



Together we grow, together we flourish

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## Letter from Mrs Huish 07.04.2022

Dear Families,

We almost made it to the end of term without moving to remote education in some classes. Once again, apologies to the Kingfishers class. We tried every avenue of keeping open, but with the high staff absence we were unable to offer face to face teaching safely in all classes.



Despite this, this term has been a wonderful reuniting of the whole Dartington family. As you may have heard from the excitement of the children, the school has returned to a full lunchtime offer for our children. They now all have access from Year 1 to Year 6 to a wider space to play, run and make friends. We have had so many children and parents voicing their glee at being able to play with siblings or friends in other year groups and my heart melted the other day when on the gate one parent mentioned that her daughter had found a 'new best friend'. I heard how one of the older children had been playing games and looking out for the younger children and they had all developed a wonderful new friendship. The kindness of our older children is simply endearing!



Our PTFA also organised their first event in over two years! Their plan was to unite our school family and create a space for them to come together as a community and the Easter Tea Party was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who baked cakes and painted stones. There were so many smiley faces all enjoying the event. Our wonderful



staff participated in their first bake off for the event and had their yummy creations judged by the children. One member of staff even made a castle. Their creations were amazing. Well done to the overall winner Miss Kirwin who has told us that it was her first ever try at baking too – what a star! The PTFA are still looking for new members. Whether you are able to spare a day or an hour, you can help to make a difference. Contact the Admin team for more information!

Another amazing event that we are in the process of planning is our very own Jubilee street party! The Queen's jubilee falls in the half term, but we wanted to make the most of such a memorable event and use it to bring our community together. We will be inviting all parents in to join us for a Dartington academy 'street party' lunch. We will be putting out tables all around our school for parents to come in and join their child for a party lunch and an afternoon of connecting with each other. Lunch tickets will be coming on sale soon on the school gateway app for anyone who wishes to join us. The children will spend the morning preparing the tables, bunting and making their own royal crowns for the event. Watch this space!

Don't forget our non-pupil day on the first day back. We will start back on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022!

Warm wishes,

Mrs Huish

## Community News: Ukraine Fundraiser



As always, our pupils noticed a need in our world and wanted to make a difference in their own way. On Wednesday, we all wore yellow and blue to show our support for the families suffering in Ukraine. The children really showed their compassion for those having to flee their homes and Bonny went a step further asking to sell some of her specially made creations for the cause. Thank you to everyone who donated or bought some of Bonny's earrings and pompoms. Once again, our community has supported making a difference to others!



## Community News: Fabulous school family fitness – get involved!

One of our parents has started a fitness group for other parents to join. Find out more here:

Need to Energise Your Day? Join Our Post-School-Dropoff Fitness Sessions and feel STOKED all day long!

Weekdays, 9:15-10:00 in term time Meet at Meadowbrook Playground Get a Whole-Body Workout focussing on Strengthening, Conditioning, and Feeling Great! Added Bonus: It's very welcoming and a great way to combine a morning social session with some challenging moves!

Cost: Pay what you can Message Mary with contact info to register or to receive notifications: 07816271863

## Curriculum: What have we been learning?



It has been so wonderful to see all the exciting curriculum opportunities that our children are now getting throughout the week. They have spoken so excitedly about the wonderful learning that they are experiencing from watching tadpoles growing in EYFS to learning about magnets in Year 4. There is so much awe and wonder in the world around us! We have even been blessed enough to have a badminton specialist coach come in for the day to give each class a personal badminton lesson and some of the children have been digging and building us a new walkway in the playground to protect the grass area and make our school look even more gorgeous!

## Staff Update: Who are we welcoming to our school?



After Easter, we will be welcoming Mrs Calder back from her maternity leave. She will be returning part time to the Starlings class and job sharing with Mrs Ryan Carter. We cannot wait to welcome her back! We also welcome Miss Gale who will be stepping in for Mrs Davis in Nightingales as she goes on her maternity leave. We have also just advertised for another learning support assistant to work across the school. I am pleased to announce that Mrs Irvine was successful and will be joining the Dartington team after Easter. Please introduce yourselves to Miss Gale and Mrs Irvine and give them a warm Dartington welcome!

## Community News: PTFA

Dear Parents,

We just wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone for helping to make the Easter tea party last Friday such a success.

Thank you to everyone who brought in delicious cakes and goodies to sell and to those who helped out during the afternoon. We really couldn't have raised the amount we did without all of your kind help and donations.

Also, a big thank you to the staff who entered the bake-off competition with some truly creative designs! These were auctioned off afterwards and were reported to be just as delicious as they looked!

As a result of the sales from cakes, teas, coffees and guesses for how many mini eggs were in the jar, we raised a whopping £450!

Results:

Staff bake-off:

1st place - Miss Kirwin



2nd place - Mrs Eyland



3rd place - Miss Lilley



Guess the number of eggs:

Well done to Barley who had the closest guess at 675 eggs. There were 687 eggs in the jar!

Thank you everyone for a really fun afternoon.

PTFA

## After School Clubs: Clubs for the Spring Term 2022

**MONDAY - FRIDAY After school wrap around care:** This will run every evening until 6pm. This is open to all children from EYFS to Year 6. Please book on and pay as usual through the School Gateway App.

**TUESDAY Premiere Sports:** This is a **Tennis** sports club for EYFS/KS1. Book on the Premiere Education website.

**Frazoo:** This is a **science club** that will be starting with Mrs Hulbert for years 5 & 6. Bookings are made directly to Frazoo - [frazie@frazoo.co.uk](mailto:frazie@frazoo.co.uk).

**FRIDAY Premiere Sports:** This term, it is **Basketball** for Years 4,5 and 6. Book on the Premiere Education website  
All clubs run from **3:15 - 4:15** (except the wrap around care).

**Spanish Club:** Kidslingo will start running 2 Spanish lunch clubs on Tuesdays to all the children in year 1,2,3,4,5 and 6.



## Dates for your Diary: Don't miss out!

- **Non pupil day** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022
- **Tempest Class Photo Day** Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022
- **PTFA Easter tea party** Friday 01<sup>st</sup> April 2022
- **Jubilee Street party** Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022
- **Year 3 trip to Dartington Trust** Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022
- **EYFS trip to Stover country park** Wednesday 04<sup>th</sup> May 2022
- **Year 6 SATS week** W/C Monday 09<sup>th</sup> May 2022

