

Newsletter

For all parents, staff, governors and pupils
Friday 22nd September 2017



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Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week the children were visited by a 'Mad Scientist'. They had a great time learning about different science concepts in a fun and engaging way. Mad Science are running an after school club starting on 26th September for 8 weeks from 3:20pm until 4:20pm. The club is open to children in Years 1-6. You can register and make payment online at www.madscience.org/east, click AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS and search for our school.

Today, Miss Sampson, Mr Curtis and I attended the graduation of our 12 Brilliant Club scholars at SOAS University in London. All pupils had a fantastic day celebrating their great achievements. I am pleased to share that this was our best set of results where two of our pupils were awarded the highest mark, a 1st classification.

Once again we are pleased to offer such a large number of extra-curricular clubs for the autumn term. I would like to thank all the staff who run these clubs for going above and beyond to further enhance the experience and opportunities pupils are given at Dilkes Academy.

Mr R. Latham
Headteacher

NEWSLETTER:

We will now be publishing our newsletter on a fortnightly basis, please don't forget you can visit www.dilkesacademy.org.uk if you require information or follow us on twitter @DilkesAcademy

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING - FRIDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 8.45-10AM:

Dilkes Academy and The Parent Partnership Team are pleased to invite all parents/carers to our annual **Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 29th September**. Please come along and support the fantastic charity that does such invaluable work. All parents/carers/family members and younger siblings are welcome.

CAKE SALE TO PUPILS - FRIDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER:

Due to popular demand, there will also be a cake sale for pupils during break time to raise money for Macmillan. All cakes will be 20p each and all monies raised will go to Macmillan.

Please bring all donations of cakes, biscuits, pastries, cupcakes etc. for these events to the school office on Friday 29th September.

REMINDER:

Please be reminded that pupils are not allowed to use the Adventure Playground before or after school. Pupils should not be on the premises before 8.30am, unless attending a morning club.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE:

Thanks to everyone who participated in the summer reading challenge! It was lovely to read all of your fantastic book reviews and see you reading in some interesting places. We are still taking pictures for our reading wall to display children from our school reading in the weirdest places possible. If you would like to take part, please hand in a picture to your child's class teacher or hand it in their reading diary.

THURROCK EDUCATION AWARDS 2017:

We are pleased to support the fourth annual Thurrock Education Awards 2017. These awards are a great way to celebrate the talented and hardworking people in education. We are keen for colleagues, parents, carers and pupils to submit nominations for teaching and support staff who have gone the extra mile. For more information on the categories and to submit nominations, please go to www.thurrock.gov.uk/education-awards
Look out for the information leaflet and please ask to speak to Mrs Ridgewell for any assistance required.

SPECIAL ASSEMBLIES:

This term the pupils will be showcasing their work in special assemblies. Years 1 to 6 will showcase the achievements they have made during their 'British' unit of work to parents / carers on the following dates:

Year Group	Date	Time
Year 1	9 th October	1.15pm
Year 2	13 th October	1.15pm
Year 3	16 th October	1.15pm
Year 4	17 th October	1.15pm
Year 5	3 rd November	1.15pm
Year 6	7 th November	1.15pm

WELL DONE:

AIMEE PAGE (3A) and **CHLOE PAGE (3B)** who completed the 1 mile Tough Mudder's Mini Mudder on Saturday 16th September 2017.

AVA WOOLNOUGH gained a Silver Mime Award from the British Theatre Dance Association.

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS:

If your child was born between 1 September 2006 and 31 August 2007 you must apply for their secondary school place between **midday 1st September 2017** and **31st October 2017**.

<https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/secondary-school-admissions/applying-for-secondary-school-place>

The two briefing sessions for parents will be on: Thursday 14 September 2017 at the Civic Hall, Blackshots Lane, Grays, Essex RM16 2JU from 4.00pm - 5.30pm and 7.00pm - 8.30pm.

THE ROUND £1 COIN.

The old, round style £1 coin will cease to be legal tender from 15th October 2017.

Please bear this in mind when paying dinner/trip money to the school as we will be unable to accept any old style £1 coins after this date.

ABSENT/MISSING CHILDREN

A reminder for parents/carers: We would like parents/carers to be aware that Government guidelines stipulate that schools must always be aware of the location of children on the school roll during term time. This means that we must be informed if a child is going to be absent from school for any length of time.

In order to safeguard children and determine the location of an absent child, schools are advised to telephone all those on the child's contact list and to also conduct a home visit on the first day of absence. If these actions fail to establish the location of a missing child external agencies will become involved.

In order to avoid these actions, please let the school office know as soon as possible if your child is going to be absent (01708 852128). We ask that all parents/carers ensure that their contact details are up to date and correct.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Thurrock Council have advised that parents/carers can now apply for Free School Meals online. Applications can be made by visiting: <https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/school-meals/free-school-meals>

You may be aware the Government plan to allocate additional funding to pupils who are registered as entitled to Pupil Premium Funding to improve their educational opportunities and outcomes. Registering for free meals could raise an extra £1,300 for your child's school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities. Your child will also receive free school meals.

As a reminder the criteria for being registered as entitled to Free School Meals are listed below.

- Income Support (IS) Income-based
- Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support from the National Asylum Support Service (NASS) under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
The guaranteed element of State Pension
- Credit Child Tax Credit, with no Working Tax Credit, and with an annual income of no more than £16,190 Universal Credit

Should you have any questions, or would like further information, please contact the school office.

PARENT/CARER WORKSHOPS

Year groups will be hosting workshops in the coming weeks. At these workshops, information will be shared on the expected standard for the age group. If you are unable to attend, we will be more than happy to supply you with a copy of the presentation and any resources which were shared. A copy of all our workshops can be found at www.dilkesacademy.org.uk under the parents & pupils tab - 'Parent Workshops'

Year Group	Date	Time
Year 1	5 th October	3.20pm -4pm
Year 2	5 th October	3.20pm -4pm
Year 3	4 th October	3.20pm -4pm
Year 4	4 th October	3.20pm -4pm
Year 5	3 rd October	3.20pm -4pm
Year 6	3 rd October	3.20pm -4pm