

# Danbury Park Community Primary School

*Be wise, be happy, belong!*

## Newsletter



Website: [www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk](http://www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk)

**1st December 2017**

Dear Parents,

**Congratulations** to the following children who have recently achieved their reading awards:

Erin C- **Bronze**

Harry A – **Ruby**

Christopher W – **Ruby**

Luke B – 2017 Reading Challenge

**Well done!**

*Certificates will be presented in our Celebration Assembly on Wednesday 20th December at 9.10 am.  
Families are welcome to join us.*

### School Council News



## SNACK SHACK

The School Council's tuck shop has risen to a new level. New fruits and a new name: The **SNACK SHACK**! We had written down your fruit votes and now picked some fruits for all year round! Hopefully, your new fruit will be with us soon! Friday treats are also on the way! Just a note-school council- if wet play make your way to the inside collection point: the fruit fridge! Remember, for the tuckshop, **USE IT OR LOSE IT!**

Lucy H and George B

On behalf of the School Council

## Pre-school Activity Morning

Last Friday we hosted our termly activity morning for the local pre-schools. Our Reception children played with our young visitors assisted by Year 6 ambassadors.



The children all took part in a wide selection of activities.

Everyone had an enjoyable time.

## PE Uniform

We are pleased to inform you that over the coming year we are making some slight changes to our PE Uniform. As many of you will have noticed, when we moved to the One Stop Shop as our main supplier, the t-shirt worn for PE changed to a slightly darker shade of blue. This was an intentional adjustment as the old sky blue t-shirts become very faded after washing and quickly looked rather sad.

As we are now developing our outside PE lessons, we need to make sure that the children are appropriately dressed throughout the year and particularly in the winter months when it is cooler. We are conscious that some of the children do not have a spare sweatshirt in their PE bags and are wearing their everyday one. We are therefore adding to our uniform list a navy blue track suit or as an alternative a navy blue sweatshirt and navy jogging bottoms. These are available from the One Stop Shop with the school owl logo and will be added to their stock list next week. However, if you would prefer navy sweatshirts and jogging bottoms can be purchased from the main high street shops.



Navy Tracksuit Top  
Sizes- 24", 26", 28", 30", 32" 34"  
- £14.00

Navy Tracksuit Bottoms  
Sizes- 20-22", 22-24", 24-26", 26-28", 28-30"  
- £10.00



Navy PE Sweatshirt  
Sizes- 5/6, 7/8, 9/10, 11/12, 13 yrs  
- £10.45



Navy PE Joggers  
Sizes- 5/6, 7/8, 9/10, 11/12, 13 yrs  
- £7.50

For the rest of the year, we are happy for there to be a transition period so children will still be allowed to wear their grey jogging bottoms and school sweatshirt but if you need to purchase new, we would ask that you buy the new colours.

We would also like to remind you that we still have some items of school uniform for sale in the school office. As you may remember this was because we were required to buy out the existing stock from our previous supplier. We would now like to sell this off so that we can put the funds back in to our budget. We will have a stall at the Christmas Fayre but please ask in the school office for details.

## School Bungalow

Work is now progressing at a rapid rate and all the knocking down and dusty work is coming to an end. After installing an additional fire door, the plasterers and painters are making good the four main rooms; the kitchen serving area is now ready for new units to be fitted and we have created three new toilet cubicles, including a large disabled one, which are ready for sanitary ware to be installed.

We are well on track for the bungalow to be operational from 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

We hope to hold some open house session before the end of term and this will be as soon as the buckets and tools are out of the way.

We would like to say a big thank you to two of our governors, Peter Irvine and Jim Webb who gave up their weekend to clear and tidy the garden and cut the grass.

## Safeguarding - Keeping Safe

A timely update from [www.safeguardingschools.co.uk](http://www.safeguardingschools.co.uk) - the 12 ways that Christmas shoppers can keep children and data safe when buying smart toys and devices (ICO)

*Have you finished your Christmas shopping yet? Planning to spend a couple of hours in a Christmas Market or even on Amazon? This Christmas there will be more tech toys than ever before, and many of them will use bluetooth or wifi to link to apps and the wider internet. Some of these toys will have cameras and microphones recording the environment and the child's play. The Information Commissioner recently published an article looking at the risks of using smart toys and it is well-worth sharing it with parents.*

<https://iconewsblog.org.uk/2017/11/23/the-12-ways-that-christmas-shoppers-can-keep-children-and-data-safe-when-buying-smart-toys-and-devices/>

**Let's work together to keep our children safe!**

## Music Lessons

Piano lessons scheduled for **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December** will now take place on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup>** as Mrs Long will be accompanying the KS1 and KS2 dress rehearsals all day on the Friday. Also lessons missed earlier in the term due to Viking Day or the Fire Safety talk will be caught up on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>**.

Thank you  
Mrs. S. Long

Mr Calabro apologises for any inconvenience caused by his absence last Friday. The lessons missed will be made up in January.

Please note that lessons due to take place on 15<sup>th</sup> December will now take place on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December** so guitars need to be brought into school on that day.

## Sleeps to Santa

Last week we were visited by Alex from Heart FM's breakfast show. He spoke with the members of our school Council about Christmas and what it means to them. He recorded their thoughts along with a festive message and the number of sleeps to Santa.

The message will be aired on the radio on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30am and 8.30am straight after the news headlines. Alex also took a photograph which will be on the station website the day before to remind everyone to listen. There is also a catch-up service for Martin and Su's breakfast show if you miss it.

The school councillors were very thoughtful and reflective in their responses and contributions and we were very proud of them.





## Our School Improvement Plan 2017/18

A school's success relies on the staff and governors having a clear idea of what the school does well and what it needs to develop. An integral part of our work is evaluating, monitoring and reviewing what we do and questioning the impact on our children's learning.

The School Development Plan outlines how the school will continue to grow over the coming three years. This is then broken down further into the School Improvement Plan which gives detailed information on what we want to achieve, how we are going to achieve it and how we will measure our success. It also informs the financial priorities for the school. For 2017-18 these are:

What are we trying to improve?	How will we know when we've got there?
For pupil achievement in the Year 1 Phonic Screening to be raised with a focus on pupils at risk of not achieving the expected levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils attainment as measured in the Year 1 phonics screening is better than the national and Essex percentages;</li> <li>The needs of pupils with dyslexia are identified early met.</li> </ul>
For pupil achievement in writing across the school to be raised with a focus on pupils at risk of not achieving the expected levels  For pupil achievement in Maths to continue to improve with a focus on pupils at risk of not achieving the expected levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils attainment as measured at EYFS, end of KS1 and KS2 is better than the national and Essex percentages; Pupil progress from KS1 to KS2 to be 0 or better</li> <li>There is no significant difference between the attainment of different groups of children e.g. girls and boys, disadvantaged pupils.</li> </ul>
For pupil progress from EYFS to KS1 to be maintained; For pupils to be better prepared for KS1	By the end of summer term: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils are able to stay focused on task at their table independently for 10 mins;</li> <li>Pupils are secure in their phonic knowledge;</li> <li>Most pupils have a secure and correct pencil grip and can form letters and numbers correctly.</li> </ul>
For standards across the curriculum in subjects other than English and Maths to continue to rise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils are aware of and can articulated what they are learning and can self-evaluate;</li> <li>Pupil attainment and progress is recorded termly using school format in all subjects.</li> <li>Subject leaders can discuss standards within their subject.</li> </ul>
For pupils with specific behavioural difficulties to be fully supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils' needs are met within the classroom;</li> <li>Pupils' behavioural difficulties do not impact adversely on the academic achievement of themselves or other pupils.</li> </ul>
<b>The school environment</b> For the school to be an attractive, fit-for-purpose learning environment For the school to capitalise on additional space and buildings For the school to enhance his budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drainage problem is resolved;</li> <li>Subsidence issues are addressed;</li> <li>The school kitchen is refurbished (ceiling, floor, tiles);</li> <li>Failing whiteboards and projectors are replaced;</li> <li>Plans to improve the ventilation in the ICT suite and Class C are in place;</li> <li>The school bungalow is refurbished and is used as additional teaching and learning space;</li> <li>The bungalow is let to outside providers and groups;</li> <li>Additional sources of funding are sought.</li> </ul>
<b>Leadership and Management structures and systems</b> For leadership to be distributed throughout the teaching staff For communication to continue to improve with all stakeholders and partnerships For governor competencies and accountability to be developed For governor monitoring to be embedded in practice	Middle Leaders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take active responsibility for their subject area;</li> <li>Are aware of and can explain standards pupils are achieving within their subject areas throughout the school based on evidence;</li> <li>Danbury Park plays a lead role in collaborative school improvement projects;</li> <li>Feedback from surveys, parents and staff (from events) and other governing bodies;</li> <li>By end academic year ensure new government criteria are incorporated into governor work and thinking through training and monitoring;</li> <li>All monitoring visits are carried out in accordance with Governor Visits Policy.</li> </ul>

The plan also includes numerical targets for academic achievement and the full summary is available of the school website.

Excellent schools are by their nature critical of everything they do and Danbury Park is no exception. We will continue to monitor, evaluate and review our provision and practice, including many aspects that are too numerous to mention, throughout the course of the year. Your views are important to us and we will continue to seek your opinions through informal chats as well as more formal methods such as questionnaires.

## Christmas Events



### Christmas Plays

#### **Infants – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December; juniors – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

This week you will have received tickets for the Christmas plays. If, for whatever reason, you are unable to attend please return your unwanted tickets to the office preferably by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

If you would like to request additional tickets (maximum 2 per family) for the afternoon performances, parents are invited to apply in writing to the school office from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December. Additional tickets will also be issued strictly on a 'first come first served' basis. We regret that both evening performances are sold-out.

### Christmas Charity

#### **SOCIAL SERVICES CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL**

Every year we hold a toy collection in aid of Chelmsford Social Care Services. It may amaze us but there are many children living in the Chelmsford area who will have anything but a merry Christmas and so it is great for our school to bring some happiness into some disadvantaged children's lives.

The plan is that children are invited to bring in a new or very nearly new toy, game, puzzle etc. wrapped in Christmas paper to put under the tree in the hall. Please leave one end of the donation open and label it clearly "boy aged 5 – 7" as appropriate, so a 10 year old does not get a baby's rattle! Whilst the Chelmsford Social Care Team is thrilled with presents for all ages, they have asked that a special plea is made to remember children aged 11 to 16. Each year school raises a tremendous number of presents for Social Services, which teaches our children the real meaning of Christmas is giving.

Donations may be left under the Christmas tree in the hall from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December. The collection of presents will be on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December so gifts must be left by the end of school on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you.

### Christmas Parties

The children will join together with other classes for their Christmas parties. Classes C, D and E will celebrate on the afternoon of Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec, all the infant children on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> and Classes A and B on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>. The children come to school in their uniform and bring party clothes to change into after lunch. The teachers organise traditional games and activities in the classrooms and hall. As we have had so much party food left over in the past, school will provide drinks and a range of snacks so there will be no need to send in any food.

### Christmas Dinner

This will take place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. This is always a very popular event with almost all children and staff eating a traditional roast, with a vegetarian alternative, together. There is no need to order in advance but please remember there will be no jacket potatoes offered that day and of course, if you would prefer, you may send in a packed lunch.

### Christmas Jumper Day

We are inviting staff and pupils to get into the Christmas spirit on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December and to wear a Christmas Jumper to school instead of their uniform sweatshirt or cardigan. This is a fun activity and no donations are required.



# DPSA

## News

### Christmas Fayre Tomorrow 2nd December 2 - 4pm

#### **What's on at the Christmas Fayre?**

Once again each class is running a stall as part of an enterprise scheme run by school. The children have been working really hard making decorations and gifts and will be running stalls so please make sure you come and support your child's class. There are prizes to be won!

KS1 stalls will be in classes J and H and KS2 in G and F.

**Santa's Grotto** – our Christmas Fayre wouldn't be complete without it. The entrance is in class J.

**Please buy your tickets as soon as you arrive in the main hall on your way in.** Tickets are given a time slot to see Santa to try to keep queues to a minimum and they do sell out. The quietest time to visit is from 2pm.

The children's favourite the **Chocolate tombola** and **Adult tombola** will be in the hall. Along with a **Children's raffle**, **Hamper raffle** and the **Grand raffle** with 1<sup>st</sup> prize of £100 (bring in your tickets from home if you've not dropped them to school yet), **Santa's stockings** where you can guess what's hiding in each stocking, **Name the teddy**, **Pull the tinsel**, **Lucky dip**, **Grandma's Gifts** and **School Tea towels**.

Class G will host sparkly **Glitter tattoos**. Don't miss the **Toy stall** in class F, **Hoops-over-jars** in Class H and **Soft Toy Snowballs** in J. **The Secret's room** will be in class C where children love to buy Christmas gifts for parents and grandparents.

**What will there be to eat?** – come and have some chilli (meat or vegetarian), a warming, festive mulled wine, tea, coffee or luxury hot chocolate with a mince pie or piece of cake.



**Thank you if you have kindly volunteered to help on the day. If you are helping between 2pm and 3pm please try and arrive at least 10 minutes before so we can let you know what you are doing.**

**Thank you for all your donations, everyone has been extremely generous and without them we couldn't run the fayre so THANK YOU!**

**Many hands make light work – if you are able to stay after the fayre and help us clear up it is always greatly appreciated.**

# Children's Christmas Performance DVD



Following last year's success the DPSA has once again arranged to have both the KS1 and KS2 Christmas performances recorded by a professional company (recordings will take place at the dress rehearsal). The DVD will include both the KS1 and KS2 performances and will be professionally edited and recorded with the use of microphones to ensure little voices are heard and you can sit back and enjoy the show.

DVDs will be available at £15 each (£3 of which goes to DPSA funds). In order to receive your DVD BEFORE the end of term orders/payment will need to be received by **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December**. Orders placed after this date will not be available until the New Year.

To reserve your copy please complete the form at the end of the newsletter.

## Shopping online this Christmas? – [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

Remember to log in to [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) it's the easiest way to raise money and costs you nothing. All you do is your Christmas shopping from your armchair.

## Dates for the diary 2018



### January

Sat 13th

New Year Jumble Sale

Wed 24<sup>th</sup>

Bag2school

Friday 26<sup>th</sup>

School Disco

### March

Sat 24<sup>th</sup>

Easter Egg Hunt

### June

Sat 23<sup>rd</sup>

Summer Fayre



Danbury Park Community Primary School PTA  
C/O Danbury Park Community Primary School  
Well Lane Danbury  
Essex CM3 4AB



## DVD of School Christmas Performance

Dear Parents,

The DPSA along with the school have again arranged for the children's Christmas Performances to be filmed by a professional company BVP based in Little Baddow. A DVD will be made available to buy as a long-lasting keepsake that can be shared with family and friends. The dress rehearsal will be filmed on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December and any DVDs ordered by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December will be available to take home by the end of term Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

Each DVD will have both the KS1 and KS2 performances on. The DVDs will be sold at a price of **£15** each and £3 from every sale will go towards DPSA funds which in turn will go towards buying things for the school.

If you are interested in ordering a copy, please fill in the form below and return it with the correct money to the school office by **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December** to guarantee delivery by the end of term. Orders received after that date will not be available until the New Year. Please make cheques payable to 'The DPSA'.

Thank you

The DPSA

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### **DPSA Christmas DVD**

Child's Name.....,Class.....

Number of DVDs required.....Total amount of money enclosed £.....

Contact name.....Telephone number.....

## Emergency School Closures – SNOW!

As we approach the time of year when inclement weather and snow is more likely, we would like to advise you of the school's emergency closure procedure. The decision to close the school is never taken lightly but there may be rare times when the site is unsafe or insufficient staff can get into the school and closure is unavoidable.

Last year there was a change to the usual notification process and the local radio stations no longer give out announcements. Schools will notify Essex County Council and the information will be available on their website at: <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx>

We will also put a message out on Parentmail. We aim to do this by 7.30am.

If the weather and traffic are bad, please take care and get to school safely. We will understand if you delay your journey and arrive later than the usual time.

If you have not yet joined *Parentmail*, please ask at the office.



## Notices and Reminders

**Parking** – we are aware that there have been issues again with the safe and considerate use of the Danbury Outdoors carpark and Well Lane. We were informed of a parent who had parked on the yellow zig-zag lines causing an obstruction for vehicles and a danger to pedestrians.

**Please think about the safety of our children before there is a incident where someone is seriously hurt.**

**School office opening hours** – The school office opens to parents and pupils at 8.30am and closes at 3.45pm. We are sorry but after this time the office are unable to take payments and the shutters will be closed.

**Adults coming into school** - A gentle reminder that parent's wishing to come into the school **must come to the main office sign in and be given a visitors badge regardless of their reason to enter the building. This is part of our safeguarding policy in keeping our children safe.**

**PE Kits** – Please remember that earrings have to be removed for all PE lessons and we are not allowed to cover pupils' ears with tape.

**Coats** – We are now beginning to feel the chill of the encroaching winter, so it is vital that all children bring a coat into school every day. The children need fresh air, so even if it is drizzling or cold, they need to get outside at break and lunchtimes but can only do so if they have a warm, waterproof coat.

### Letters sent home this week:



**KS2 Christmas Production Tickets**



**EYFS & KS1 Christmas Production Tickets**



**Football Match away to Priory 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018**



## Owl's Barn School Meals

### Week commencing Monday 4th December

<b>Week 3</b> MONDAY	Cheese and Tomato Pasta Bake or Salmon Puff (V)	Garlic Bread Peas Sweetcorn Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Iced Sponge Cake Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
TUESDAY	Homemade Minced Beef Pie or Broccoli & Cauliflower Cheese (V)	Creamy Mashed Potato Carrots Mixed Vegetables Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Homemade Shortbread Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
WEDNESDAY	Roast Turkey served with Yorkshire Pudding and Gravy or Roasted Quorn Fillet served with Yorkshire pudding and Gravy (V)	Roast Potatoes Freshly sliced Carrots Peas Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Homemade Creamy Rice Pudding and Jam Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
THURSDAY	Homemade Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce or Vegetarian Quorn Balls in tomato sauce (V)	White and Wholegrain pasta Cauliflower Florets Sweet Corn Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Apple Crumble and Custard Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
FRIDAY	Oven baked Youngs Omega 3 Fish Fingers	Chips Baked Beans Peas Cucumber	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Red Velvet Cake Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit

### Dates for the Diary

#### Week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Dec**  
**12.45pm.**

**Little Stars - invited Year 2 pupils**

**Tues 5th Dec**

**Weds 6th Dec**

**Thurs 7th Dec**  
**12.00pm**

**Musicians and singers Concert at The Mission for senior citizens**

**Fri 8th Dec**  
**9.30am**

**Dress Rehearsal and filming of EYFS & KS1 Christmas play**

**11.00am**  
**1.30pm**

**Dress Rehearsal and filming of KS2 Christmas play**

**Full term dates for the this academic year 2017-18  
and for next, 2018-19 are available on the school website.**

Yours sincerely

Carol Gooding  
Headteacher

# Danbury Park Community Primary School

## Dates for Autumn Term 2017

Date	Time	Event
<b>December</b>		
2 <sup>nd</sup>	2.00 – 4.00pm	DPSA Christmas Fayre
7 <sup>th</sup>	12.00pm	Concert at The Mission for senior members of our community
8 <sup>th</sup>		Christmas Performance Dress Rehearsals
12 <sup>th</sup>	2.15pm & 6.00pm	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Performance
14 <sup>th</sup>	1.45pm & 6.30pm	KS2 Christmas Performance
18 <sup>th</sup>	Pm	Classes C, D & E Party
19 <sup>th</sup>	12.00pm	Christmas Lunch
	Pm	EYFS & KS1 Party
20 <sup>th</sup>		Last day of term
	9.10am	Celebration Assembly
	Pm	Classes A & B party