

# Danbury Park Community Primary School

*Be wise, be happy, belong!*

## Newsletter



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

**8<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

Dear Parents,

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

**Ava G- Ruby**

**George S - Topaz**

*Certificates were presented in our Celebration Assembly  
on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 2.50pm*

### Book Week

The first week back after the half-term break is our annual Book Week when we celebrate all things literary! Each class will be taking a book or collection of poems to study for the week and this will involve not only lots of reading and writing but also drama activities, music, art and design technology.

We have a programme for the week which will include:

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb** Classes will be pairing up and sharing and reading stories together.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> Feb** We will be joined by Brian Moses, a well-known children's author who will be leading a whole school assembly followed by workshops with all the infant children, with classes E, D and C and then with classes B and A.

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb** Diary of a Wimpy Kid special meal

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb** Dressing up Day. We would like the children to dress up as a book character. Please remember, though they will still need sensible footwear, jumpers and coats as we will still be going outside at break and lunch times.

Adults in school will be offering a special story time when they will be reading an excerpt from their favourite book. The children will be able to choose from the selection which reading they want to attend.

We will be asking for donations on dressing up day to help cover the cost of Brian Moses's visit and also so that we can purchase some new reading books and books for the libraries. More details next week.

It is going to be a very busy and exciting week!

## Visitors from China

On Monday we were delighted to welcome to Danbury Park School seventeen children and three teachers from Hepingli No.4 Primary School in Beijing. They had flown in from China at the weekend and were excited to be joining us for four days. We started with a tour of the school so that the children could familiarise themselves with the layout of the building and get a flavour of what an English school looks like.

We then held a special assembly to welcome our guests. The Chinese children had prepared a presentation to tell us all about their school. They were amazed at how small our school is compared to theirs which has 400 pupils in each year group and therefore 2 400 pupils in the whole school. Hepingli No.4 Primary School is located in East Beijing and it specialises in “beauty education” which encourages students to utilise knowledge as wisdom and civilisation as personality.

Three of the girls dressed in traditional blue and white Chinese costume performed a tea ceremony using their special pots and cups and some jasmine tea which they had brought with them. The tea was perfectly made being hot and delicately flavoured. The children and teachers then presented the school with many traditional gifts to bring us happiness and good luck and these included beautiful clay decorations and a very accomplished flower painting all made by the children. We have put the gifts on display and will hang the paintings and banners in the hall.



Our visitors then joined their assigned buddies in classes Avocet and Budgerigar for their lessons. Over the course of the four days, the children have experienced a range of lessons which typically take place in an English primary school.



On Thursday afternoon we are holding a farewell assembly to present our visitors with mementos of their stay in Danbury including a scrap book with photographs, pin badges with the Union flag and the Chinese flag together, as well as typically British fare. We hope that they have enjoyed their time with us and we have certainly enjoyed learning about life in China.

We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Ireland, Mrs Eveleigh, Mrs Booth, Mrs Jackson and Mrs Anstee as well as the children in classes Avocet and Budgerigar for being such good ambassadors for the school and for being so accommodating and thoughtful. We would also like to thank Zhong Wang from the Jiangsu Centre for organising the visit and being on hand to help.

More reports after half-term!

## Rural Community Council of Essex Growing Communities Packed Lunch Plot Competition

This year we are again inviting pupils to take part in the RCCE *Packed Lunch Plot* competition. You may remember that last year Ava B, who was then in Class Goldfinch, won the competition and the team came into school to plant up her plot and to help the class use the new equipment to get the school's vegetable garden under control.

The teachers have explained all about the project and those children who are interested, have brought home the entry form, so that they can work on their designs over the half-term holiday.

Full details have been uploaded to the school website along with the entry form so that if the children would still like to take part, there is time.

**All entries must be in school by the morning of Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February.**

### First Prize

£750 allotment equipment for your school

The chance to plant your own kitchen garden design

x 1 Teacher Training Course - (RHS school gardening training course)

### Two Runners up Prizes

£200 allotment equipment

**Good Luck!**

## Founder's Day and World Thinking Day 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018

Worldwide in nearly all Scout associations, *Founder's Day* is celebrated on 22 February, the birthday of Robert Baden-Powell, 1st Baron Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, and coincidentally also of his wife Olave Baden-Powell.

This day is also celebrated by Girl Guides and Girl Scouts associations as *Thinking Day* when guiding members across the world think of each other and of their commitment to international friendship and understanding.

We would like to invite the children who belong to these groups to wear their uniforms to school on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February instead of their usual school uniform and we hope they will share their interests with their class mates by explaining what rainbows, brownies, beavers and scouts is all about!

## Eagles

The children at Eagles are very excited about the development of the bungalow. The children have been drawing pictures to put up on display. We will be operating Eagles from the bungalow after February half term.

We will be holding some open sessions during the half term week for our current families and any new families who wish to view Eagles in the bungalow.

The sessions are as follows:-

Wednesday 14th February      9.30- 11.00am and 1.00pm-2.30pm;

Thursday 15th February      1.30- 3.00pm;

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February      9.30- 11.00am.

## 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!**

## 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.

## Half-term Break

Please remember school is closed on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February for staff training.

Half-term is from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February.

School reopens for the children on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

## 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:**



**Book Week 2018**



**Rural community Council of Essex Growing Communities Packed Lunch Plot Competition Details**

## School Council Competition

**Calling all budding designers!**

The KS2 *Snack Shack* is looking for a logo; do you have the skills to help?

It needs to be simple, bold and colourful and capture the essence of the tuck shop.

The closing date is **Monday 19th February** - all entries to be submitted to the School Council through the registers.

*Apologies for the confusion caused by last week's newsletter item - this is a competition for a logo **not** a poster.*

## 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 12<sup>th</sup> March –Morning

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March –Morning

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Morning

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Afternoon

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Afternoon

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.kegs.org.uk)



# DPSA News



## Bag2school – thank you



Thank you to everyone who donated unwanted clothes, bags, shoes, hats, scarves and belts to Bag2school. We were able to raise an amazing

# £145

## Easter Egg Hunt –Saturday 24th

### March 2-

Make sure the date hunt around the refreshments, Easter Egg tombola. We'll be asking for tombola after Easter over the holidays.



### 4pm

is in the diary. They'll be an Easter Egg school grounds with prizes, cakes & crafts and games, and of course an Easter donations of chocolate eggs for our so keep a look out for any special offers

## Booking a holiday or shopping online? Don't forget to use easyfundraising

If you book or shop online go via [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://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.

## The Big Book Collection

The Big Book Collection of donated children's books in the summer and autumn terms of last year was able to add **over 150 books** to the school library. The collection box is back to continue this term. If you have any **good quality books or audio CDs** your children no longer use or have outgrown please leave them in the box by the school office. We are looking for all types of books in good condition from Early Years Foundation up to year 6 - fiction, poetry, non-fiction. Thank you.

# Dates for the diary 2018



March  
June

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup>

Easter Egg Hunt  
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, Have a lovely half term break  
The DPSA**

### London Marathon 2018

Dear Parents and Carers of Danbury Park,

#### **THE DISCO IS TOMORROW! THERE ARE A FEW SPACES STILL AVAILABLE!**

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.

In order to involve the children on this occasion, I am organising a Children's Disco to be held at the Danbury Sports and Social Centre on Friday 9th February.

Entry will be £4, with refreshments, sweets and raffle tickets available to buy at the event. There will be coffee and cake on sale for any peckish parents, too...

We have secured the services of a great DJ and there will be prizes for the best dancers.

Where: Danbury Sports and Social Centre, Dawson Suite

When: 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Date: TOMORROW Friday 9th Feb

Its first come, first served. Book your place online or by contacting me directly. We will be issuing tickets because of hall capacity and those will be available at the school gate next week. Please email [yvonne.burton@live.co.uk](mailto:yvonne.burton@live.co.uk) or text/call 07919401428 for any other details and questions.

Please visit [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/yvonne-burton](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/yvonne-burton) if you would like to pay for your place in advance or to donate to this very worthwhile cause.

- 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



## Owl's Barn School Meals

### Week commencing Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February

|  |  |   |  |   |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| <b>Week 1<br/>MONDAY</b>                       | Homemade Pepperoni or Cheese and Tomato Pizza (V)                                      | White and Wholegrain Pasta<br>Coleslaw<br>Sweetcorn<br>Green Salad  | Jacket Potato with a choice of filling | Cranberry Flapjack with Yoghurt Drizzle<br>Organic Fruit Yoghurt<br>Selection of Fresh Fruit                  |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>                                 | Local Butchers pork sausage or Vegetarian Quorn Sausage (V)                            | Creamy Mashed Potato<br>Fresh Sliced Carrots & Peas/<br>Green Salad   | Jacket Potato with a choice of filling | Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Sauce<br>Organic Fruit Yoghurt<br>Selection of Fresh Fruit                    |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b>                               | Local Butchers Roast Beef served with Yorkshire pudding and gravy or Cheddar Whirl (V) | Roast Potatoes<br>Cauliflower florets<br>Fresh carrots<br>Green salad                                       | Jacket Potato with a choice of filling | Ice cream Arctic Roll<br>Organic Fruit Yoghurt<br>Selection of Fresh Fruit                                    |
| <b>Diary Of A Wimpy Kid Meal.<br/>THURSDAY</b> | Drummies (Chicken in a bun) or The Cheese Touch (Cheesy Stack Wrap) V                  | Wimpy Wedges (Potato wedges) Susan Heffly sweetcorn , Old school peas, Extreme Sports Stix(Cucumber Sticks) | Not Available                          | Greg's Favorite Cookie(Chocolate Chip Cookie) Fregley Fruit Peachy Breeze Yoghurt. NRG Fitness Water (Squash) |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>                                  | Bubble Crumb<br>Fish Fillet  | Chips<br>Baked Beans / Peas<br>Green Salad  | Jacket Potato with a choice of filling | Viennese Biscuits<br>Organic Fruit Yoghurt<br>Selection of Fresh Fruit  |

## Dates for the Diary

### Week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018

#### Book Week

**Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Feb**

**Tues 20<sup>th</sup> Feb**  
3.00pm

**School Council Meeting**

**Weds 21st Feb**

**Brian Moses author visiting and working with the whole school**

**Thurs 22nd Feb**

**Founders Day/Thinking Day - Brownies and Beavers to wear uniform  
*Diary of a Wimpy Kid* themed lunch**

**Fri 23rd Feb**

**Dress up as a book character day**

**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   |
|---|------------------------|---|
| <b>February</b>                           |                        |   |
| <b>12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Half-term break</b> |   |
| Week beg<br>19 <sup>th</sup>              |                        | Book Week   |
| 21 <sup>st</sup>                          | All day                | Brain Moses, poet to visit  |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup>                          | Lunch                  | <i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid</i> themed lunch                          |
| 28 <sup>th</sup>                          | 2.50pm                 | Class Hummingbird Assembly  |
| <b>March</b>                              |                        |   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>                           |                        | Mike Dodsworth, story teller to visit classes Hummingbird and Jay |
|   | 3.15pm                 | Girls Football Match v Cathedral (away)                           |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>                           | 2.50pm                 | Class Goldfinch Assembly  |
| 12 <sup>th</sup>                          | 6.30pm                 | Pay Committee Meeting   |
|   | 7.00pm                 | Personnel Committee meeting                                       |
| 16 <sup>th</sup>                          | 2.50pm                 | Class Jay Assembly  |
|   | 3.30pm                 | Girls Football Match v St Anne's (home)                           |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> to 23 <sup>rd</sup>      |                        | Sport Relief Activities   |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup>                          | 9.30am -<br>11.30 am   | Pre School morning  |
| 24 <sup>th</sup>                          | 2.00 –<br>4.00pm       | DPSA Easter Egg Hunt  |
| 27 <sup>th</sup>                          | 10.00am                | Spring Celebration for guests & infants                           |
| 29 <sup>th</sup>                          | 12.00pm                | End of term lunch for staff and governors                         |
| 29 <sup>th</sup>                          | 2.30pm                 | Spring Celebration for parents                                    |
|   |                        | Break up for Easter holidays                                      |