



Downham Preparatory School and Montessori Nursery

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Newsletter to Prep & Nursery School Parents 15th December 2020

After School Care

If your child is attending After School care and you are going to be delayed, please ring the normal school number (01366 388066) and press extension 5. This number is only in use for parents from 4.00pm onwards.

Milk Cartons

We would like to thank everyone who has donated milk cartons for the nursery igloo. They will be finishing the igloo when they return to nursery after Christmas.

Staff News

After Christmas Mrs Brown will no longer be with us, as she will be taking up a post as Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator at a school in Cambridge.

Mr Cochrane has taught History for over 40 years and he is a very enthusiastic and experienced History teacher. He will be teaching History to all classes next term.

We have had weekly staff meetings throughout this term. Always on our agenda is the effect of the lockdown on children's learning. Academically, the children are doing well and making good progress. However, the teachers have all commented on the loss of study skills, i.e. the ability to concentrate, stay focused, listen and follow instructions, and, for many of them, their writing fluency needs improving. Working alone at home, whether online or on paper does not require the same skills as working collaboratively in a class or group.

Therefore, we have decided to dedicate one lesson a week to improving learning skills and writing fluency. We will be playing visual memory games, to improve focus and attention and auditory memory games to improve concentration and listening skills. These will also be linked into strategies for remembering spellings and times tables. We will be monitoring very closely the effect that these lessons have on improving individual pupils' study skills.

These lessons will be taught instead of Spanish for the Spring Term. Spanish will be taught again in the Summer Term.

Microsoft Teams

You can access Teams via www.office.com , select the sign in option and enter the details for your child that you were provided with.

To access the Christmas productions, please click on Downham Preparatory School and Montessori Nursery group. At the top of the page, select files and here you will find all 4 videos.

If you have any problems with your log in details please let the office know ASAP.