



November 2023

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Dear Parents,

What a start to November the weather has given us! Thank you for ensuring that your children are warmly dressed and have their coat every day now. Layers of clothing are best as the children can take layers off when they come inside and put layers on when they go outside!

For very positive news, we held our first open morning of the school year for prospective parents on 20th October. We had so many requests to attend the open morning that we had to close our doors! Our Year 6 ambassadors took visitors on tours of the school and we received overwhelmingly positive feedback about our ethos, values and educational provision. Our school is over-subscribed, full in every year group and with waiting lists for every class. We are grateful for the support parents give us when they choose St. Dunstan's for their children.

In less positive news however, I have sadly been receiving growing numbers of communications from parents regarding the situation with parking at drop-off and pick-up times. Please do read the separate School Comms that I will be sending out today explaining how everyone can help make a difference and ensure the safety of our children. Thank you.

This half-term is always a very exciting one in school for the children and we look forward to welcoming you to our next Partners in Learning session on Friday 1st December so that the children can share their learning with you in their classroom.

As always, lots of news and information shared herein...please do ensure you have all the dates and times in your diaries so that you can share as much as you are able.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement.

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Activities and Events

EYFS – Mrs H. Robbins: Reception Head of Year

All of the children loved our "Bear Hunt" workshop. We wandered through swishy swashy grass, squelched through mud and tiptoed through a cave before discovering the bear! We have all made our own story map to help us retell the story and have also written and drawn our favourite part of the story.

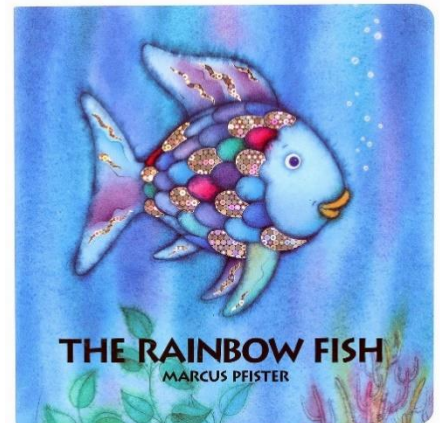
Our new theme for learning this half term is "People Who Help Us". We have already begun thinking about people in our school, family and community who have special jobs to help others. The children have loved exploring how to help others through stories and dressing up and are really looking forward to welcoming some visitors to support us in our learning.

In literacy, we are learning about the concept of rhythm and rhyme. We are reading "Oi Frog" by Kes Gray which has lots of funny animal rhymes. In our RE lessons, we will be learning that Mary was chosen by God to have a special baby called Jesus.

Year 1 – Mrs G. Corsini: Head of Year

Year 1 had a fantastic half-term and we could not be more proud of how well they have settled in. This has been helped by our regular RHE lessons, where we explore and discuss issues such as friendships and feelings.

In English the children really enjoyed exploring our focus text - The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister. Pupils worked hard to identify the character traits of the beautiful fish and focused on using rich vocabulary such as 'shimmering', 'vibrant' and 'generous'. It has been wonderful to see everyone in the year group using exciting adjectives in their writing! To summarise our learning, we made links to our RHE lessons about kindness and friendship, and created a whole class rainbow fish as a reminder to show love and respect to our friends.



Year 2 – Miss L. Butler: Head of Year

Year 2 were very surprised to find that a trick had been played on their classroom last half term! After discovering the culprit was the infamous Mr Twit, we have been learning to describe his personality and appearance. The children are very excited to begin November by continuing with this learning and write a descriptive piece about Mr and Mrs Twit.

We are looking forward to supporting our learning about the Great Fire of London with a visit from Surrey Education Fire Safety. In the next week please do ask the children to reflect on questions they can ask the fire fighters.



Year 3- Miss N. Maloney: Head of Year & Senior Teacher

The children in Year 3 are looking forward to their 'feet first' sessions. The children will learn road safety skills to enable them to walk to and from school with their parents or carers in a safe manner. As autumn is upon us and the evenings are getting darker much earlier, these are important safety skills for the children to learn. The training is run by Surrey County Council and will help to prepare the learners for walking to school independently when they are older.

Year 4 – Miss H. Fail: Head of Year & Senior Teacher



As part of Judaism Week, Year 4 visited the North West Surrey Synagogue in Weybridge. This was a great opportunity for the children to experience a Jewish place of worship. They learnt about how the Torah is kept in the Ark underneath the Eternal Light and how a yad is used to protect the scrolls when reading. The children were beautifully behaved on this visit and acted as true ambassadors for our school.

Another celebration at the end of the last half term was Year 4's Harvest Festival Liturgy. We were delighted by the commitment the

children showed to rehearsing their roles, including the readers, actors and percussionists. The dancers excelled themselves, as two of the children choreographed the routine and all dancers performed it gracefully.

Year 5 – Miss E. Roe: Head of Year & Senior Teacher



Inspired by the work of Julian Opie, Year 5 have created self-portraits in his style. They learnt how to blend colours and mix skin tones using paint. The Year 5 team were impressed with the children’s resilience and determination to make their portrait as accurate as possible. It was wonderful to see them working together collaboratively with this. There was much excitement on our visit

to the Lightbox which continued our learning journey about the Tudor monarchy and their local links to our town, Woking. There is great anticipation for our next trip to Hampton Court Palace next week.

Year 6 – Mrs T. Steer: Head of Year and Assistant Headteacher

After a busy start, where all 90 of us took part in a residential and we nominated our House Captains, the end of October gave us time to consolidate our strategies for learning and develop our leadership skills. Year 6 supported Mrs Birch amazingly for the first Open Morning, confidently and bravely showing 130 new parents around the school.

For November we are starting a new topic all about mountains, which will provide children with some great opportunities for creative art work, computing skills and to share their personal experiences of mountain ranges they may have visited.

With winter approaching and the clocks changing it has made the early evening much darker. It is important that children who are walking to and from school independently are doing so safely. It has been worrying, that there have been reports of Year 6 children walking in large groups or walking whilst reading their phones when outside the school gate. In class, we will be talking to children about road safety and we would appreciate your support by reminding your children of the importance of being careful and safe when walking to and from school. If your child is at an after school club, a reminder that we will ask them to be collected by an adult due to the darker evenings.

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Charity and Justice

Charity and Justice –Miss H. King Harvest Festival and Woking Food Bank

We were very appreciative to all the families who contributed to our food donations for the Harvest Festival. Woking Food Bank were extremely grateful to receive all of your generous donations. These donations will support local people in Woking who are in need of extra help this year. A big thank you to Mrs S. Genco and Mrs S. Saliba for giving up their time to help us transport all of the donations to the food bank, we really appreciate it. Some of our Year 5 Faith Ambassadors worked as a team to load the food into the car, as there were so many donations!



The Poppy Appeal – Miss H. King

As always, we will be supporting the Poppy Appeal this year. We have poppy stickers in the classrooms should you wish your child to bring in some coins for the collection and to donate to this important appeal.



Advent Giving – Woking Lions

For our Advent Giving this year we are excited to be supporting 'Woking Lions Club Caring Christmas Appeal'. Similar to previous year a Schoolcomms will be sent with suggestions of donations. However, some suggested items will include comfort items for the elderly, such as bath and shower items, gloves and slippers. These donations will be used by Woking Lions to support local families at Christmas time and to live out the Gospel Values of showing Jesus' love by serving those in need. Contributions are, of course, voluntary so if you are able to donate an item please allow your child to bring it in to their classroom between Monday 27th November and Friday 8th December.

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Children's Learning

Mrs G. Morganti – Head of School



For your information: Partners in Learning afternoons

The first Partners in Learning session has been organised for **Friday 1st December**.

The sessions are designed to allow you to spend time with your child/ren with their books in their classroom so they can talk about their learning and show you the work they are most proud of. The children truly look forward to these sessions to show you their classrooms and their books, so please make sure you have this date in your diary!

The sessions will start approximately 5mins after the children leave for the day as the class teacher needs to ensure all children are collected safely and have time to return to the classroom, before parents arrive.

As year groups leave at different times, please be patient and wait to be called in by the different entrances.

- For **EYFS and Year 2**: the 'little wooden gate' near Reception St Teresa's class.
- For **Years 1, 5 and 6**: the external classroom door
- For **Years 3 and 4**: the door next to the After School Club room on the KS 2 playground.

The times will be approximately:

Year R: 3.10pm
Year 1: 3.15pm
Years 2 & 3: 3.20pm
Years 4- 6: 3.25pm

The session ends at 4pm.

Please note: As corridors are busy at this time, and to ensure fire routes are kept unhindered, please do not bring buggies or prams into school. Thank you for your consideration.

Website- Children's Learning

Last year to help us prepare for the new website, many parents completed a survey to give feedback about the Children's Learning pages.

The feedback was very helpful and we have made and are preparing to make further changes to:

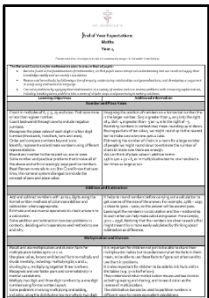


1. Have clear information about the learning, that is easily located.
2. Provide more information or resources to support parents with foundation subjects as well as the core learning
3. Have links between Google Classroom and the website to make it easier and simpler for parents to support children at home

To aid you locating what your child will be learning over each half term in all subjects, we have **added** to the Year Group Overview:

1. A summary of the maths learning for each half term
2. A summary of the grammar, writing and reading for each half term

Year Group	Maths	English	Science	History	Geography	Art	Music	Physical Education	Religious Education	Personal, Social and Health Education
Year 5
Year 6

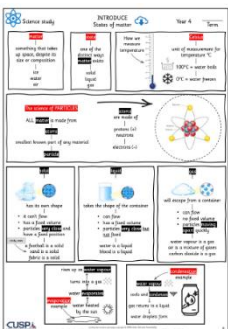


The National Curriculum [Maths](#) and [English](#) end of year expectations documents are still available to download.

These highlight the learning objectives that your child will be expected to have secured by the end of the year to be 'working at expected standard' in maths and English.

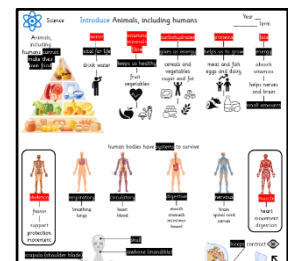
To support parents to know more precisely what the children will be learning, the new language they will be using and how the new learning builds on the learning in the previous years we will be sharing some new resources for both English and science.

Knowledge Organisers are a one-page document that:



1. Contain the essential content of the topic
2. Highlights the key vocabulary
3. Uses images to help convey the information and concepts in a clear, easily digestible way.

We will begin using Knowledge Organisers for English grammar and science with the children first and then share these via the website for parents with further guidance how to use them most effectively at home.



We are preparing short child led explanations- 'how to' videos- to model and help explain how we use calculations in the year group. These videos will be created over the year and will be located on the Year Group Google Classroom; they will link to a maths version of knowledge organisers.

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Christmas Card

School Christmas Card

Congratulations to Leah S in year 5 whose Christmas card design has been chosen as the school Christmas card for Mrs Birch to send other schools, Governors and Diocesan officers.

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Clubs: Mr A. Coyle - Senior Teacher

We have been reviewing the systems we currently have in place for booking external led clubs at St. Dunstan's and the number of places we are able to offer.

We wanted to let you know that Mr Coyle will be sending a Schoolcomms to parents shortly to share how you will book external provider clubs in the Spring Term. Please do keep an eye out for this.

Walking Home after Clubs

During November, the daylight hours start to decrease and it will be dark by the end of after school clubs. The side roads around the school are quiet and not particularly well lit, so for the safety of the children, Year 6 will only be allowed to leave school independently directly from school at 3.20pm (and only with written agreement consent from a parent).

Until the daylight hours extend again, **all children must be collected by an adult following after school clubs.** Thank you.

It is very important please, to inform the office or teacher if your child is not able to attend a club one evening so that staff do not spend time a great length of time out of the club seeking confirmation that your child has been collected from school. It would also be of great support to the office, if dates of clubs are added to your diary, in particular, noting when clubs commence and finish.

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Extended Schools

'Early Birds' Breakfast Club & 'Stay and Play' After School Club: Years 3 to 6 Mrs E. Chamberlain

We do currently have limited spaces in breakfast club on all mornings and space on a **Friday** afternoon at our after school club. Please contact Mrs Chamberlain in the school office if you would like further details.

A reminder that a half-term's written notice should be provided if you wish to withdraw your child from a regular booking at Breakfast or After School Club.

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Governors

Parent Governor – outcome of Parental Ballot – Mrs A. Murray –Clerk to Governors

The ballot process for the vacancy of new Parent Governor closed on Tuesday 31st October at 12pm. As voted by parents, the Governing Body will welcome Mr Giles Maltby as the new Parent Governor. Governors wished to record their most grateful thanks to Mr D. Ross and Mr D. Summer scales-Heard for their time and support in also putting their names forward for this position.

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Information from Subject Leaders

Eco Committee – Ms T. Martlew



Our Eco Committee has now been formed for this academic year! We have 12 newly appointed Eco Reps in Years 3-6, elected by their peers. The Committee will meet half-termly to discuss important environmental topics and it will take action in support of our Eco-Schools agenda.

Houses – Miss A. Lay

Congratulations to our newly appointed house and vice captains. The Year 6 children wrote inspiring



letters explaining why they would make a good leader, we were so impressed by the determination and character they presented.

The school looks forward to these children leading school competitions and being role models for their house, in the hope of leading their house to victory in the inter-house competition!

Maths Survey

Miss E. Roe- Maths Leader

**Thank you
for taking
our Survey!**

Thank you to the 205 parents who have completed the Parent Maths Survey so far, your feedback, ideas and offers of help are warmly welcomed. We are going through the feedback to arrange a maths talk in the spring term and are designing the resources for the website to best support parents.

We will keep the maths survey open for another 2 weeks to allow all parents to have the opportunity to share their feedback.

RE: 'Come and See' topics – Mrs S. Turner: Senior Teacher and RE Subject Leader

In November, Year groups Two to Five will continue to study Baptism and Confirmation (Belonging) and begin Advent and Christmas (Loving). The subject of RE is taught through a Catholic Primary Religious Programme called "Come and See" which is recommended and supported by the Diocese. Each year group will approach the themes through different topics.



BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING

- Year 2 **SIGNS AND SYMBOLS** - Signs and symbols in Baptism
- Year 3 **PROMISES** - Promises made at Baptism
- Year 4 **CALLED** - Confirmation: a call to witness
- Year 5 **LIFE CHOICES** - Marriage, commitment and service

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism and/or Confirmation about their memories of this celebration.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS – LOVING

- Year 2 **PREPARATIONS** - Advent: preparing to celebrate Christmas
- Year 3 **VISITORS** - waiting for the coming of Jesus
- Year 4 **GIFT** - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus
- Year 5 **HOPE** - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one.

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home.
Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree.
Use the CAFOD or Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar.



This half term EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6 learning unit is called: Prophecy and Promise.

In this unit, the children will begin to understand the role of the Blessed Virgin Mary and her importance to Christians.

EYFS

Mary, who loved and trusted God, was chosen by Him to give birth to His son. God chose a simple stable for the place where His son would be born. Jesus was the son of God, the saviour of mankind, the King of Kings but God wanted Him to be a king of all people – not a rich and powerful King that people would be afraid to approach. God wants

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

At Mass, listen to the Gloria – a special song to praise God. Talk about how this is the song that the angels sang to the shepherds on the hills outside of Bethlehem. We sing

<p>us all to be able to come to baby Jesus in the manger and know that He came for all of us.</p>	<p>this in the Mass as a special way to praise God.</p>
<p>Year One</p> <p>In Luke's Gospel we learn about the Annunciation, that God chose Mary to be the Mother of Jesus and she said yes. We think about how this makes Mary very special. We honour Mary in lots of ways and one of them is to pray a very special prayer called the Hail Mary. Exploring artistic representations of the nativity story from around the world and events in our local community, we will understand that the birth of Jesus is an international celebration.</p>	<p>Reflect on the Nativity story at home by setting up at a Nativity scene.</p> <p>Explore music and art that has been written or created that offers time to reflect and ask questions about Mary, the annunciation or the special birth of Jesus in a stable.</p>
<p>Year Six</p> <p>We will learn about the significance of women in salvation history by studying Old Testament scripture passages, improving our understanding of historical context. We will understand the Christian concept that Mary fulfils the Old Testament promises. We will create relevant connections to Mary's 'Yes' to God as we learn about how women today respond to God's call in their lives.</p>	<p>Go out as a family and look at the various nativity scenes that have been created in our local area.</p> <p>At home, you could share photographs or experiences you or your family have had celebrating Christmas in Woking or in other countries in the world.</p>

Liturgical Choir – Mrs B. Hartley

The Liturgical Choir for 2023-24 has been created following an audition process during the first half-term. Rehearsals have started well and Liturgical Choir have already supported the worship life of the school through their beautiful singing of *All Things Bright and Beautiful* at the Harvest Festival. The upcoming term promises to be busy with preparations for Advent and Christmas celebrations.

Safeguarding – Mrs A. O'Donovan: Assistant Headteacher

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs)				
 <p>Lead DSL: Mrs A. O'Donovan <i>Assistant Headteacher</i></p>	 <p>Deputy DSL: Mrs J. Birch <i>Executive Headteacher</i></p>	 <p>Deputy DSL: Mrs G. Morganti <i>Head of School</i></p>	 <p>Deputy DSL: Mrs S. Hughes <i>SENDCo</i></p>	 <p>Deputy DSL: Mr A. Coyle <i>Senior Teacher</i></p>

SEND: (Special Education Needs and Disabilities) Mrs S. Hughes- SENDCo and Senior Teacher



SEND GROUP FOR PARENTS & CARERS
Special, Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)



Free support group for parents and carers with children aged 0-16 with pre or diagnosed SEND.

The course will cover topics like:

- Back to school and discussions around EHCPs
- Boundaries and useful parenting tools
- Accessing useful websites and other support networks
- Support on applying for DLA and other funding options.

For further information, visit www.woking.gov.uk/familysupport
Register your interest with us on email familycentres@woking.gov.uk or call 01483 743 812



SEND group for parents and Carers:
For further information, visit www.woking.gov.uk/familysupport Register your interest with on email familycentres@woking.gov.uk or call **01483 743 812**.

Mindworks:
The Surrey Mindworks service are not accepting direct referrals currently for a diagnosis. Before a referral is made, a body of evidence needs to be collated of targeted strategies tried at home and school, along with evidence of the traits a child is showing which are not neurotypical. The advice is: If your child is in **immediate danger call 999**, if you have concerns about mental health talk to your GP, if you have an urgent crisis call: **0800 915 4644** (24/7) The general advice team can be contacted on: **0300 222 5755**

Road Safety Awareness – Mrs S. Turner: RHE Lead and Senior Teacher

With shorter daylight hours and our roads more congested, making our children aware of how to be safe seems very relevant.

Understanding potential risks and dangers on our busy roads is an essential skill for all young people to learn. We believe it important to teach children how to be safe passengers, walkers, and cyclists at St. Dunstan's, and this is reinforced in each year group during the year. Only by working together with parents, children, and the school community can we assure our safety when we are out and about.

What we do:

- Encourage **sustainable and environmentally** aware travel to school.
- We use the **National Road Safety Resources** (organised by **BRAKE**) – supporting and enhancing our RHE curriculum.
- **Walking safety** – 'Feet First' – we all the children to know how to keep themselves safe as a pedestrian
- Remind children when going out of school (walking to church or school trips).
- **Cycle** proficiency – we want all pupils to feel safe when cycling or scooting. We offer children 'bikeability' training.
- **Parking** on Onslow Crescent – we know that the majority of our parents are safe and considerate when parking near school. We highlight any improper parking in our school newsletter and regularly remind all parents to consider local residents when parking outside of school.



Travel Plan – Surrey's Better Points App: Mrs S. Saul, Premises Manager



Surrey County Council have teamed up with the BetterPoints app to make every car-free journey worth your while. The app tracks your journey and awards points, which can be redeemed for high street vouchers for you to spend at your favourite shop, local coffee shop or can be donated to charity. So whether you walk, cycle or catch the bus – every journey counts.

- Further information about the app and how to download it can be accessed here: <https://surrey.betterpoints.app/>

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March 2024: Miss H. Fail, Senior Teacher

We are delighted to announce our next World Book Day will be a dress-up day for the whole school and our theme will be 'Heroes and Heroines'. This theme will enable us to celebrate this special day as a whole school community, while also allowing different interpretations depending on the age of your children. Younger children may like to choose the popular heroes and heroines from children's stories such as Spiderman and The Incredibles. Older children may take inspiration from biographies, such as the Little People Big Dreams series, in which the lives of outstanding people are retold, from designers and artists to scientists and activists. We would love for the children to be inspired by books to choose their hero or heroine, so please avoid dressing up as a sporting star or footballer, as they are mainly seen on television rather than in stories.

Hopefully, this early announcement will help with the planning of the day so there is plenty of time for you and your child to choose a book and find or make a creative costume for the day. As always, there is the option to bring a prop or wear a single item of clothing to represent a hero or heroine if your child would prefer.

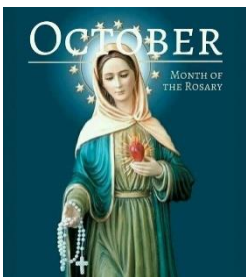
[Little People, BIG DREAMS - Be Bold, Be Brave, DREAM BIG! \(littlepeoplebigdreams.com\)](https://www.littlepeoplebigdreams.com/)

Liturgy and Worship – Mrs. A. O’Donovan



Harvest Festival

Year 4 led a thought provoking Harvest Festival Celebration for the children in Key Stage 2 and parents. They reminded us of the tradition of harvest and why it is still important for us to remember today – especially to think about the people who not lucky enough to enjoy a plentiful harvest. We were reminded of Pope Francis’ letter Fratelli Tutti in which he asked us all to work together to build a better world for future generations.



It was lovely to see so many families join the Tuesday morning Rosary on the Lower School playground during October. What a beautiful way to start the day and the weather was also kind to us!

Although we do not have an organized praying of the rosary throughout the year, this is a lovely way to pray with your children. This link has some lovely ideas you may like to use at home: <https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/rosary-challenge>



Important dates in November:

SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING – 26th November

Parish Links (News from St. Dunstan’s Church):

HMP Send Women’s Prison The Catholic chaplaincy team here is keen to recruit new volunteers. This is not a large commitment, people go in on a monthly rota basis and therefore choose dates and times that suit them. Should you be interested in finding out more and/or would like to attend the mass there one Friday to get a feel for things, please contact Ian White at ianwh236@gmail.com or on 01932 340747.

Secretary needed Churches Together in Woking urgently seek a new secretary to take minutes at their meetings 3 times a year and also email out periodic notices and adverts to various churches and other groups. This unpaid role requires the secretary to be around in the daytime when meetings are held. If you are interested or want more info, please contact Rev Mark Wallace, Moderator of Churches Together in Woking. Email: moderator@ctiw.org.uk

Parish Christmas Fair - **SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 12.30PM** – 2.30PM In support of Halo Trust, Citizens Advice Woking, Woking Family Contact Centre and The Catholic Worker Farm. Including a GRAND DRAW with 1st Prize £500, 2nd Prize £200, 3rd Prize £75. Tickets will be on sale from next week. The Parish needs Bottles, Books, Gifts, Nearly New Toys, Computer Games CDs and DVD's, unwanted Christmas and Birthday Gifts, Plants, and also, on the day, homemade Cakes, Jams and Chutneys for the CAKE Stall. Please use the boxes in the Narthex for your donations! But PLEASE.....NO USED kitchen or household items, clothes or food. Please contact Lara: 07466 763 735/ 01483 756 278; laraspereira23@gmail.com.

Are you in Year 3 or above? If so, and you would like to help run a stall at the Parish Christmas Fair on Saturday 23rd November from noon to approx 2.30 pm staffed entirely by young people offering

games for children, get your mum or dad to e-mail Liz MacIntyre at emacintyre8@gmail.com for further information. Donations of prizes suitable for a children's raffle or "Guess the number of sweets in the jar" or similar are also welcome.

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School Office

A Polite Reminder please:



School Office: please phone or email if at all possible

Could we please ask that you telephone or email the school office with your messages/requests if at all possible? The number of people coming into the main school office on a daily basis, has increased significantly. Whilst we completely understand it may be more convenient for you to come into the office in person, we are accommodating a large number of requests which can be addressed via the Annual Calendar or by phone or email. Thank you for your understanding.

School Office tel no: 01483 715190

SchoolComms

We note that some parents are sending messages via our SchoolComms Inbox. We wanted to remind you that this inbox is **NOT** monitored and should therefore not be used as a platform to communicate with the school office. If you do need to send a message to the school please use info@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk.

Lunch Money

The cost for this half term is £97.20. We would be grateful to receive prompt payment please.

PLEASE NOTE. At the beginning of each half term parents will be able to log into their Scopay account and see the amount due for the current half term. The prices for the current term can be found on the school website. School dinners are payable half termly or termly in advance. Thank you for your support. <https://www.scopay.com/login>

Christmas Lunch

The date for the Christmas lunch is Friday 15th of December. If your child is already on hot dinners, they will receive Christmas lunch automatically and the cost has been included in your lunch balance.

If your child usually has a packed lunch, you will receive a communication via SchoolComms with a link to School Cloud where you can opt in and pay for your child's Christmas Lunch in school should you wish your child to have one. The cost for this lunch will be £2.70 (years 3 – 6)



Children in Reception – Year 2 do not need to pay, but we would ask you to confirm if you wish your child to have a hot meal at school on this day, you will receive a SchoolComms with a link to a form. Please note that due to forward purchasing and operational costs incurred for this highly popular school meal, no refunds will be given for a Christmas lunch.

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Sport & PE : Mr Coyle, Senior Teacher

Sporting update

Year 5 boys' county cup

On Wednesday 4th October, our Year 5 boys took part in a county cup match against St. Mary's, Oxted. The boys played extremely well and it was a really close, end to end game. After conceding a goal to a wonderful shot, the boys' showed their togetherness to get back in to the game with a fine strike from Theo. The second half was again very tight and chances came at both ends. St. Mary's scored a well worked breakaway goal in the second half and clinched the victory with two late strikes.

Well done to the boys who played, although we bow out early in the cup we still have many other opportunities to look forward to this year.

Year 4 netball festival at Halstead

Some of our Year 4 children took their first steps into competitive action at a lovely netball competition on Monday 9th October. With a hot sun beating down on the courts the children played several matches of high 5 netball. The children made amazing progress throughout the competition, taking on board feedback and working together, learning new skills and thoroughly enjoying the experience. Winning 3 matches, drawing 1 match and losing 2 matches, it was joyful to see the pride on the children's faces when we were announced in third place overall. We are really looking forward to the next competition and continuing to learn further and grow our experiences.

Year 6 Danone six a sides

Our boys and girls teams played in the annual WASPs football six a side competitions on Friday 13th October. The boys played in the morning in an incredibly tough, competitive group. Playing in extremely fast paced matches they never gave up and worked well as a team, creating chances, defending resiliently and pressing the ball well. The boys failed to qualify for the semi-finals, but should be really proud of their performances.

The girls' competition was in the afternoon, and again the group was really competitive and tough. Three of the previous year's semi-finalists were in the group, so the girls knew they would have to really rise to the occasion. The girls did just that, winning their first game against Goldsworth 1-0, narrowly losing to Horsell and then playing superbly well in a 3-0 victory against Beaufort. Frustratingly, only one team qualified for the semi-finalists, but the girls should be really proud of their afternoon's football and the future is looking bright for our rising stars.



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Staffing Updates:

Mrs G. Morganti – Head of School

Welcome to new staff

We are pleased to welcome Mrs M. Lee to our staff team as teaching assistant in Year 4 and Mrs K. Di Rienzo as teaching assistant in Reception.

School Caretaker

As you know, we said farewell to Mr Hill before half-term. I am delighted to share with you that we have appointed Mr P. Correia as school caretaker and road traffic patrol officer. Mr Correia commences his role with us on 23rd November 2023. I know you will all make him feel very welcome!

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Uniform – Mrs J. Birch

School Coat

Thank you for ensuring that your child is wearing a school coat to school so that they start the day warm and dry.

A reminder that we will be aiming to get the children outside to play every day, even if it is drizzling. So please do ensure that your child's coat is relatively rainproof. The padded 'down type' coats that some of the children are wearing are getting soaked through very quickly.

Water Bottles: basic water bottles only in school please

Thank you for ensuring that your child's water bottle is clear. This enables us to see what the children are drinking and also how much they are drinking. Please do not buy expensive water bottles for school. A basic, simple, clear water bottle is all that is required. We hold uniform in high regard as it is a leveller for all children. We do not want to encourage a system where some children are bringing

water bottles to school that cost £30 or £40. Only basic water bottles are allowed. Thank you for your support.

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Dates for your Diary



For your information: - a reminder that the term dates for 2023-2024 are available to view on the school website -

http://www.stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk/Annual_calendar_and_dates.html

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Friends of St. Dunstan's (FoSD) Section of the School Newsletter

The FoSD Committee

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of St. Dunstan's.

I hope everyone had a relaxing half-term.

We must start this month with a HUGE THANKS to everyone who helped out at the FOSD Fireworks on October 14th. The weather stayed fair and it was a huge success with over 900 people in the Lower School Playground to watch some fantastic fireworks. Thanks to your generous contributions, FOSD made over £5000 for the school.

Massive thanks for Mrs Sarah Genco and Mrs Sharon Saliba for leading this event.

A few weeks ago the FOSD Committee met with St. Dunstan's Senior Leadership Team who outlined how they have and will use FOSD funding. This includes supporting core activities such as upgrade of Chrome Books, purchasing books and learning materials. One-off purchases planned for this academic year include an all-inclusive Science Teaching Scheme, a bespoke History Mural, refurbishment of the Cookery Room as a purpose-built space for DT, Art and Cooking and refurbishment of the shared space between two Reception year classrooms.

Thanks to everyone who stepped forward to volunteer with FOSD. We received some great interest in getting involved with different activities, so thanks to those of you who can spare the time for this.

We are still recruiting people to help with Secretary and Treasurer roles. Having others involved will reduce the workload for everyone and will be hugely helpful for FOSD. If you have interest in these positions please contact me (07411967414, geraintparry75@gmail.com) and we can have a chat about these roles.

Tickets are now on sale for the School Disco on Friday November 10th and available on the PTA website. <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fosd>

There are three separate Discos, Year 4 children can choose which event they'd like to attend.

1. Reception-Year1
2. Years 2-4
3. Years 4-6.

FOSD will be running a hotdog stall and bar outside Young Explorers so while the children are dancing please stay to socialise with other parents. We also need a few helpers for the evening so please consider volunteering on the PTA website if you are able.

These are upcoming FOSD activities to note:

1. **Friday November 10th:** School Disco. Tickets on Sale NOW
2. **Friday November 17th:** Happy School Bag Day (<http://www.happyschoolbag.co.uk/>). This is an opportunity for you to donate reusable clothes, for which FOSD get money! Easy! Therefore when you have a summer-clothes-clear-out please keep hold of them until November 17th. **Please note, bags can only be dropped off in the morning when you bring your children to school.**
3. **Saturday November 25th:** The Great Gatsby Themed Winter Ball at Pyrford Lakes. A few tickets are still available. It'll be a superb night-out so please buy a ticket for yourself or even a table for 10.

Finally please look out for raffle tickets to be send home soon for the Christmas Hamper Raffle. Each class will make a unique hamper that will be raffled in the draw on December 13th. Raffle tickets are just £1 each and are super great value considering how wonderful the Hampers are. In 2022 the Christmas Hampers provided FOSD over £3500 to put toward school funds. Look out for a Schoolcomms message about the Christmas Hampers coming soon.

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