickets are £50 per person and some spaces are still available. Contact Julia Gladwin 710349 or Kerry Panaghiston 710791 if you would like a table.

Clubs

Please be reminded that next week (28th November - 1st December) is the last week for all before, lunchtime and after school clubs for this term. A new club letter with clubs available in the Spring Term will be sent to you next month.

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:

Ben Paradise for achieving his orange belt in kick boxing.

George Marsh who was 'Man of the Match'

Isabel Beadle for winning her rugby match

Katie Barrett for coming second in her acting competition.

Harry Furber for swimming 5 metres unaided.

Jasmine Riche and Summer Hicks for taking part in the Memorial Parade to mark Remembrance Sunday.

Jessica Hinder who competed as part of the SE Essex squad to gain a place in the Essex regional's. This was achieved. Well done Jessica.

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:

- Jessica Gladwin for excellent description in her writing in every lesson last week
- Jay Harding for fantastic writing with super words and punctuation
- Ashleigh Evans for independently writing her name
- James Neville for super writing about school

Star of the Week

Headteachers' Award James Neville being caring to others and a good friend	Class JA Evie Faulkner	Class KN Freddie Childs	Class LB Tilly Willoughby	Class MM Libusha Dickinson
Class G/E Kieran Ward Green	Class ES Bella Hancy	Class CW Kristina Marsello	Class VB Charlotte Josiah	Class RP Emily Woodhall

Letters that have been emailed this week:

**Class G/E VCOP Pyramids
Christmas Arrangements 2011
Strike Action**

Yours sincerely,

Helen Craig / Sue Wilson

Mrs Craig and Mrs Wilson

Headteachers