



Together we grow, together we flourish

Letter from Mrs Huish 14.05.2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

How quickly this term is flying!

EYFS It has been brilliant to be out and about in classes this week seeing the fantastic learning opportunities that have been happening. Learning through play has been a key focus for our EYFS children and seeing how far the unit has come under Mrs Mcknight's leadership is truly amazing. The Nursery and Reception children at Dartington are really flourishing through the provision and now have a wide choice of engaging learning opportunities outside and in. The mud kitchen is a favourite and the children love to explore different recipes. These two pictures from this last week I think sum up the gorgeousness of our Early years unit!



School Focus Group: The children's voice

This week we had a school focus group who represented the children and shared some of their experiences of school with Miss Cleverly, our CEO. It was so wonderful to hear the children's opinions about what has changed for them over the past two years in school, their hopes for the future of the school and any questions they had. This is a summary of the positive changes that they shared:

"Art used to be a treat that we did maybe once every three weeks, if we were lucky. Now, it is something that we do every week and I really love it."

"I have noticed that we now always have two PE sessions a week. We did not have this before and PE is my favourite subject."

"I have noticed that we do more in school now to help our mental wellbeing. This is really important to me and I feel much happier."

"Forest school did not always happen for some classes. I was in a class and we did not do it ever. Now, we do it every week and it is not cancelled."

"We now learn challenging things like electricity in Science. I think this is exciting and this week we had to make a lightbulb work."

We continue on our school improvement drive to create a broad and balanced curriculum. Music and Design and Technology are our next steps on our journey and we can't wait to see the impact that they have on the children!

I will leave you with some gorgeous pictures from our classes across this week!

Warm wishes,

Mrs Huish



Community Values: Creation and Creativity



We are always looking out for our school values and the impact that they have across the school. We have been thinking this term about Creation and Creativity. This value really helps us to consider how precious our planet is and celebrate diversity. The children's responses have been incredible and they have thought really deeply about what they truly believe. I thought I would share some of their responses with you.

"A world with no fighting" Gracie

"A deep blue sea with no plastics." Orion

"Sharing spare food with others who have less." Sienna

"Use less petrol cars because they cause air pollution." Santi

"Replant as many trees as possible to give us more oxygen and animals more habitats." Nia

"All people respect each others' differences whether it is height, skin colour or disability." Torin

"A world where everyone has a safe house to live in and food to eat." Tilly

"A world with no money, just trade and hospitals are free for everyone." Evie

"A world with equality, freedom, no greed or violence and everyone only taking what they need." Tulah

Community Monthly Award: Robins

This award is very important to our school. With the deep conversations and 'big thinking' questions we have been discussing this term, there are so many classes that this award could go to. However, the Robins class have really shown such resilience, such determination and community spirit this term and their kindness and thoughtfulness about the environment has shone through. When Mrs Cleverly visited us last week, she walked into Robins and they all looked up and said "Good morning Mrs Cleverly". This was just one small example of their thoughtfulness and kindness.



Relationships and Health Education: New curriculum



All of the guidance for this term's RHE learning has now been sent to you all. This guidance contained all the information that you needed to form conversations at home with a breakdown of each lesson content and the vocabulary that your children would be learning. We hope you found it informative and that it empowered you to understand what your child was learning in these sessions in school. Mrs Honey has also run lots of parent workshops this week as well as training for staff so that they are fully prepared to teach the new content. All this learning is statutory.

The Year 6 Sex Education meeting is arranged for next week (**Friday 21st May**) to support all the Year 6 parents in understanding the contents of these sessions. These will not be taught until after the half term, but we wanted to give you an opportunity to learn the content first. The Sex Education lessons are not statutory and you do have the right as a parent to withdraw your child from these sessions. Please come and speak to us if you have any questions. Mrs Honey will happily answer any queries.

Welcome to our school: Our new starters

Welcome to our wonderful new pupils Sophie, Hattie, Ayrton, Elmo, Barney and Jago! We are thrilled to have them as part of our growing school family.

After School Clubs:

Fridays: Year 5/6 Premiere Sports Club (bookable through Premiere Sports)

Thursdays: Year 1/2 Multi-skills Club with Mr Coupe (bookable through the Admin)

Art club: This will be starting after May half term with Mrs Lewis. A letter will be coming out soon! After May half-term,

I am thrilled to be starting a new and exciting after school Art Club for KS2, called ARTSCAPE. As an experienced Art teacher, I love to share my passion for art and the joy and meaning it brings to our lives. Through Art, children's creativity, expression and personal discovery can be realised.

As Picasso said,

'Every child is an artist'.

The club will be an opportunity for children to explore and experience a range of media and artistic techniques, in a relaxed atmosphere. This term's focus will be on printing techniques! We will look at well-known artists for inspiration, while immersing ourselves in the artistic process and having fun!

I am limiting the number of children to 12, so that each child receives plenty of individual guidance and support. The club will run every Wednesday from 3:20 – 5:00 for five weeks starting on Wednesday June 9th. Each session will cost £9.50, with an overall cost for the course of £47.50. This includes all the art materials, resources and all your child's artwork, coming home to be proudly displayed!

Please have a look at my website too: <https://artscapeart.club>

Mrs Lewis

Dates for your Diary: Don't miss out!

21.05.21 Year 6 Sex Education parent session 11:00 with Mrs Honey and Miss Humphries

26.05.21 Autism parent workshops with Educational Psychologists team (10:00am and 1:00pm)

27.05.21 Autism parent workshops with Educational Psychologists team (6pm)

28.05.21 Non Pupil day

31st of May to 4th of June 2021 Summer Half term break

01.07.21 Sports Day (COVID guidance dependent)

Friday 9th of July 2021 School Reports Week

Week beginning the 12th of July 2021 Parent's Evening week

Thursday 8th of July Year 6 Camp Out! (letter coming shortly)

Tuesday 21st July Year 6 Production (COVID guidance dependent)

Thursday 22nd July Year 6 Leavers' event (COVID guidance dependant)

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