



PTA

This week the School captains attended the PTA meeting to share lots of ideas and hopes the children have for events in the year ahead. The PTA plays a vital role within our school community, not only to raise funds but to organise events and support the school in so many ways. This year we see many key members stand down from their roles as their children are nearing the end of their time at the school. We have other members ready to take on some of the roles but we are keen to hear from people who would be able to do any of the following – either joining the PTA or to support the occasional event.

Volunteers are needed for:

Poster creation

FB marketing

Stand as Chair!!

Helping with uniform sale – washing second hand stock – labelling stock for sale

Helping at events, disco, Christmas fair

Contacting companies re grants, raffle prizes, donations

Please do email pta@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk or speak to me and I can give you some more details. We are so grateful for the support the PTA gives to the school to ensure that it is the BEST that it can be and that the children's time at Down Ampney can be filled with magical memories.

Key PTA Dates

Thursday 3rd October – return Christmas cards template designs – these went home earlier this week.

4th November – bring in donations of uniform for a uniform sale

Fridays in November – House Bake Off – more details to follow

12th November PTA AGM – we would love new members

5th December – Christmas movie night followed by class 3 sleepover!

12th December – Christmas in the community event

16th May – Sats survival disco

24-hour readathon – date to be confirmed

Other fundraising events

On 3rd October we are inviting children to wear non-uniform in exchange for a donation. The money will be shared 50/50 with Prospect Hospice. Emily Nott will be running the Chester marathon that weekend raising funds for this charity in memory of her mum who was a great friend and supporter of the school. Alternatively you can donate directly through her link -

https://www.justgiving.com/page/emily-nott-1726081579401?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Family-nott-1726081579401&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share

Later in the school year we will be hosting a spilt fundraising day for Make a wish as Sam Frost is

Week 4 Update

running the London Marathon. We are planning on holding a make the rules day on April 11th.

Pantomime

On Thursday 19th December, the whole school is watching The Father Christmas Show at the Arts Centre in Swindon. All children will need to bring a packed lunch on that day and be in school uniform with a coat and water bottle. We will be leaving school at breaktime and returning to school at approximately 3:15pm.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Please could you kindly fill in the permissions form in parentmail under the forms section. The cost of this is being kindly subsidised by the PTA and we are asking for parents to contribute £13.50

Parents Meetings

Bookings for parents evening are now open. Miss Homan-Green will be seeing class 1 parents on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th October, Miss Phipps, Mrs Russell and myself will be seeing class 2 and 3 parents on Wednesday 9th and Wednesday 16th October. The 10 minute appointments are between 3 and 5pm, Miss Homan-Green will be starting at 2:30pm on the 9th. We will be prioritising siblings on the 9th as that is when all teachers are present.

Please email Mrs Woodruffe on admin@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk with the title of parents meetings in the subject line stating your ideal evening and time window and we will get back to you at the end of next week to confirm your slot.

If you would like to meet with me as headteacher or SENCO or you cannot make the dates or times above and would like to arrange a different time then please email head@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk and I will get back to you with possible dates.

Attendance

Please find attached with this update a copy of the attendance counts letter which outlines new guidance from the DfE regarding expectations around attendance and new guidance for headteachers to follow.

Uniform Update

I have been asked by many parents whether children can wear the green polo shirts on non-pe days as they find them easier to keep clean especially with sun lotion stains! This is fine and I will update the website and the uniform policy in due course. To clarify children are able to wear green or white polo shirts to school each day, these can be branded with the logo or plain.

Supporting the school

This week we are asking for donations of bubble mixture. The children are loving playing with bubbles at lunchtimes.

Key Dates

3 rd October	Non- uniform day
4 th October	INSET day no school for children
7 th October	INSET day no school for children
8 th October	Class 1 parents evening
9 th October	Parents evening – priority to siblings Class 1, 2 and 3
10 th October	Anglo Saxon webinar

Week 4 Update

10 th October	Storytellers worship
16 th October	Parents evening class 2 and 3
17 th October	Open Morning for September 25 intake
19 th October	Open Morning for September 25 intake
23 rd October	Spirituality Day
24 th October	Open Evening for September 25 intake
25 th October	Harvest Festival at 1:30pm
25 th October	Last day of Term 1