



Newsletter

For all parents, staff, governors and pupils
Friday 20th July 2018



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Dear Parent/Carers,

In our final newsletter for this Academic Year, I would like to thank everyone for their continuing support in maintaining and developing that essential partnership which enables us to achieve our mission. It has been a fast-moving, successful year, packed with a wealth of academic and extra-curricular activities. Dilkes Academy truly is a special school.

As we look back and celebrate many things this year, we also have to say our goodbyes to staff members who are moving on. Mr Stubbs, Year 1 Leadteacher, will be moving to Scotland and we wish him and his family the best of luck and thank him for his work over the last 8 years. In addition to this we say goodbye to both Miss Agar and Miss Kelly who are embarking on new adventures outside of Thurrock. Finally, Mrs Padden, Mrs Clarke, Mrs Du-Val and Mr Lock will also be leaving us at the end of term, again we would like to wish them the best of luck on their next adventure.

I am sure you will join me in congratulating our Year 6 pupils on their success this year. These children and staff have worked exceptionally hard and we are proud of what they have achieved. On behalf of us all at Dilkes Academy, I should like to wish all our Year 6 pupils the very best of luck as they embark on the next stage of their education. I am sure that they will all rise to the occasion and prosper at their respective schools. It will obviously be strange for them in September but we wish them all well.

In September, Miss Law will be known as Mrs Nye and Miss Alli will be known as Mrs Giulbert. We wish them well as they begin married life.

If this is your last child at Dilkes Academy, I should like to thank you for your support over the years and wish you and your family all the very best for the future.

Have a relaxing summer and we will see you in September!
Mr Latham
Headteacher

ATTENDANCE FOR THE YEAR:

On Thursday 19th July the KS1 And KS2 classes with the best attendance for the whole academic year were treated to a Pizza Party, hosted by Dominos, South Ockendon.

We were lucky to have a personal appearance by Danny Domino himself who delivered the pizzas to 2L (96.8% attendance) and 4N (97.2% attendance).

Many thanks to Dominos, South Ockendon branch for their support and to all our parents/carers who recognise the importance of attendance on our children's progress and learning.



THE MAYOR'S VISIT TO DILKES SCHOOL COUNCIL:

On Monday 16th July we were honoured to host the Mayor of Thurrock for an official visit. Councillor Rice, who has been the Mayor since May, was very impressed with our school. She particularly liked all the ways we celebrate achievements on displays around the school.

The School Council hosted the Mayor, taking her on a guided tour of the building. We then held a questions and answer session where the Mayor answered all of the children's questions about her role, Thurrock Council and democracy. The Mayor and the children thoroughly enjoyed the day and we look forward to accepting her invitation to the council chambers in

the new academic year.

Thank you to Councillor Rice for making time in her busy schedule and well done to all the members of the School Council who represented their classes superbly.



WELLDONE:

After a number of trials, Harley Troy—6P has been selected to join the West Ham United Foundation Advanced Development Squad. Well done Harley!

Sophia Collins—1SR passed her ballet and acro exams with honours this week. Well done Sophia!

MERIT AWARD WINNERS:

The following children have achieved their bronze merit award this week;

2L—Charlie Day, Steven Kronberg, Bobby Sweetman

3A—Oliver Bonar, Jack Burley, Kyle Chapman, George Coiradas, Frankie Harvey, Ben Nichol, Ollie Roberts, Omid Salimi, Austeja Sirvele, Alfie Durrant, Elijah Donovan-Layne, Temi Olaniyan.

4N—Gyte Jackeviviute, Freya Carter, Harry Chandler, Lenny Sweetman, Lottie Read, Mikey Blundell, Sharon Olunlade, Mitchell Nye, Sofia Barrachina

The following children have received their silver merit award this week;

RK—Billy Blundell, Mia Dixon and Riley Emmerman

3A—Maisie Farr and Bren Reilly

Well done to you all!

SUMMER READING ASSEMBLY:

On Monday, KS1 and KS2 had a special assembly introducing this summer's library reading challenge, the Mischief Makers, based around Dennis the Menace and his friends. They listened excitedly as Rachel from Thurrock Libraries described some of the rewards they would earn for reading up to 6 books during the summer holidays; the stickers which smell like a yeti's feet were particularly popular! Children can register for the challenge at any Thurrock Library from Saturday 14th July and it ends on Saturday 15th September. The challenge is open to all Primary school age children, and there is an additional challenge for younger siblings and those at Secondary school. All children will need is a library card; it is free to join the library if your child is not yet a member. Everyone who completes the challenge will receive a medal and a certificate which will be presented in school in September. There is also a story telling event at Grays Library and a free animation workshop at Belhus Library for children over 10 - further details can be found on the library website.

Happy reading and we are looking forward to giving out all of the certificates in the new school year!

THURROCK EDUCATION AWARDS 2018:

Dilkes Academy pleased to once again be supporting the Thurrock Education Awards 2018.

These awards celebrate the talented and hardworking individuals and teams in education.

We are keen for colleagues, governors, parents, carers, students, volunteers and business partners to submit nominations for teaching and support staff who have gone the extra mile.

For more information on the categories and to submit your nominations, please go to thurrock.gov.uk/education-awards, this year's nominations close on Saturday 22 September.

BRILLIANT CLUB GRADUATION:

On Friday 13th July 2018 - after months of hard work - our Brilliant Club graduated at Robinson's College Cambridge. Having studied and written an essay on the philosophy of fairness, the children donned their cap and gowns to receive their graduation certificate and gave very moving speeches about what they'd learned and would be taking from this once in a lifetime experience. This was preceded by a tour of the picturesque grounds, a final study skills session and a Q and A session about the university and its rich culture and history.



VISIT TO WIMBLEDON LAWN TENNIS CLUB

TUESDAY 10th JULY 2018:

An excellent day was enjoyed by the 8 pupils selected as High Achievers in PE and 2 staff at Wimbledon on Tuesday 10th July, 2018.

The journey to and from Wimbledon was on time and we entered the gates of the All England Tennis club at 12 noon. We had an hour to have some lunch and a brief walk around before we took our seats on Court No 1 where we watched a ladies quarter final until its completion. We took a tour of the courts and embraced the atmosphere of Henman Hill, going into the shops to buy something to remind the pupils of the day in years to come. We also visited the play area where all the pupils had various opportunities to play indoor tennis and improve their skills.

We returned to watch the other ladies quarter final, followed by a men's doubles match and then had a

quick ice cream before we walked out of the gates at 6pm.

The pupils were a credit to the school and their parents and we hope they will remember this day for a very long time.



WE ARE GOING CASHLESS FROM 5th SEPTEMBER 2018!:

From 5th September 2018, all payments to the school (i.e. dinner money, school trips, art and games club) will need to be made online through +Pay on Parentmail. In preparation for September we would urge all parents/carers to download the Parentmail app to your smartphone, tablet or computer.

Once set up, you will be able to make payments to the school via a debit or credit card or using Paypal.

Those parents who aren't able to access the app can make cash payments via a Paypoint, the nearest location being The Bottle and Basket, Garron Lane.

If you have any issues or queries relating to the process please contact the school office.

SCHOOL BAGS—A REMINDER:

When buying schools bags for September, we would appreciate it if you could buy flat book bags where possible.

In Key Stage 2 (years 3-6) we do allow ruck sacks but these must be micro bags. The bag just needs to be big enough to hold a reading book and reading record. Bigger ruck sacks take up too much space and the coat hooks cannot take the weight. Thank you

11+ ENTRY:

If you are interested in your child taking the 11+ exam, the exam will take place on Saturday 22nd September 2018. Registration commences on 5th June 2018 and closes on 20th July 2018. There is a link below with further information and a link to the CSSE website. <http://www.csse.org.uk>

TUCK SHOP AND FREE FRUIT:

As we will be a cashless school from September we will no longer be able to offer a tuck shop at morning break. If your child wishes to have a mid morning snack they will need to bring one from home. Please note that only fruit should be brought into school between Mondays and Thursdays and one, sensible portion of free tuck (i.e a packet of crisps but not a grab bag) on a Friday.

Please also note that only KS1 pupils receive free fruit in school therefore children moving from Year 2 into Year 3 will no longer receive this.



A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL!

We are thrilled to let you know that we raised over £3,000 at our School Fete. This is amazing and the money will be used to benefit all our pupils.

We would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who helped make the day a wonderful school event. We are very lucky to have such a committed PPT team and we really value their support.

Thanks also to everyone who attended on the day to support the school and its pupils, we are truly grateful.

