



Downton Church of England VA Primary School

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Deputy Headteachers: Mrs M Ford & Mrs A Bates



happy new year

Friday 6th January 2023

Dear Families,

Happy New Year and a warm welcome back to all our children! We hope everyone has enjoyed celebrating Christmas and that the children enjoyed the magic of the festive season. The staff and I would like to thank you for all our lovely Christmas cards, presents and very generous contributions. They were all very much appreciated.



DPSA Meeting

The first DPSA meeting of 2023 is on Wednesday 11th January at 6:30pm at The Goat – everyone is welcome to attend. Please come along and learn about their exciting plans for this year, how you can get involved and to hear what all the fundraising efforts will be funding in school over coming months.

Breakfast Club

Just a reminder that children who are attending breakfast club must arrive by 8am as this is when breakfast is served and when all staff running the club need to be present in the hall to meet the correct ratio. While we do our best to ensure all children receive a breakfast, this can be difficult if they are arriving beyond 8am. Thank you.



Christmas Jumper Day

While Christmas may seem like a distant memory now, we wanted to share with you the total raised from our Christmas Jumper Day at the end of last term. The children really had a wonderful day not only wearing their festive knits, but also enjoying their Christmas lunch. We are delighted to say that we raised £100 for Save the Children – thank you for your support.

Open Classrooms

We are delighted to once again welcome our parents into school for our Open Classroom sessions which start next week. During the session, you will join your child in their classroom where they will be able to share their work with you and what they have been learning over recent weeks. Those attending the sessions, please enter school via the main office where there will be sheet for you to sign in and you can then make your way to your child's classroom. You will be able take your child home following the session.

For reference, the classes are invited in on the following dates:

Friday 13th January – Rabbits & Squirrels

Friday 20th January – Foxes, Dormice & Hedgehogs

Friday 27th January – Kestrels, Badgers & Hawks

Friday 3rd February – Stags, Owls & Falcons



DPSA Nearly New Sale

As part of our Eco-School Green Flag status & in support of the DPSA's pledge to promote sustainability in their fund raising we are pleased to announce a Nearly New Sale on Friday 27th January 2023 from 2:30pm - 4pm in the school hall. The DPSA will be offering all uniform, Christmas Jumpers, Nativity & World Book Day costumes. All items will be available for a minimum donation of £1. Come & grab a bargain & help raise funds for the children at the same time. **If you have any outgrown uniform, Christmas Jumpers, Nativity or World Book Day costumes you can donate to the event please drop them into the office during the first two weeks of term.**



Online E-Safety Workshop

On Tuesday 10th January at 6pm, Childnet are hosting an online E-Safety workshop for parents to find out more about screen time, privacy restrictions, age ratings and exploring the online world safely. If you would like to attend via Zoom, you can do so via this link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83348920553?pwd=UkljVnRpWVQ3eIV1VE4veDhWaHZUUT09>

Meeting ID: 833 4892 0553

Passcode: 400823

Adverse Weather Conditions

In the event of adverse weather conditions, we will make every effort to make the school site safe by clearing and gritting paths for access. Should there be heavy snow, we cannot guarantee that all staff will be able to get here should roads be hazardous, as many teachers and teaching assistants live much further away than parents. We aim to make a decision by 7.30am, it is never an easy decision to make because even if some of the children can get to school, staff may not and we need to have enough staff to operate safely. If an early morning decision is made to close completely, because it is considered that the site is unsafe or due to lack of staff we will send out a comms and put it on the school website and our Facebook page.



Lost property

We seem to have accumulated an array of lost property over the last 2 weeks of the term consisting mainly of odd/pairs of gloves and hats which are all unnamed. All labelled items are returned directly to the children so please ensure all their belongings are named – it really helps reduce items being lost in school. This is available in the office should you wish to come and check through it if you are missing anything.

I would like to say thank you to all of you who have greeted our team so warmly once again as we start this busy term.

Best wishes

Paula Carlton

