

Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong!

Newsletter



Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

23rd February 2018

Dear Parents,

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

Lucy R- **Topaz**

Congratulations also to:

Annie C – Grade 3 Piano with Distinction

*Certificates were presented in our Celebration Assembly
on Wednesday 21st March 2018 at 2.50pm*

Year 4 Superstars

Finally, the day had arrived!

As I walked into the big hall with eight other schools, I knew I was going to be a superstar.

On Tuesday 6th of February 2018, all the Year 4s went to Superstars at Chelmsford Stadium. We went to have fun with our friends and make new friends. Before we started the sport, we had an opening ceremony where all of the schools had a speech to say and a banner to represent our school. Anna and Mirabelle said our speech about our school and about how you do.

After all the speeches, we were split into teams and went to our first activity. Ava's was the hop, skip and jump event while Christopher played a game where you had to hit all five cones.

All too soon it was sadly time to go home but first of all we had a closing ceremony when we could find out officially where we came. They announced first and second place...and yay! We came second! We were proud of New Hall for coming first and ourselves for all our hard work. Even though it was a bit sad that we didn't come first.

It was a fun and exciting day. The Great Baddow leaders were there to help out and were great. It was the best.

By Ava and Christopher

Well done Year 4 on another excellent sporting achievement!

Children from China come to Danbury

On Monday 5th of February 2018, 17 children from Beijing, China came to our school to see how different English schools are to Chinese schools. When they first arrived in the school they had a tour led by Mrs Gooding; they placed all their belongings in Class Cuckoo as Class C were on a trip.

Monday-

Once they were settled in, the whole school met in the hall to watch a traditional Chinese tea ceremony — they also let a few of the teachers try the tea. After the assembly, some pupils from Classes A and B were paired with a child from China so they could have help with work and so they had someone to play with. Violet's buddy was Sophie and Maite's buddy was Mandy. Later that day we made a clay model, the children from Danbury made a dragon and the children from China made our school logo, the owl, this took up most of the morning as we all wanted to make models look fantastic. After lunch we did maths; but it was more fun than usual. We had to round all the populations of: China, Beijing, Great Britain, Chelmsford and Danbury, the population of China was around 40 times bigger than the UK. At the end of the day our buddies walked into the hall ready to spend the night at Danbury outdoors.

Tuesday-

When the bell rang, we went into Class A and did our Morning calculations and lined up to go into the hall for assembly. Once assembly was over, we watched a video on how to make scotch pancakes (also known as drop scones) we made the batter and after break we cooked and tried them with jam and cream. We also wrote instructions on how to make the scones. After lunch, we made pie charts on the pupils' favourite toppings the most popular topping was jam and cream. Sadly the day was over but everyone was excited for Wednesday.



Wednesday-

As soon as we got into Class A, we planned an experiment about dunking biscuits in tea and which is the best to dunk. Each group had to find a different way to see which biscuit was the best. My group's idea was to dunk the biscuit in the tea for five second intervals until the biscuit broke and the biscuit that lasted the longest in the tea was the winner. Each group had a different result my answer was the ginger nut. After break we taught the Chinese pupils a dance we had been practising called the Flying Scotsman. Once lunch was over we did more maths on proportions then at the very end of the day the pupils taught us how to sing heads, shoulders, knees and toes in Chinese.

Thursday-

Sadly it was the last day but we decided to make the most of it. At the start of the day we had an assembly and by the time the assembly had finished break time had begun. After break time had ended we painted Chinese style pictures; taught by Mandy. Mandy was incredible at art and it was so detailed that it took us around an hour so when we finished it was lunch time. Once the hour had ticked by, we had to do Number manipulation and when it was over we had P.E with our buddies it was such fun to play hockey with them. Straight after P.E we had a special assembly to say goodbye to our buddy. It was very upsetting but they all managed to keep a straight face! We exchanged gifts and waved bye to our buddies as they walked off to Danbury outdoors.

Overall it was an amazing experience which should definitely happen again. Everyone hopes to see their buddies another time to see how they are doing back at home. Thank you to the children from Beijing for coming to visit and thank you to Mrs Gooding for arranging the visit.

By Violet and Maite

China Visitors

MONDAY

On the last week before the spring half term holidays, children from Beijing arrived to visit our school. They were each assigned to a Class Avocet or Class Budgerigar student. Unfortunately, there were only enough of them to pair up with only 17 of our eager students.

They started our week by presenting a tea ceremony in front of the school. Shortly after that, each student from Beijing presented gifts for the school. We had a broad range of presents, ranging from face-changing masks to elaborate paintings and paper cuttings.

Straight after a short break, we settled down in our classes to start listening about how to use clay. Willie, had excellent English and he helped to translate what Mrs Ireland was saying! Danbury Park had to create a dragon, but on the other hand, the students from Beijing He Ping Li had to design an owl.

After that, we had lunch. The Chinese students did not seem to know where they had to go! Again, Ben had to translate all of the foods to his buddy!

Then, we had a session of mathematics - rounding which was a bit of a mystery for the Chinese students. However we were all impressed by the willingness of the Beijing students.

tuesday

The next day, when we entered the classroom, we peeked at the whiteboard to notice that we were making Scottish Pancakes. There was an immediate upheaval of jubilation, whereas the Chinese students were gazing at us in uttermost confusion!

We immediately jumped into measuring ingredients and preparing the batter to fry. We had to wait for our turn, so unfortunately, that meant work. We had to write about how to make a pancake. Finally, we all had a chance to fry our own pancake and then we got to eat them plain, with jam, with cream or both! We all thought they were extremely tasty.

We then had to do the maths. We created a Carroll diagram and a pie chart to record our favourite toppings. We had to explain how to use a compass!



After a long lunch, we wrote up about an experiment about dunking biscuits. Our test subjects were rich tea biscuits, digestives, hobnobs and ginger nuts. We were to test this out tomorrow.

wednesday

On Wednesday, to start the day off with excitement, we had to dance to a Scottish song called The Dashing White Sergeant, which included many different moves. Without realising, we had to dance to another Scottish song called The Flying Scotsman. The Flying Scotsman is actually a famous Scottish train!

After that, we experimented on dunking biscuits. Every student in the class was extremely excited! Once all of our tables were set up ready to dunk, Mrs Jackson came around with a cup of tea so that we were fully ready to dunk. Once we got the tea, instantly we dunked the digestive in first, then the hobnob, then the ginger nut and then the rich tea. After two tests, we all came to the conclusion that the ginger nut was ideal for dunking in tea.

After another long lunch, in which the Chinese pupils were devouring their food, we then did mathematics. After maths we learnt to say head, shoulders, knees and toes in Chinese, which was very exciting.



The first thing we did on Thursday (the last day), we painted a picture by copying from one of the Chinese pupils (Mandy). We painted a beautiful pink flower with a spiky stem and a fluffy, silky little chick. After that, we did 4 calculations.

As quick as a flash, lunch came by. The Chinese pupils were very upset about their last lunch with us; we were too. After a refreshing, delicious meal we had our last game of football outside before going back into class. During lesson time, we did an exciting math lesson where we had to describe the shape that you chose to your team mates. In Joe's opinion it was very exciting.



Unfortunately it was the last lesson of the day: PE. Joe's partner loves PE. It was also the last PE lesson on Hockey we all felt distraught. In Hockey we practised and worked hard with our buddies. Without notice it was time to say goodbye to our partners in the assembly, whilst returning the favour, giving them presents.

We all enjoyed the last week of term very much; we were all very excited because of having no hard work! In Joe's opinion, he enjoyed frying and creating pancakes as, "it was incredible." Ben's partner liked the science and the clay because, "I like creating things and experimenting." Overall it was an exciting week.



By Ben C and Joe B

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.

Please note that 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.

Chocolate by Design

On Friday 2nd February Classes Flamingo and Goldfinch had a Chocolate by Design day.

First we went into the hall where we met Derek who explained to us the process of how chocolate is made from the cocoa bean to the bar we buy. He told us who discovered chocolate He was amazed at how much information we had already learnt. We learnt lots of new information that we then used to help us write an information text. One of the facts we learnt was that in the past cocoa beans were used to buy children and teachers. Derek knew lots of information because he regularly works in Africa and he explained to us how buying Fairtrade products helps the farmers.

Before lunch there was an exciting quiz where we had to answer lots of questions. We showed what good listeners we were by answering them correctly.



In the afternoon we worked in teams of 6 to design a chocolate pizza. The adults were not allowed to help us. We had to agree on a team name and create a design using different sweets to decorate the chocolate pizza. Unfortunately we had to wait until after the weekend to try our pizzas because we had to let the chocolate set. They were delicious and it was a great day.

Myah, Ronny & Hema, Class Goldfinch

On Friday 26th January Class Flamingo had a very special day. We had a visit from "Chocolate-By-Design" educator, Derek Smith. We had a really fun and informative day and most importantly, all had some chocolate!

As you would expect, the children were really well behaved and Derek commented many times on how engaged and enthusiastic they were, listening intently and remembering lots of facts during the quiz we had at the end of the morning. The quiz was lots of fun and was children versus teachers....the children won! (of course!)

"On Friday was our chocolate day. I was as excited as Christmas day! Derek told us lots of facts about chocolate, like not giving dogs chocolate because it has bromine in it," **Fern**

"On Friday Derek came in to teach us about chocolate. He told us about the history of chocolate and how it is made. One of the facts he told us was that dark chocolate is better for you than milk chocolate. There were three tribes of Indians that used cocoa beans for money - the Aztecs, Mayans and Toltec's," **Jacob**

"In the afternoon we made a chocolate pizza. First we had melted chocolate like a river. We put sweets on our chocolate. It was a great day," **Max P**

Class Flamingo

Safeguarding - Keeping Safe

Absences from School

It is so important that you let school know if your children will not be coming into school for whatever reason.

Our procedures are that the teachers take the registers promptly first thing in the morning and again straight after lunch and these are then checked by the office staff to establish which children are not in school and why. We have a designated option to report pupil absence on our telephone system so that you can leave messages at any time. Please do not contact us by e-mail as we receive so many in one day and your message may get lost. In the mornings we aim to complete these tasks by 9.30am and at that point, if we do not know why a child is not in school, we start phoning the contacts on the list supplied by you when the children joined Danbury Park School. We always start with our Year 6 and Year 5 children as they are the ones, who with your permission, may be walking to school and therefore at greater risk.

If you have applied for a leave of absence, this will be recorded in the registers and you do not need to remind us. If your child has been sent home from school unwell or you have notified us that your child is unwell, you do not need to contact us every day that they are absent. However, if we have not heard from you for two days and the illness is not one, for which we would expect your child to be away from school for a prolonged period, or we are in anyway concerned, we will phone to check. We do need a letter when your child returns to school confirming why they were absent.

Please note that should we not be able to make contact with you and we are concerned for the safety of the children, we would contact the police.

Let's work together to keep our children safe!

London Marathon 2018

Dear Parents and Carers of Danbury Park,

I am running in this year's London Marathon in memory of our dear friend Sally Baker who, you will remember, sadly passed away from the deadly effects of Meningitis in Dec 2015.

I am hoping to raise lots of money and awareness for the Meningitis Research Foundation and hope that you will support me in this. Previous fundraising efforts in her honour have included 2 well attended Coffee Mornings where we have together raised over £2500 so far.

If anyone wants to guess my finishing time on marathon day, there is the potential to win £50. I have a GUESS MY TIME sheet with £3 for a guess or 2 guesses for £5.

The LONDON MARATHON After Party at The Bell, Danbury on Friday 27th April 8pm until late

We will be celebrating all the fundraising effort and support by having one last fun evening with PRIZES, DANCING and more.

This event will be one last push to reach the fundraising target and as a chance for me to say thank you for every bit of support. I hope to see many familiar faces.

There will be a small charge for this event – as it is for CHARITY!

As always, thank you to everyone for their generous support.

Yvonne Burton

Notices and Reminders

Story CDs – if you have any CDs with stories that your children no longer need, we can make good use of them in our library area and in class.

Parking – Last term there were 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 an 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. Please can children remember to collect their phones **before** going to clubs.

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.

Letters sent home this week:

-  **Year 3 Swimming**
-  **Class E Danbury Country Park Visit**
-  **Class H and J Mike Dodsworth Story Teller Visit**
-  **Chelmsford City Football Club Years 2, 3 and 4**
-  **Year 6 School Journey to Ironbridge Payments**

Year 5 Sandon Tour Dates

All tours will take place on the following dates and will commence at 9.30am. They will last a maximum of 45 minutes and Parents/carers will need to arrive no earlier than 9.15am in order to register. **Please contact the Sandon School to book your tour in advance, via the Sandon School Reception after the Easter holidays.**

Tour Dates

Wednesday 6th June, Monday 11th June, Friday 15th June, Monday 18th June and Thursday 21st June.

Prospective Student Tours of King Edward V1 Grammar School

King Edward V1 Grammar School will be holding tours for boys in year 5 and their parents who will be starting secondary school in September 2019.

The Sessions are:

- Monday 12th March –Morning
- Tuesday 13th March –Morning
- Wednesday 14th March – Morning
- Thursday 15th March – Afternoon
- Friday 16th March – Afternoon
- Monday 19th March – Morning

For the morning sessions families should arrive for 9.30 am for a 9.45 am start.

For the afternoon sessions families should arrive for 1.30pm for a 1.45pm start.

Please allow 2 hours for your visit.

Booking is essential. Go to the link on the school website to book a place. www.kegs.org.uk



DPSA News



Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday 24th March 2 - 4 p.m. .

The Easter Bunny is already making plans for our Easter egg hunt this year so come along and find the answers to all of the clues and claim your chocolate prize!

In the hall there will be plenty of things to tempt and challenge you: Easter craft to make, Easter Egg tombola, 'guess the number of sweets in the jar', hamper raffle, biscuit decorating, Grandma's Gifts and much more. We hope you will enjoy our range of **delicious cakes, hot chocolate, tea and coffee**. The Easter Egg colouring competition will also be on show so do come along and vote.

Donations for Children's Easter Egg Tombola and Hamper Raffle - If you can provide an Easter egg, chocolate bunny or similar for the tombola please leave it in the box under the office counter by **Friday 23rd March**. We are also organising an Easter Hamper raffle so look out for a list of suggested items from your class Rep. Easter hamper items can be left in the collecting buckets in your child's class room. Thank you very much.

Tickets – Letters, with order forms attached, will be going out in book bags very soon. Take advantage of our advance ticket price by filling in the order form and returning it to the school office via your class teacher by **Thursday 22th March** - it's only **£2.50 per child for tickets in advance**, but **£3.00 per child on the day**.

'Easter Egg' Colouring Competition - use your imagination to produce a fantastic picture based on the outline of an egg going out in book bags very soon. The pictures will be judged on the day by everyone who attends and there will be prizes for KS1 and KS2. **Don't forget that your decorated works of art must be handed to the school office by Friday 23rd March.**

Helpers Needed - if you can help to run a stall on the day please let us know on sallyj@doctors.org.uk



Booking a shopping forget to use easyfundraising

holiday or online? Don't

If you book or shop online go via www.easyfundraising.org.uk and you can raise money for the school at no cost to yourself at all. Simply register on the easyfundraising website (you just need an email address and a password) and search for Danbury Park School. Select from a list of hundreds of well-known retailers you'd like to shop with and you'll be directed to the retailers' web site as usual but any purchases you make will earn the school commission. Travel companies, car hire companies, holiday insurance and airport parking pay up to 10% of your purchase price.

Dates for the diary 2018



March
June

Saturday 24th
Wednesday 6th
Saturday 23rd
Friday 29th

Easter Egg Hunt
Bag2school
Summer Fayre
School Disco

Did you know we have a DPSA Facebook page?

Like us on Facebook and make sure you know what's happening when. Our page is constantly updated so you never forget things important things like non-uniform day and cake sales!

Thank you for your support.
The DPSA





Owl's Barn School Meals

Week commencing Monday 26th February

Week 2 MONDAY	Pasta Carbonara or Vegetarian Carbonara (V)	Homemade Fresh Bread Mixed Vegetables Carrot Sticks Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Cornflake Tart and Custard Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
TUESDAY	Homemade Spaghetti Bolognaise or Quorn Bolognaise (V)	Garlic Bread Sweetcorn Peas Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Ice Cream Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
WEDNESDAY	Local Butchers Roast Gammon served with Yorkshire pudding and gravy or Cheesy Stack Wrap (V)	Roast Potatoes Freshly sliced carrots Whole Green Beans Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Strawberry Fruit Jelly Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
THURSDAY	Kentucky Chicken Drumsticks or Macaroni Cheese (v)	White and Wholegrain Rice Broccoli, Sweetcorn Green Salad Chips Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Jam Tart and Custard Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
FRIDAY	Local Butchers Beefburger in a Floured Bap or Vegetable Burger in a Floured Bap (v)	Chips Baked Beans Peas Cucumber	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Chocolate Rice Crispy Cake Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit

Dates for the Diary

Week beginning 26th February 2018

Mon 26th Feb

Tues 27th Feb

Weds 28th Feb

2.50pm

Class Hummingbird Assembly

Thurs 1st March

Fri 2nd March

9.00am

Mike Dodsworth, Story teller visit to Class H and J

12.30pm

School Council Meeting

3.15pm

Girls' Football Match v Cathedral Primary (away)

**Full term dates for 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 Spring Term 2018

Date	Time	Event
February		
28 th	2.50pm	Class Hummingbird Assembly
March		
2 nd	9.00am	Mike Dodsworth, story teller to visit classes Hummingbird and Jay
	3.15pm	Girls Football Match v Cathedral (away)
9 th	2.50pm	Class Goldfinch Assembly
12 th	6.30pm	Pay Committee Meeting
	7.00pm	Personnel Committee meeting
16 th	2.50pm	Class Jay Assembly
	3.30pm	Girls Football Match v St Anne's (home)
17 th to 23 rd		Sport Relief Activities
23 rd	9.30am - 11.30 am	Pre School morning
24 th	2.00 – 4.00pm	DPSA Easter Egg Hunt
27 th	10.00am	Spring Celebration for guests & infants
29 th	12.00pm	End of term lunch for staff and governors
29 th	2.30pm	Spring Celebration for parents
		Break up for Easter holidays