



Together we grow, together we flourish

Letter from Mrs Huish 10.12.2021

Dear Parents,

I want to thank you all for your kind words and support throughout this term. This term has brought many additional challenges to our school community but, together, we have supported each other to navigate through. It truly sums up the phrase we often use to describe the Trust 'stronger together'. As a school and Trust, we are stronger because of the support we gain from our parent community.

We understand how disappointing it has been to have had the face-to-face Nativities and concerts in our grasp and then at the final hurdle have to have these moved to virtual sessions. It was disappointing for us as school too as we wanted nothing more than to celebrate and enjoy the shows with you all. Thank goodness that this year we have grown so good at the technical world and have had the opportunity to enjoy the productions online instead. Our community is very important to us and the safety of you all, the children and the staff has to come first and your kind words of support in this difficult decision have been the propulsion to keep us all going. We have high hopes for next year!

We have been thinking in school about how not everyone feels safe, loved and valued during the festive season and the children have been thinking of things they would say to anyone in our community to reassure them that there are people out there who do care for them. I wanted to share these kind responses with all of you just in case it can help anyone out there reading this letter who needs to know that they are not alone and we are all in this together.

"If you fall, I will catch you" London

"It's hard to get out of the darkness and back into the light. We are here to be your happiness. Come down, I can help you." Minka

"I can ask my Dad to help you like he helps me and make sure you are safe" Louis

"Come here. You are safe with me" Lili

"Don't worry, you can trust me. You are safe." Alan

"Don't be scared, I am here for you. Come into the warm." (unnamed)

"You can trust me. I won't leave you alone this Christmas." Lowri

If I don't manage to see you next week, I hope that you all manage to have a wonderful Christmas break with your loved ones.

We finish on Friday 17th of December and return on Wednesday the 5th of January 2022!

Have a happy New Year !

Warmest wishes
Mrs Huish

Community News: Community Award Our children at Dartington are keen activists. They use their courageous advocacy to notice a need that they believe in and they help to take action and make a change. Skyla and Harriet are two children who have demonstrated this courage and vision over the past few months. They came to me with an area that they wanted to support and - what impressed me the most - a plan of the action they intended to take. Their ideas took into consideration the people who needed it the most as well as climate change and the importance of recycling and reusing. They wrote the letters that went out to our families and they raised a whopping £135! Skyla and Harriet both showed out school values and made such a difference to families and animals who needed it the most.



Please congratulate Skyla and Harriet for being our Community Award winners this half term. What superstars!

Community News: Fantastic Fundraising!



Over the past month, we have had a number of amazing charity events to fundraise for important causes. We have had Children in Need Day, Skyla and Harriet's toy sale for The Brooke Charity and Bonny's reverse Advent to donate to the local food bank. Thank you to everyone who has supported these events. There is still time to contribute to the reverse Advent calendar each day up until Christmas. It is really wonderful to see the courageous advocacy of the children who have noticed a need and are taking action to make a difference. This area of the school is very strong and shows our school vision and values.

Community News: Swift's class says farewell to Mrs Honey !



In January, we say good luck to Mrs Honey who will be journeying on to new challenges as she takes up a new role coaching and mentoring children who need that extra bit of support in their school lives. She is staying local in the community and not leaving education - which is brilliant news - but will no longer be at Dartington. Mrs Honey has worked for the school for over 20 years and we will be wishing her all the best and hoping that we see her again very soon. Replacing Mrs Honey, we have Mr Chadwick who will be stepping in as class teacher on a Thursday afternoon and Friday all day. He will work with Dr Short to move the children's learning forwards and he comes with a high level of skills to his teaching bow with drama being one of these. Mr Chadwick is already a part of our community and he has covered the Swift's class for long term supply over the last term, so knows the children well already. This will give the class some consistency and a friendly face to welcome them at the end of the week.

After School Clubs: Clubs for next Half Term!

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 an **archery** sports club for EYFS/KS1. Book on the Premiere Education website.

Frazoo: This is a **science club** that will be starting with Mrs Hulbert on January 11th 2022 for years 5 & 6. Bookings are made directly to Frazoo - frazie@frazoo.co.uk.

FRIDAY Premiere Sports: This term, it is **Dodgeball** 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).

Dates for your Diary: Don't miss out!

17.12.21 Last day of term

January Flu Immunisations (These are the nasal sprays not for COVID 19) these were postponed by Virgincare.

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TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE

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