



2nd February 2024

Newsletter No. 8

St Dunstan's, Cheam, C of E Primary School

Message from Mrs Porter

Welcome to the final newsletter for this half term. It hardly seems possible, but with the days becoming slightly longer and the first signs of Spring emerging, we can look forward to the half term holiday in a week's time.

Here is a request from our Y6 pupil librarians Maryam and Manhal, who look after our 3 outdoor libraries that the children can access during lunchtime play. They are concerned, as am I, that some of the books are getting spoiled because of the weather they are exposed to all year round. Our request is for any tarpaulin that may be lurking in your garages or sheds that we could use as covers during the winter months to protect the books. If you are able to help with this please let me know.

I would like to extend our warmest wishes to all in our community who are celebrating Chinese New Year next week.

Finally we are delighted to share with you a letter we received recently, from The Right Honorable Damian Hinds, Minister for Schools, in response to being in the top 5% of the country for our most recent phonics results Summer 2023.

We are so proud of all the children!

Mrs L Porter

I knight you....

On Tuesday, Year 2 had a fantastic workshop all day when Queen Gwynevere visited to help us learn about life in a medieval castle. We joustted, played medieval games, dressed up as knights and medieval people and learnt medieval dances. We had so much fun learning and ended the day with the queen knighting us all!



Yummy Yummy

Year 3 had a wonderful chocolate workshop where they enjoyed learning all about the origins of

chocolate. They then

had the opportunity to create their own chocolate with toppings of their choice. The final excitement was using their senses to touch, smell and finally taste some delicious chocolate!



A wonderful day was had by all - including the teachers!



As you will have seen from the recent ParentMail, the PTFA are busy working on our annual plans

and we have some exciting fundraising events & experiences to share over the coming year. We are also talking about which initiatives we will be supporting to enhance our children's learning.

While we work to finalise a calendar for the year, we wanted to highlight a few things that we already have planned.

Our AGM is taking place Wednesday 7th February @ 7:30pm. If you'd like to attend please email ptfa.stdunstans@gmail.com

- February half term is nearly upon us and we'll be kicking off the holidays, Friday 9th February, with a non-uniform day. Our Mufti Days are a great way to work towards our fundraising for our classroom Chromebooks and donations of £1.00 would be appreciated.
- We will be working with Bags2School, an eco-friendly fundraising scheme who focus on textile recycling. We all have items in our wardrobes we haven't worn in ages and February half term is a great time to Spring Clean and get rid of unwanted clothing. This is a fantastic opportunity to clear out and get ready for Summer, raise money for our school and reduce waste in landfills. Stay tuned on how this exciting scheme will work and what you need to do.
- Summer feels a long way off at the moment but we're pleased to confirm that our popular Summer Fair will be held on **Saturday 22nd June**. Put the 'save the date' in your diaries.



PTFA

A visit by a dentist....

Year 4 were visited by Dr Patel and his team from Cheam Village Dental Studios, to learn more about teeth and oral hygiene as part of our "Burps, Bottoms and Bile" science topic.

The children learnt about the importance of brushing your teeth for 2 minutes using the right technique. We learnt some top tips such as: never rinse after brushing to keep the fluoride on your teeth for longer and rinse with water after eating to help protect the teeth. Dr Patel answered lots of our questions about the mouth and digestion - we were also able to share some of our knowledge too.

We were lucky enough to go home with goodie bags including a new toothbrush!



Attendance Awards

As you are aware, each week we issue certificates to the classes that have the highest attendance for KS1 & KS2. We are delighted to share the highest attenders of the this week with you:



Saturn & Cygnus

Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week 2024 will take place from 5th—11th February 2024.

This year's theme is 'My Voice Matters'.

Children's Mental Health Week is organised by the Place2Be charity and activities will take place in school across the week.

More details to follow in the next newsletter.



At St Dunstan's we take safeguarding our children very seriously and have very rigid safeguarding procedures in place. We would like to remind you to look at our Child Protection and Safeguarding procedures here:



<https://www.stdunstans.sutton.sch.uk/information/safeguarding>

HOUSE POINTS

St Andrew
107

St David
114

St George
103

St Patrick
94

Football Update

On Wednesday 31st January, the St Dunstan's Girls travelled to Shawley Community Primary Academy to play Dorchester Primary in the penultimate games of the season. During the match, the girls played with determination and resilience. It was a thrilling match to watch. Unfortunately, the girls were not able to win the match but they played amazingly well with eight players. The final score was 5:0 to Dorchester.

On Thursday 25th

January, the boys played a cup football match against Manor Park Primary School.



It was a difficult game but the team played well. The final score was 5:0 to Manor Park. However, the team are doing very well in the league table and currently remain unbeaten. Well done boys!

E-Safety

Last week, the Year 5 and 6 classes had an e-safety talk from Steve Welding, the

Education E-Safety Advisor for Sutton. The children learnt a great deal about how to stay safe online. Steve will be running a virtual presentation session entitled 'Keeping our children safe online' for St Dunstan's parents on **Wednesday 20th March, 6pm - 7pm**. A letter with more details will be sent out next half term, but please save the date.

'Stars' of the last two weeks.....

Nursery	Nora	Soe
Venus	Reyan	Steve
Pluto	Rio	Vianna
Neptune	Arad	Luoxi
Mercury	Yik	Aeon
Jupiter	Rebecca	Tin Ching
Saturn	Zach	Oscar
Delphinus	Laura	Lily
Phoenix	Subhaan	Celine
Orion	Ariana	Trinabh
Pegasus	Ashton	Lily
Unicorn	JJ	Daryna
Hercules	Sheryl	Elizabeth
Aquila	Mythili	Shayaan
Cygnus	Oscar	Henry

Place2Be's

CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK

5-11
FEB
2024

FEBRUARY 6
SAFER
INTERNET
DAY 2024
Together for a better internet

PTFA

**Annual
General
Meeting
Wednesday
7th February
7.30pm
(Online)**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(Dates may be subject to change)

February

w/c Mon 5 th	Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 6 th	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 7 th	Year 4 Swimming
	PTFA Annual General Meeting (see below)
Friday 9 th	PTFA Mufti Day
	Break up for Half Term
Mon 12 th —Fri 16 th	Half Term
Mon 19 th	Children return to school
Weds 21 st	Year 4 Swimming
Thursday 22 nd	Orion Class Assembly

Future Dates for your Diary:

March

Thurs 28th Break Up for Easter at 1.30pm

We have a large amount of lost property in school. Weather permitting, the items will be displayed outside the main entrance on Tuesday at pick up.



Congratulations to.....

Every year, children in Year 1 carry out a Phonics Screening Check. We are delighted to share this letter that we have received from Damian Hinds, Minister for Schools regarding the results for 2023.

Well Done to the current Year 2 cohort.



Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP
Minister for Schools

Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/contactus/dfe

Mrs Louise Porter
St Dunstan's Cheam CofE Primary School
Surrey
Anne Boleyn's Walk
Sutton
SM3 8DF

08 January 2024

L. Mrs Parker,

I am writing to congratulate you on your school's outstanding achievement in the 2023 Phonics Screening Check.

We want to ensure every child develops a firm grasp of phonics as the basis on which to improve standards of reading. As such I was delighted to see your results.

With 95 per cent of pupils in Year 1 at St Dunstan's Cheam CofE Primary School meeting the expected standard in the check, your school is in the top 5 per cent of all primary schools in the country.

The latest figures show that 83 per cent of pupils who met the expected standard in the check went on to achieve at least the expected standard in reading at key stage 2 in 2023, which underlines the importance of developing the ability to decode words effectively at an early age.

Your particular success in teaching phonics and early reading so effectively means your pupils are developing a firm foundation, from which they can become increasingly fluent and develop a lifelong love of reading.

I would like to thank you for your commitment and success in this vital area of a child's early education and congratulate you, your staff and pupils again on all you have achieved.

Yours sincerely,

Damian Hinds

Damian Hinds
Minister for Schools

Friendly February 2024

MONDAY



5 Make time to have a friendly chat with a neighbour

12 Focus on being kind rather than being right

19 Share something you find inspiring, helpful or amusing

26 Make uninterrupted time for your loved ones

TUESDAY



6 Get back in touch with an old friend you've not seen for a while

13 Smile at the people you see and brighten their day

20 Make a plan to connect with others and do something fun

27 Call a friend to catch up and really listen to them

WEDNESDAY



7 Show an active interest by asking questions when talking to others

14 Tell a loved one or friend why they are special to you

21 Really listen to what people say, without judging them

28 Give positive comments to as many people as possible today

THURSDAY

1 Send a message to let someone know you're thinking of them

8 Share what you're feeling with someone you really trust

15 Support a local business with a positive online review or friendly message

22 Give sincere compliments to people you talk to today

29 Acknowledge someone's problem or pain rather than trying to fix it

FRIDAY

2 Ask a friend how they have been feeling recently

9 Thank someone and tell them how they made a difference for you

16 Check in on someone who may be struggling and offer to help

23 Be gentle with someone who you feel inclined to criticise

SATURDAY

3 Do an act of kindness to make life easier for someone

10 Look for good in others, particularly when you feel frustrated with them

17 Appreciate the good qualities of someone in your life

24 Tell a loved one about the strengths that you see in them

SUNDAY

4 Invite a friend over for a 'tea break' (in person or virtual)

11 Send an encouraging note to someone who needs a boost

18 Respond kindly to everyone you talk to today, including yourself

25 Thank three people you feel grateful to and tell them why



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

We Have Been Recognised As The Best Children's Sports Coaching Provider in Surrey
<https://www.sme-news.co.uk/winners/community-advantages-sports-coaching/>

FEBRUARY HALF TERM FOOTBALL COURSE



St Dunstan's Primary School,
Anne Boleyn's Walk, Sutton, SM3 8DF

For Children aged 4 - 11 (Rec - Year 6)

Monday 12th February to
Wednesday 14th February

£25 per half day
(£20 per half day if you book three days)
9.00am - 1.00pm (Half Day)



£30 per full day
(£25 per full day if you book three days)
9.00am - 3.00pm (Full Day)



Coaching includes: Ball Skills, Fun Games and Matches.
Every child will receive a prize and there will be special additional trophies for excellent sportsmanship.
To book your place, please see details overleaf.

COMMUNITY ADVANTAGES

We Have Been Recognised As The Best Children's Sports Coaching Provider in Surrey
<https://www.sme-news.co.uk/winners/community-advantages-sports-coaching/>

FEBRUARY HALF TERM

Street Dance + Gymnastics

St Dunstan's Primary School,
Anne Boleyn's Walk, Sutton, SM3 8DF

Monday 12th February to
Wednesday 14th February

£25 per half day
(£20 per half day if you book three days)

9.00am - 1.00pm (Half Day)

£30 per full day
(£25 per full day if you book three days)

9.00am - 3.00pm (Full Day)



Boys and Girls aged 4-11 years
(Reception to Year 6)

Activities include Routines, Coordination Skills and Fun Games
To book your place, please see details overleaf.

COMMUNITY ADVANTAGES

ST DUNSTAN'S, CHEAM, C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
www.stdunstans.sutton.sch.uk Tel No 020 8642 5463