



Newsletter

For all parents, staff, governors and pupils
Thursday 18th October 2018



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www.dilkesacademy.org.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a wonderful first half term it has been at Dilkes Academy. We have welcomed many new families to the school and I would like to thank all pupils for being so welcoming to those who are new in their class.

We have had a busy end to the half term. Reception had a fantastic visit to Thorndon Country Park, Year 1 were visited by a mobile farm and today we welcomed former pupil and author, Christopher D Morgan, to our school. Pupils were mesmerised by his story telling and enjoyed hearing his stories about his time here at Dilkes Academy. He has inspired our pupils to dream big and supports our philosophy that our pupils can go on to achieve anything they put their minds too.

Next half term is going to be busy too so please keep up to date by following us on twitter @DilkesAcademy, by visiting our school website at www.dilkesacademyorg.uk or by signing up to ParentMail. Some upcoming events include: parent consultations, class assemblies, educational visits, Christmas productions, Christmas dinner (including Christmas jumper day) and maybe, just maybe another staff pantomime. The pupils will have to wait and see for that one!

Parent consultation letters are currently being distributed, please look out for them. I am sure that many of you will attend the consultations at which you will be able to see the great learning that has been taking place.

I am delighted to share with you that this week I have received a letter from RT Hon. David Curry, celebrating the success of our school highlighted by its inclusive approach. As a result of this success, we have been asked to write an article about the excellent provision we offer. This article will form part of the Parliamentary Review which will be shared next October.

Have a lovely, restful half term break and please be reminded that school reopens for pupils on Monday 29th October 2018.

Mr R. Latham
Headteacher

QUEEN'S CORONATION EVENT—FRIDAY 12th OCTOBER 2018:

Last Friday, Year 2 were visited by a travelling museum where they were able to look at real artefacts from the Queen's Coronation in 1953. During the morning the children were able to handle coins from the 1950s, souvenirs that were given out as well as special jewellery and newspapers. They also created their own street party invitations, periscopes, flags and place cards just like children in 1953 did in preparation for the special event. During the afternoon, the children had a street party and acted out parts of the coronation celebrations. The children had a fantastic day and learnt a great amount.

Thank you to all parent helpers who helped with all the activities.



WELL DONE:

Joshua, 3G, has recently completed a 3KM walk in aid of the charity Children with Cancer UK. He raised £400 for his efforts, an amount which was matched for the charity Young Epilepsy. This was a very proud day for his parents and the school are also incredibly proud of Joshua too.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH—AFRICAN DRUMMING WORKSHOP:

As part of our endeavours to enrich the curriculum at Dilkes Academy and to celebrate Black History Month, the children in years 3,4,5 and 6 enjoyed workshops in African drums, which culminated in a performance for the children in years 1 and 2.



UPDATE FROM DILKES ACADEMY P.E. DEPARTMENT:

YEAR5/6 TAG RUGBY:

A good performance from the Dilkes Tag Rugby team at the recent Thurrock SSP tournament ended with the pupils finishing 6th out of the 15 schools attending. With the squad wearing the schools new rugby shirts, they finished second in their qualifying group. They then moved into a playoff for 4th, 5th, 6th position and with every match being a tight fought contest with Try's a plenty we finally ended up in 6th position. Both myself and Mr Thompson were very proud of the team's hard work and effort and of course the exemplary behaviour shown at the event.

George T (Capt), Chris, Alicia, Katelynn, Hannah, George B, Charlie, Phoenix & Titomi

YEAR 3/4 MIXED FOOTBALL TEAM

We have the Year 3/4 Mixed Football team playing in another tournament and once again our thanks for those pupils attending especially as it is a non-pupil day as well. Good Luck Dilkes.

You can keep updated with all our sporting news by following the Dilkes Academy PE Department twitter @DilkesPE

CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL DINNER MENU:

From Monday 29th October 2018 we will be following Thurrock Catering's new school dinner menu. This can be found on the school website under the Parents tab.

HARVEST FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS:

Thank you to Father Peter from St Nicholas' Church for joining us for our Harvest Festival celebration this morning. The children sang beautifully and were a real credit to Dilkes Academy, as always!

Thank you for your donations of food which will be given to the Thurrock Food Bank.

Thank you for your support. Peter from St Nicholas' Church for joining us for our Harvest Festival celebration this

A POLITE REMINDER TO PARENTS:

Setting a good routine to enable your children to organise themselves for the school day ahead teaches them a valuable life skill. Spending time with your child either the evening before or on the morning of a school day ensuring they have with them all the things they need i.e. PE kit, swimming kit, packed lunch will help them become more organised and responsible. It will also help reduce the number of calls made to parents by the school office asking that they return to the school with missing items for their child. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

RECEPTION TRIP TO THORNDON COUNTRY PARK—WEDNESDAY 17th OCTOBER 2018:

This week Reception visited Thorndon Country Park to take part in a 'Three Billy Goats Gruff' outdoor workshop. The children had a fantastic time taking part in lots of activities including building a bridge with logs and acting out the story on the park's giant bridge. The staff at the country park commented on how well behaved the children were and what a pleasure they were to have.

Well done Reception!



GDPR:

As you are aware that there have been recent legislation changes with regards to how we store information that we collect. For more information, please check our website.

RECEPTION ADMISSIONS 2019:

The 2019 Primary Admissions round is open from 1st November 2018 to 15th January 2019. It is recommended that parents apply online at www.thurrock.gov.uk/admissions.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2019:

If your child was born between 1st September 2007 and 31st August 2008 you must apply for their secondary school place between 3rd September 2018 and 31st October 2018. You can apply online on the Thurrock Council website.

SOCIAL MEDIA REMINDER:

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. The school considers the use of social media websites being used in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or whole school community.

Please be reminded that any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the Class Teacher, the Deputy Headteacher, the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately, and effectively for all concerned.

Thank you.