

# Dewhurst St Mary Newsletter



Monday 9th October 2023

## Dates for your diaries

### Family Sharing Assemblies 2.45pm

Friday Oct 20th Year 3

Friday Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> Year 2

Friday Nov 10<sup>th</sup> Year 1

Friday Nov 17<sup>th</sup> Year 4

Friday Nov 24<sup>th</sup> Year 6

### Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> October** (not 13<sup>th</sup> 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 understanding and thank you for supporting us in improving attendance.

## '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.

## 'Inspiring all to Dream, Believe, Achieve'

### School Tours

Last week we had the first of our parent tours for our Reception 2024 class. If you know any pre-school pupils who will be looking to choose their school for September please let them know we have some more dates available to see our school in action.

### Geography Field Work

Last week Year 4 did some fieldwork in Cheshunt Park and this week it is the turn of Year 2 and Year 1 to follow a map and learn about our local area to support their learning.

### Packed Lunches

Most packed lunches provided by parents are balanced and provide a good alternative to a school dinner. However, we have a few packed lunches where there is minimal nutritional value and are high in sugar, hindering concentration for their child in class. Please have a look at these really useful websites to give some ideas of how to pack a great healthy packed lunch for even the fussiest of eaters.

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

or

<https://www.strong4life.com/en/feeding-and-nutrition/mealtimes/10-tasty-packed-lunch-ideas-for-school-aged-kids>

### School Dinners

Please remember to select 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.