

Dewhurst St Mary Newsletter



Monday 2nd October 2023

Dates for your diaries

Family Sharing Assemblies 2.45pm

Friday Oct 20th Year 3

Friday Nov 3rd Year 2

Friday Nov 10th Year 1

Friday Nov 17th Year 4

Friday Nov 24th Year 6

Thurs 30th Nov Year 5

Reception will be busy practising for their nativity later this term, so their first family assembly will be in the Spring term. Lots of their learning in class is shared using their online learning journals

FODs AGM (Revised date) NOW FRIDAY 20th October (not 13th as previously planned).

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

'Inspiring all to Dream, Believe, Achieve'

Last week was such a busy week:

Monday we had our brilliant INSET by Jane Considine who took us through our new reading strategy we will be rolling out across the school. We hope to share this with you over the next few days.

We attended the Diocese Headteacher conference with other Church schools and did some excellent CPD around diversity and equality and courageous advocacy which are all on this year's School Development Plan.

Wednesday we welcomed our new parents from Reception into school to meet have a cup of tea and go through who's who and the EYFS expectations and ways they can help at home.

Today Miss Meale, Miss Gorton and myself visited a school in Welwyn as part of our work with the Maths Hub and we have been partnered up with a Maths specialist who will be visiting our school next Thursday afternoon to see where we are with our journey towards Maths Mastery!! He will work with Miss Meale (our Maths Lead) and Miss Gorton who is supporting this program to devise an action plan.

Friday we hosted the Local Heads Network here at Dewhurst.

School Dinners

You 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. **This can be done for weeks in advance, however, please do this in collaboration with your child to ensure they are happy with the choice.**

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.

If you are reporting absence please e-mail attendance@dewhurst.herts.sch.uk before 9am . If we have not heard from you we make contact to rule out a safeguarding concern.

All other queries or messages can be sent to admin@dewhurst.herts.sch.uk

'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.