

23<sup>rd</sup> October  
2020

# THE DOWNS SCHOOL NEWS

## Message from Ms Allen

It has been a very busy half term in school and the children have made everyone proud adapting to a lot of changes and continuing their learning. We have been very cautious during this time and we have sent children home who have Covid type symptoms. We want to thank you for working with us and collecting your child and updating us with test results. We also want to thank you for being supportive with the packed lunches. We wish you all a safe and enjoyable half term. At the time of writing this we expect to be back in school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Children are expected to come to school and we will continue to follow all guidance to help keep everyone safe.

We hope you have managed to log onto Microsoft Teams and had a practise with your child using their email account as the best we can do right now is to be prepared for all eventualities. **Once tested this should only be used for your child when accessing the learning from home.** Please monitor your child with this.

Yesterday your child should have come home with some additional history homework, we hope you can support your child become a historian. We have also sent home some fantastic eco homework which we hope you can do as this covers an important ecological topic. Please also continue with the geography continuous provision homework that was sent a few weeks ago and, as always, encourage your child to read daily. After half term we will also send home some year group specific homework. All home learning can be found on our school website  
<https://www.downsschool.com/page/?title=Homework&pid=1014>

We are very aware of how anxious everyone is around Covid and the changes we have all had to make to help keep ourselves and others safe. These have not always been easy, but we do need everyone who comes onto the school site to keep to social distancing and follow all the guidance without having to be reminded.

- If you see a congested area please wait until it is clear before walking through.
- Keep your children by your side and not running off when on site.
- Do not allow your child to use school play equipment before or after school.
- Following the rules helps to keep everyone safe and also helps to reduce anxiety around Covid.
- If you need to enter the building you must wear a face covering.

Thank you once again for all the donations we have attached a photo of all the food going to the Foodbank in Harlow.



Thank you to everyone who sent back their letter for parents evening. The teachers look forward to seeing you in person or speaking to you on the phone. Please make sure you are on time for your appointment and have read the letter carefully and understand what we are asking you to do in order to keep everyone safe. If you are not able to do what we have set out please request a phone call instead.

We have included with this email some local authority documents on the new legislation around school curriculum on Relationships, Sex and Health Education) RSE. They are providing some FREE online courses and there is a reminder on what is covered in the new RSE curriculum.

The clocks will change on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October bringing in darker mornings and earlier evenings. We have attached this link as it is so important to remind your child about road safety. We hope you find this useful.

Teaching Road Safety: A Guide for Parents <https://www.rospa.com/media/documents/road-safety/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf>

### **Word of the Week**

We started word of the week on the third week of this term. The words for the last few weeks are:

**Week 3** - eloquent

**Week 4** - dubious

**Week 5** - clamber

**Week 6** – yearn

**Week 7** – vexed

**Week 8** - prosperous

**Harlow Holiday Lunch Clubs will be running daily lunch clubs in venues across Harlow during Half Term for all the family with fun; crafts and a hot meal at each table, plus sports/activities from Changing Lives (may be weather permitting in some venues). Clubs run from 11.30-14.00.** Masks should be worn unless eating to help keep everyone safe. [www.harlowlunch.org.uk](http://www.harlowlunch.org.uk)

Due to Covid restrictions numbers are limited so please ask families to book into their nearest area (Monday Potter Street/Harlow Common; Tuesday Tye Green/Bush Fair; Wednesday Town Centre; Thursday Latton Common/The Stow; Friday Staple Tye) via this website: [www.harlowlunch.org.uk](http://www.harlowlunch.org.uk)


During Black History Month children have been learning about significant people in history and current affairs using recommended education resources so they can learn about diversity and differences.


On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November there will be a non-uniform to raise money for Children in Need. Children can wear anything Pudsey related, yellow or with polka dots for a donation of £1. Children also have the option to purchase Children in Need merchandise. All payments will be cash only. Please sign up for the items you would like via Sims-Pay and send your child in with an envelope, labeled with their name, class and what items you have purchased. The envelopes will then be collected from the classes on the day. Merchandise is limited and will be on a first come first served basis.


The items are:


- Wristbands £1
- Pin Badges £1
- Glo in the dark keyrings £2

**Team Spirit** - Children are able to earn Team Points for their house by working together and showing a good team spirit. Children who have been awarded for Team Spirit are as follows.

 **Dragon House**  
Martha in Elm Class  
Kataali in Aspen Class  
Mia B in Chestnut Class

 **Griffin House**  
Maria in Cedar Class  
Nathan in Birch Class

 **Lion House**  
Stefan in Holly Class  
Eshaal in Sycamore  
Neveah in Maple Class  
Jacob in Rowan  
Roksana in Hazel Class

 **Unicorn House**  
Charlie in Mulberry Class  
Sam in Larch Class  
Ray in Willow Class  
Zain in Oak Class

**House Points** - Children are able to earn Team Points for their house by working together and showing a good team spirit.

 **Dragon**                    **238**  
 **Griffin**                    **243**  
 **Lion**                        **234**  
 **Unicorn**                   **264**

**WELL DONE UNICORN!**



**Stars of the week** – to children who have really shone in class and impressed a member of staff.

Ayla in Mulberry Class	Lilley in Cedar Class
Sharon in Holly Class	Max in Rowan Class
Zac in Elm Class	Nusrath in Chestnut Class
Emilia in Larch Class	Lacy in Willow Class
Isaac in Sycamore Class	Benjamin in Birch Class
Odelia in Maple Class	Alexandra in Hazel Class
Jayden in Aspen Class	Sophie in Oak Class



**Diary Dates for the Autumn Term 2019**

<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	<b>INSET Day</b>
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>October Half Term</b>
<b>Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October</b>	<b>Deadline for Secondary Applications</b>
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Parents' Consultation</b>
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Children in Need</b>
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Flu Vaccinations</b>
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Anti-Bullying Week</b>
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</b>	<b>School Photographs</b>
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>INSET Day</b>
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Early Finish 1:30pm – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS</b>
<b>More events and details regarding specific events will follow.</b>	