

Dingle Community Primary School

Newsletter 16th July 2024

Message from Mrs Anderson

As we are in the final full week of the term, I thought it would be beneficial to send out a newsletter with some updates and a few reminders.

If anyone is struggling financially: As we have shared on several newsletters, if any families are struggling financially, in the difficult current climate, I urge you to come and speak to school. Thanks to some funding received by school, we have supermarket vouchers that we can distribute which you could use as needed, whether it be for food, purchasing school uniform or even buying essentials like toiletries and sunscreen. These vouchers are not specifically for families in receipt of benefits. If any families are struggling, they are encouraged to contact school.

School drop-off and collection, classes D to S: As you know the school day is 8.40am to 3.10pm, currently with a ten minute collection and drop-off window, an extended window initially implemented during the pandemic. However, from September we will be returning to a 5 minute window to ensure that children all receive their required 32.5 hours in school a week. From Wednesday 4th September the school doors will be open at 8.40am and children are expected to be in class by 8.45am when the doors will be closed. Children arriving after this time will need to come through the main office and will be registered as late. The school day will end at 3.10pm and children must be collected by 3.15pm. If they are not collected by then, they will be taken to After School Club and charges will apply.

School books coming home: This year we are going to try returning to sending your child's school books home with them. Books will be sent home on Friday 19th July, so please send a strong carrier bag in with your child that day. We do always have to keep a selection of books in case, for example, we have an inspection by the Local Authority or OfSTED, to demonstrate progress. If your child's books are kept, you will receive a letter and books will be sent home during the new school year.

If I do not see you in person before Mon 22nd July, I hope that you and your children have a lovely time over the summer break and that they come back to school in September rested and ready to work. Year 6, you are going to be very missed. It has been a real pleasure to see you grow from the year 1 children I met when I first got to Dingle into the funny, capable, resilient class that you have become. Have an amazing time in year 7 and keep us posted about all of your future achievements and adventures.

As always, if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact school on 01384818305, at info@dingle.dudley.sch.uk or by speaking to myself or Ms. Heather on the playground. Unless it has been pre-arranged, any email correspondence to individual staff email addresses will not be responded to, so please use the info email address to ensure we can follow up appropriately and efficiently.

Gemma Anderson (Headteacher)

Some fond farewells

At the end of this term we will be saying some fond farewells to a few members of the Dingle staff team.

Both Mrs Breeze and Mrs Chavez have been teaching at our school for a while. Both of them initially came to us as short-term cover but have spent long periods of their time here going beyond the call of duty and taking the role of class teacher. We massively appreciate everything they have done for our school and want to wish them all the best for their futures. We might still see them once in a while and will always welcome them with smile.

Miss Dwyer has worked at Dingle Community Primary for such a long time that it is not uncommon for her to have taught parents of some of your current children! After a staggering 30 years of dedication to the pupils of our school, she has decided to explore different professions and to take time to spend with her family. Miss Dwyer will be deeply missed, with her genuine care for our children, her funny nature, high expectations and hard work. Miss Dwyer, we all wish you well for the next exciting chapter of your life and look forward to hearing about all of the fun you are having. Thank you so much for your hard work, both for the children currently at Dingle but also for all of those you have taught before.

Attendance

Please remember that no term time holidays are authorised and unauthorised absence may lead to referral to the LA or other outside agencies. Parents are contacted, as part of school's policy and procedure, where attendance is of a concern. If a child's absence is of a concern, school can, at our discretion, choose to not authorise absence without medical evidence. Parents must also try to ensure that routine medical appointments, such as regular dental check-ups and opticians' appointments, are made outside of the school day.

School Diary Dates:

Parents' Evening for Class G:
3.30pm-6pm, Wed 17th July

Parents' Evening for Classes D, I, N, L and E: 3.30pm-6pm, Thu 18th July

Transition morning: Fri 19th July

Year 6 Leavers' Assembly: 9am, Mon 22nd July (parents of year 6 pupils invited)

New Challenges Day across school: Mon 22nd July (children to wear comfy clothes. Yr 6 to wear uniform until after their assembly)

Ending at normal time for the Summer holiday: Mon 22nd July

Term dates for 2024-25, taken directly from
<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/re-sidents/learning-and-school/school-information/school-term-dates/>

Autumn: Term Starts - Monday 2 September

Please note school is closed to pupils on Mon 2nd and Tue 3rd Sept for INSET. Children come back to school on Wed 4th Sept.

Half Term - Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November

Term Ends - Friday 20 December

Spring: Term Starts - Monday 6 January

Please note school is closed to pupils on Fri 14th Feb for INSET.

Half Term - Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February

Term Ends - Friday 11 April

Summer: Term Starts - Monday 28 April

Please note school is closed to pupils on Fri 23rd May for INSET.

Half Term - Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May

Term Ends - Monday 21 July

Please note school is closed to pupils on Mon 21st July for INSET.

'Learning for Life'

At Dingle we value CARING:

Community, Achievement, Resilience, Independence, Nurture and Growth

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Here is some advice from about keeping your children safe online. It is taken from NOS, a national organisation. They, along with the other websites below, offer lots of advice for parents on e-safety. Please remember that technology can be a wonderful thing if used correctly, but, when it is not, can create significant threat to our children.

Useful websites for parents:

<https://nationalcollege.com/categories/primary-safeguarding/primary-safeguarding-supporting-parents-carers>

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/>

<https://www.peginfo.org/peginfo/age-ratings>

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Twitter - @natonlinesafety

Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

Instagram - @NationalOnlineSafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 16.09.2020

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