

Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong!

Newsletter



Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

20th December 2018

Dear Parents,

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

Tommy P – Emerald Alexander S – Emerald Eve R – Emerald Oscar D – Emerald
Dulcie R – Ruby Morgan H – Diamond Sienna-Jayne H – Bronze

***Our next Celebration Assembly is
on Wednesday 6th February 2019 at 2.50pm.
Families are welcome to join us.***

Christmas Concert for the Senior Citizens in our Community

On Thursday 13th December myself, Mrs Ireland and a group of talented musicians went to The Mission to perform for their lunch club Christmas meal. The children performed beautifully, even though some felt very nervous, and the audience definitely appreciated the music, as several people were even humming along! It was a very enjoyable concert and I was very proud of all the musicians.



Thank you to everyone who played so well, to Mrs Ireland for her help, and to the lovely mums who helped transport the children to and from and then stayed to enjoy the music.

We have been invited back to play next year so I will look forward to taking more children next December.

Mrs Long

Christmas Plays



The Christmas plays this year were a resounding success. Thank you for all your kind words of appreciation. The children and staff all work very hard to ensure that every child participates and that they enjoy the experience of performing for an audience. The children embrace these challenges and they always rise to the occasion, often in unexpected ways; every year we are surprised by a new acting talent or angelic singing voice that we hadn't yet discovered.



All the staff wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER

December 2018

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Dear Parents,

It has been a busy start to the new academic year: meetings of all the committees, visits by governors to monitor their key stage, class or curriculum responsibilities and the setting of governor targets within the School Improvement Plan 2017/18 and School Development Plan for the next three years.

We also began our series of termly surveys, this term focusing on 'settling-in', which the vast majority of parents perceived as very positive.

We also enjoyed attending the school's Christmas celebrations - both Infant and Junior were brilliantly performed - and admired the mobiles made by each class. Some of us also attended the DPSA fayre and can only congratulate the chairman and her team, Danbury Park staff and pupils, for a very successful afternoon, which was enjoyed by all the parents and their children.

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The committees met and a summary of their work is as follows:-

BE WISE, BE HAPPY, BELONG

Curriculum and Pupil Related Committee - Mrs Georgina Clifford- Smith

- The committee reviewed the EYFS, KS1 and KS2 SATS results from 2018. The targets that have been set for 2019 were also reviewed in light of the School Development Plan.
- Governors were given the results from the year 2 and year 4 pupil surveys that were carried out at the end of the last academic year. They were delighted to hear that pupils are happy at Danbury Park and that topic work and school trips are particular highlights for them.
- The Committee also received and discussed detailed progress reports concerning English and Maths from the subject leaders.

Resources Committee – Mr Rak Rehal

- The committee focused as usual on ensuring appropriate Premises and Resources to support the school to deliver outstanding education.
- A site walk was undertaken to identify key items needing attention, and to follow up on the Drainage Project currently underway, while a termly Health and Safety check was undertaken by HT, Peter Irvine and Jim Webb.
- Continued review of school finances.

Personnel Committee - Mr Peter Irvine

- The committee were pleased to hear that the School Office is now fully staffed following the appointments of a new Office Manager from October half term and another administrative assistant.
- Performance Management reviews of teaching staff have been completed.
- Continuous Professional Development courses will be organised for relevant staff.

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The Governors wish you all a joyful Christmas and a happy New Year.

Brenda Wray, Chair of Governors

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School Improvement Plan Key Priorities for 2018-19

Each year the school's governing body working with the headteacher and the senior leadership team draws up a plan for how the school will develop and improve over the coming year. Below are our priorities for 2018-19:

What are we trying to improve?	How will we know when we've got there?
For pupil achievement in writing across the school to be raised with a focus on pupils at risk of not achieving the expected levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils' attainment as measured at EYFS, end of KS1 and KS2 is in line with school standards in reading; Pupils' attainment as measured at EYFS, end of KS1 and KS2 is better than national and Essex.
For pupil achievement in Maths to improve with a focus on pupils at risk of not achieving the expected levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils' attainment as measured at EYFS, end of KS1 and KS2 is in line with school standards in English; Pupils' attainment as measured at EYFS, end of KS1 and KS2 better than national and Essex.
For standards across the curriculum in subjects other than English and Maths to continue to rise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils are aware of and can articulated what they are learning and can self-evaluate; Pupil attainment and progress is recorded termly using school format in all subjects; Subject leaders can discuss standards within their subject.
For the number of pupils achieving GLD in EYFS to rise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of pupil achieving GLD is better than national and Essex. There is no significant difference in achievement between the different aspect/areas.
For pupils with specific behavioural difficulties to be fully supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils' needs are identified and met using "quality first teaching"; Pupils' needs are met within the classroom; Pupils' behavioural difficulties do not impact adversely on academic achievement.
The school environment For the school to be an attractive, fit-for-purpose learning environment For the school to enhance his budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school kitchen is refurbished (ceiling, floor, tiles); The external appearance of the school is improved (fascia board); Storage facilities are improved; Class D and ICT suite is remodelled and refurbished; Ventilation is improved in the ICT suite and Class C. Additional sources of funding are sought.
Leadership and Management Structures and Systems For leadership to be distributed throughout the teaching staff For the learning support team to impact positively on standards 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 and to include pupil perception gathering in maths, English, EYFS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Middle Leaders take active responsibility for their subject area and are aware of and can explain the standards pupils are achieving within their subject areas throughout the school. New LSAs are fully inducted and effective in their roles; The HLTA team are effective within their roles. Feedback from surveys, parents and staff and other governing bodies; By the end of the academic year new government criteria are incorporated into governor work and thinking through training and monitoring; All monitoring visits are in accordance with Governor Visits Policy and each governor with a responsibility submits a report to the full governing body and appropriate committee after agreed visit; The list of visits made is updated termly; the list is reviewed at the beginning of the academic year 2019-20.

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 surveys and questionnaires.

School Clubs

Our timetable for the Spring Term is below:

	Before School	Lunchtime	After School
Monday		French with Mrs Croucher, La Jolie Ronde Catch up lessons	Netball Club with Miss Bridge 3.30pm to 4.15pm Year 5 & 6
Tuesday	Cheerleading with Premier Sport 8.00am – 8.45am Year 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	French with Mrs Croucher, La Jolie Ronde Years 3 & 4 Year 2	Football with Chelmsford City 3.30pm-4.30pm, Years 2, 3 & 4 Tennis with Danbury Tennis Club 3.30pm – 4.15pm, Years 3 & 4
Wednesday		Spanish with Mrs Mason Years 1,2 & 3	Multisports 3.25pm – 4.20pm Years 1- 6
Thursday	Athletics with Premier Sport 8.00am – 8.45am Year 3, 4, 5 and 6	French with Mrs Croucher, La Jolie Ronde Year 1 Girls Football 12.20pm to 12.50pm, Year 4, 5 & 6	Boys Football 3.25pm to 4.30pm, Years 5 & 6 Grundy Gym Club 3.30pm to 4.30pm
Friday		Spanish with Mrs Mason Years 4,5 & 6	KS2 Tag Rugby with Maldon Rugby Club 3.30pm – 4.30pm Art Club with Mrs Butler 3.30pm to 4.30pm

Should you require any further information, please contact the school office or the clubs directly for details.

All clubs start the week beginning 7th January 2018 and finish the week beginning 1st April, apart from Netball, French and Spanish, which start the week commencing 14th January.

TT Rockstars



This week the children in Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 should have brought home a letter all about TT Rockstar. This is an online resource, similar to Mathletics, to which the school has recently purchased a subscription. It is specially designed to help children learn and practice their multiplication tables in a fun and interactive way. The government will be introducing an online Multiplication test for pupils in Year 4 so we want to ensure that the children have every opportunity to learn their tables thoroughly.

We will be using the resource in school and we hope that over Christmas there will be some time for you to explore the website with your child.

Our Christmas Dance Show



On Saturday 15th December, Elena M, Jessica M, and Danielle W performed with Silhouettes Dance School in a Christmas dance show - "Colours"- to an audience of friends and family at Sandon School. Our show was named Colours because every song title had a colour in it. The show went very well and everybody had a great time.

After a dress rehearsal and many hours of practice, the day finally arrived. At eleven o'clock we all started getting ready for the dress rehearsal to work out the timings, costumes, spacing and props. At four o'clock, the day had raced by and it was the time for the first dance, the whole group opening! We performed dances from a range of genres, including tap, modern, ballet, freestyle and lyrical. We wore amazing costumes and danced to great songs such as "True Colours" during which we got to use dance ribbons! Jess and I performed a duet to "Black Magic" and Elena danced to the song "Emerald City" from The Wizard of Oz. The finale song was "All I Want for Christmas" and a snow machine sprayed us all with snow which was very exciting!

At the end, we all got presented with certificates for participating in the show, for exams we had taken earlier in the year and for special awards. Jessica received an award for her great enthusiasm in all classes and I received the Silhouettes tap award.

Without a doubt, this was an amazing show and we loved taking part.

Written by Danielle W

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. Please let the office know if you are not receiving Parentmail messages.

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.

Wet weather clothing

As the weather gets wetter and colder we are often asked for tights and socks so that the children can change if they get muddy or wet when playing outside. If you have any spare tights or socks for any age it would be really helpful if you could send them into the office.

If your child comes home in spare clothes we would be grateful if you could wash and return them as soon as possible.

Thank you

Safeguarding Keeping Safe

Have you finished your Christmas shopping yet? Planning to spend a couple of hours in a Christmas Market or even online? This Christmas there will be more tech toys than ever before, and many of them will use Bluetooth or Wi-Fi 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.

Last year the Information Commissioner published an article looking at the risks of using smart toys and it is well-worth reading. Please remember to do your homework so that you can keep your children safe.

Let's work together to keep the children safe!

Admission to Schools for the Reception Year Group September 2019

The primary school (Reception) admissions process opens on **Monday 12 November 2018**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2019.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2019**.

From 12 November 2018, applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 98% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

We are offering visits to the school for prospective parents on **Wednesday 9th January at 1.45pm**. Please contact the school office to book.

Goodbyes

This term we say goodbye to Mrs Elaine Steinbergs who has been a learning support assistant at the school for many years. She has worked with many of the children in school and on lots of occasions has supported the Year 6 children on school journey. We would like to thank her for all her care and hard work. We will miss her very much and wish her the very best for the future.

School Lunches Costs for Spring Term 2019

1st Half Term: 7th January – 14th February = 29 days at £2.20 = **£63.80**

2nd Half Term: 25th February – 5th April = 30 Days at £2.20 = **£66.00**

Full Term Total = £129.80

Please send monies in with your child via the book bags in a named envelope making cheques payable to Essex County Council. We would encourage parents to pay in advance for meals and if possible for the whole half-term. You will only pay for those meals that your child has and any credits will be carried forward to the next term.

Please remember school dinners were increased at the beginning of this term and cost £2.20. Thank you

Notices and Reminders

Parking – We have been made aware of parents parking dangerously and blocking the entrance to the car park as you turn off Well Lane. This causes an obstruction with traffic backing up onto Main Road and is dangerous for families using the zebra crossing and trying to cross Well Lane. There are now *No Parking* signs along this section, so please abide by these and think carefully about where you park before someone is injured. **Please ensure that you do not block any access for emergency vehicles and where possible, you either walk or park a safe distance away from the school.**



DPSA News



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Christmas Fayre Final total £3,259.77

Thank you again to everyone who helped with the Christmas Fayre we couldn't have done it without you. We have now been able to order the new laptop computers for school.

Children's Christmas Play DVD

The DVD includes both the KS1 and KS2 performances and is professionally edited and recorded with the use of microphones. DVDs are still available at **£16 each** (£3 of which goes to DPSA funds). To reserve your copy please complete the form which was sent out in book bags this week. Spare forms are available from the school office or Class Reps.



Jumble Sale Saturday 12th January 1.30pm Danbury Village Hall

Donations of jumble and help needed

If you're having a clear out over the Christmas holidays don't forget we have a jumble sale on Saturday 12th January. We will need items of clothing (adults and childrens), bric-a-brac, household linen, toys, books, small electrical items, in fact anything you no longer need except large items of furniture. Please drop to Danbury Village Hall on the day 9-12. If you can help in the morning (9 -12) or afternoon (1.15 -3pm) please let me know as soon as possible at sallyj@doctors.org.uk

Christmas Floral Table Decoration Evening last Thursday



A big thank you to Natalie Westhorp for leading this event. We made **£190 profit**. Thank you to everybody who came along and supported it. The floral decorations all looked amazing at the end of the evening and the hall smelt beautifully of orange and cinnamon! We do hope to more events like this next year so keep a look out for the flyers.

Dates for the diary 2019



<u>January</u>	
Sat 12th	New Year Jumble Sale
Thurs 24 th	Bag2school
Friday 25 th	School Disco
<u>March</u>	
Sat 30 th	Easter Egg Hunt
<u>June</u>	
Sat 22 nd	Summer Fayre

**We wish you all a very 'Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year'
from The DPSA**



Owl's Barn School Meals

Week commencing Monday 7th January

Week 1 MONDAY	Homemade Pepperoni or Cheese and Tomato Pizza (V)	White and Wholegrain Pasta Coleslaw Sweetcorn Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Cranberry Flapjack with Yoghurt Drizzle Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
TUESDAY	Local Butchers pork sausage or Vegetarian Quorn Sausage (V)	Creamy Mashed Potato Baked Beans Peas/ Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Sauce Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
WEDNESDAY	Local Butchers Roast Beef served with Yorkshire pudding and gravy or Cheddar Whirl (V)	Roast Potatoes Cauliflower florets Fresh carrots Green salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Ice cream Arctic Roll Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
THURSDAY	Homemade Chicken Korma or Sweet Potato and Lentil Korma (V)	White and Wholegrain Rice Naan Bread Sweetcorn, Cucumber	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Apple Crumble and Custard Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
FRIDAY	Oven Baked Birdseye Jumbo Fish finger	Chips Mixed Veg / Peas Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Viennese Biscuits Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit

Dates for the Diary

Week beginning 7th January 2019

Mon 7th

8.50am

School reopens after the Christmas break

Tues 8th

Weds 9th

1.45pm

Open afternoon for Prospective Parents

Thurs 10th

Fri 11th

Full term dates for this academic year 2018-19
and for next, 2019-20 are available on the school website.

Yours sincerely

Carol Gooding
Headteacher

Danbury Park Community Primary School

Dates for Spring Term 2019

January 2019		
7 th	8.50am	First day of Spring term School re-opens to children

Spring Term 2019		
12 th February	3.40 – 6.10pm	Parent Consultations – all classes
14 th February	6.00 – 8.30pm	Parent Consultations – all classes