

Dewhurst St Mary Newsletter



Monday 11th September 2023

Dates for your diaries

This week will continue to hold our 'Meet the Teacher' Meetings to share information about the learning your child will be doing this term and some useful information to help the year run smoothly.

Meetings will be after school 3.15-3.45:

Year 2 Mon 11th Sept

Year 4 Tues 12th Sept

Year 6 Thur 14th Sept

Year 5 Fri 15th Sept

It would be great if you as a parent can attend. However, If you cannot make the meeting we will be able to share the PowerPoint with you.

TERM DATES

INSET DAY : Monday 25th September

Half term holiday: 23rd Oct– 27th Oct

INSET DAY: Friday 1st Dec 2023

Christmas holiday: 21st Dec– 3rd Jan 2024

Half term holiday: 19 Feb - 23 Feb 2024

Easter holiday: 29 March - 12 April 2024

OCCAISONAL DAY Fri 3rd May 2024

Half term holiday: 27 May– 31 May 2024

Break up Fri 19th July 1.30pm

Please remember attendance is mandatory and parents should plan their holidays around the above school holiday breaks. Holidays and days out will not be authorised. Please note that even brief term time holidays can affect children in school adversely. We appreciate your understanding and thank you for supporting us in improving attendance.

'Inspiring all to Dream, Believe, Achieve'

Last week was a hot, but fabulous way to start our year and seeing the children exploring our brand new playground was a real highlight. We have also invested in some additional playground equipment for children of all ages to use. We are waiting for our sunshade sail to arrive and we will start to discuss our plans with our school council this year and some playground markings for our tarmac area.

Next week we will be looking to take some photos and videos for our new school website. Please look out for more information about this later this week.

Some reminders...

- We have a strict no nut rule at school (we do have children in our school with serious nut allergies)
- No dogs on school grounds
- Please remind children to **walk their scooters and bikes across the car park** when entering or leaving school for the safety of all. Please remember all bikes and scooters are left at the owner's risk.

School Dinners –order before 8am

Yr1-6 must select their meal choices on the **School Gateway App**. Years 3,4,5,6 must ensure they are in credit to enable selection. If your child is poorly and absent from school you must cancel the order as the meal will be made and payment will be taken. Reception pupils will not be taking school meals this week but we will be setting this up with parents soon.

School Dinners

Yr1-6 must select their meal choices on the **School Gateway App before 8am**. This is the cut off time and amendments must be made before this time if your child is absent from school please remember to cancel the lunch order otherwise the meal will be prepared and you will be charged.

Free School Meals

We are encouraging all families to check whether they are entitled to benefit related free school meals. Please use this link to check:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>

You should do this even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and currently receives universal free school meals as if eligible, your child will be able to access the additional provision as detailed in our Pupil Premium plan such as additional resources, support in the classroom and uniform. If you're eligible for free school meals you can also get vouchers from your school for the holidays. Other help may be available via the [Household Support Fund](#).

Communication- Dojo and E-mail

We have put Teachers and Teaching Assistants into teams on Dojo to ensure communication is shared and notices are seen by the relevant member of staff.

Dojo is checked just before children enter school for any messages from parents and again at the end of the school day. So, if you have a message about collection of a pupil, please inform staff in this way. We do not use Dojo when school is closed, messages that are sent later in the evening are picked up the following morning.

'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

Our School Value; **TRUST**



John 14.1: Do not let your hearts be troubled.
Trust in God, trust also in me.

1 Corinthians 13. 6-7: Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices in the truth, it always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.