



Newsletter

For all parents, staff, governors and pupils
Tuesday 18th December 2018



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www.dilkesacademy.org.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the Christmas break approaches I would like to thank staff, pupils, parents/carers and governors for their hard work and support this term. Your feedback during our recent parent consultations, parent workshops and Christmas concerts has been well received. There has, as always, been a huge number of opportunities for our pupils to extend their school life, educational visits, at lunchtimes, as well as before and after school clubs. Many of these activities can be viewed on our Twitter page @DilkesAcademy or the school website www.dilkesacademy.org.uk.

Our Christmas concert raffle raised £176 which has been used to pay for the children's Christmas party entertainer. Thank you.

Having worked hard all term, the children will be ready for a break and the opportunity to recharge their batteries. We've had a busy and productive term and have another planned for the spring term. Last week we sent out the spring programme which can also be found by visiting the latest news section of our website.

Last week the school's performances tables were released and Dilkes Academy was ranked as one of the top 3 performing schools in our Local Authority. Continuing this success, it was pleasing to see that Catalyst Academies Trust received great praise from the Department for Education (DfE) being ranked as one of the highest performing trusts in the country. This just highlights the hard work of our pupils and staff over the past year. I am incredibly proud to work with such hardworking pupils and staff!

I hope you all enjoy a peaceful Christmas and a very Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing all the pupils return refreshed on Thursday 3rd January 2019.

Wishing you a very peaceful and happy Christmas,

Mr R. Latham
Headteacher



ATTENDANCE:

The class with the best attendance for the week of 3rd December is **2E** with **98%**.

The classes with the best attendance for the week of 10th December are **2E** and **5P** with **99.3%**.

Whole school attendance for the for this term is **96%** which falls slightly short of our school target of 97%. Attendance will continue to be closely monitored in the new term.

BUILDING LEARNING POWERS:

The Building learning power for the week commencing 17th December is:

'Learning with and from others'

The Building Learning Power for the week commencing 7th January is:

'Being Resourceful'

BIG QUESTION:

Year 1—What do you need to make you safe?

Year 2—What makes a person special?

Year 3—Would you rather be a headteacher or a teacher for the day?

Year 4—What makes a community?

Year 5—Why do we need memories?

Year 6—Why can't fish live on land?

DILKES CHOIR VISIT TO LAKESIDE—THURSDAY 6th DECEMBER 2018:

It was beginning to sound a lot like Christmas as our Choir travelled to Intu Lakeside to perform their festive Christmas songs to raise money for St Luke's Hospice. All the children were impeccably behaved and represented Dilkes Academy with pride. Through their enthusiastic dance and song, they attracted lots of attention from the Lakeside shoppers and received a medal each as a sign of gratitude from the hospice. We would like to thank all the parents and carers who joined in to support the choir on the day.

DILKES CHOIR VISIT TO LEATHERLAND LODGE—MONDAY 17th DECEMBER 2018

The Dilkes Choir were delighted to represent the school to spread Christmas Cheer amongst our more senior residents of South Ockendon. On Monday, the children were invited to Leather Land Lodge, where they performed their Christmas song selection. The residents were thrilled as they even attempted to join in with some dance moves!

DILKES ACADEMY SPRING TERM PROGRAMME:

Thursday	3 rd January	First day back for pupils
Monday	7 th January	Y6 Maths Parent/Carer Workshop Club offer letters to parents
Tuesday	8 th January	Y5 Maths Parent/Carer Workshop
Wednesday	9 th January	Y4 Maths Parent/Carer Workshop Curriculum letters to parents
Thursday	10 th January	Y3 Maths Parent/Carer Workshop
Friday	11 th January	Y2 Maths Parent/Carer Workshop Y5/6 Badminton School Games
Monday	14 th January	Y1 Maths Parent/Carer Workshop Spring clubs begin Reception Library visits
Friday	18 th January	Reception Parent Drop ins School Council Trip to Parliament
Monday	21 st January	Year 1 Library visits
Friday	25 th January	Y3/4 Sportshall Athletics
Friday	1 st February	KS2 Swimming Gala
Monday	4 th February	Safer Internet Day - Child sessions during the day, Parent workshop at 5.30pm
Friday	8 th February	Y5/6 Sportshall Athletics
Wednesday	13 th February	Nursery Parent Stay and Play
Thursday	14 th February	Last day for pupils

PARENT PAY APP:

The existing Dilkes app will stop working at the end of the year so it is really important that parents/carers download the new app as soon as possible.

To download the new app search 'Parentmail' in either the Apple or Android app store. Once the new app has been installed you must delete the old app.

BACK TO WORK CAMPAIGN—THURROCK COUNCIL:

Thurrock Council has launched a new campaign, highlighting the fantastic help and support available to help people find work.

Whether it be rediscovering your confidence ready for interviews, help writing a CV, getting the skills and qualifications you need, or finding support with childcare, there is some excellent support right here in Thurrock.

Securing a job can not only help financially, but also have a positive impact on your health and wellbeing, as well as your children's education and their own future careers.

Finding work could be the first step in creating a better, brighter future for you and your family.

Find out more at: www.thurrock.gov.uk/yourjob

MERIT AWARDS:

The following children have achieved their bronze merit award;

Alfred—6G, Ololade—6G, Chloe S—6G, Layla—6G, Katelynn—6G, Riyana—6G
George-6S, Elesha -6S, Erin—6S, Emily-6S



END OF TERM DILKES PE DEPARTMENT UPDATE:



Inter Comps & Catalyst Cup:

Having taken part in 10 events as part of the Thurrock Schools Sports Partnership programme during the Autumn term, we are currently in joint 5th position with pupils taking part in competitions such as Football, X Country, Tag Rugby, Table Tennis, Basketball, Dodgeball and Boccia.

With a host of various upcoming competitions that will include pupils from year 1 through to year 6, we look forward to keeping you informed on our sporting progress and achievements throughout the year.

Intra House Competition: Current standings at the end of Autumn Term:

House	KS1	KS2	Total
Brownlee Brothers	120	200	320
Maro Itoje	80	220	300
Jo Konta	90	190	280
Steph Houghton	130	190	320

Intra Cross Country competition KS2 18-19:

Well done to every pupil that competed in the Dilkes Intra X Country championships held during the Autumn term. Our first season of introducing this competition into school proved to be a success and impacted on our improvement across the years in the recent KS2 X Country event held by Thurrock SSP. We look forward to the KS1 events to be held in the Spring term.

Spring Term After School Clubs (ASC's):

We look forward to a new range of After School sports clubs being introduced in the Spring Term. Please look out for the club offer letter due to be released on our return in January 2019. Please return the letter asap to avoid any disappointment.

External Sports visits:

Our first external trip of the year took 8 pupils to the ATP Masters Tennis Tournament held at the O2 in November. The pupils were treated to an excellent afternoon of single and doubles matches and photos with the winner's trophy. A great day was had by all making a host of memories.

Some of the Thurrock SSP events entered for Spring term:

KS2 Sportshall Athletics

KS2 Badminton

KS2 Swimming Gala

KS2 Archery

KS2 Kurling

KS1 Sportshall Athletics

