

# Danbury Park Community Primary School

*Be wise, be happy, belong!*

## Newsletter



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

**7<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

Dear Parents,

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

Fern D – **Emerald** Emily B – **Emerald** Isabelle C – **Emerald**  
Eloise R – **Ruby** Thomas P – **Ruby** Holly B – **Bronze** Lucy R – **Silver**

*Our next Celebration Assembly is  
on **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 9.10am.**  
Families are welcome to join us.*

### Our Beautiful Christmas Mobiles

Yet again, the classes have created the most wonderful mobiles to hang in the school hall. They have transformed the school hall and it looks magical.



## Class Eider's Viking Day

On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 it was Viking day! First we were told to stand in a straight line by Einar the Grey (our host for the day). Next we had to go into the hall ready for Viking day. Einar the Grey asked us to sit down by the fire and wait for him to tell us what to do next. Einar the Grey told us to get started with the seven activities on the tables. *Poppy*

On one table you could make Thor's hammer and you could make patterns on it. Then we could write a letter to the king in ink but you had to make the ink first and you were writing with a feather. The last thing I did was make a bracelet. *Maisie*

After I made the runes I became a skilled pikeman (somebody who holds a spear). Because we had spears we had to be at the back. If we ended up at the front we had to quickly run around to the back. The warriors went to battle. If Einar whistled once the red shields would attack, if he whistled twice the blue shields attacked and if he whistled three times the pikeman would attack. *Oscar D*



Some people went to war and they left Lady Freya, which was Eve in charge. Everyone else had to clean everything and make dinner. Then Einar the Grey told us about his costume and we asked him questions about Vikings. *Lucy*

After lunch, Phil was not a Viking any more, he was an archaeologist and said that all archaeologists have beards. Which I do not believe. Our task was to dig in a box full of mud with a brush. Then we had to feel what we found. When we found what it was we put the name on a piece of paper and then the object next to it. *Dexter*

When we were going to finish this fun and awesome day, Phil forgot to tell us something, he was going to choose which necklace mould was the best. And he had already chosen...Max F! He melted metal into the mould and left it to cool. While all that was happening me and everyone else had to be 4 metres away! When it was dry he put it onto a string and put it round Max's neck. *Joe*

I didn't get the pendant but I didn't mind. I was having fun just watching Phil do it. My favourite part of the day was digging up the artefacts. I didn't have a least favourite part. *Eve*





## Christmas Fayre

Well done to everyone who supported the Christmas Fayre. We are still working out the profits from the class enterprise projects and more details will be announced next week.

The winners of the Christmas Tree Donation Collection Prize Draws were:

**Danielle W, Lucy R, Harry A, Tommy P, Lucy K, Gracie B, Sophie T, Oliver C, Henry W**

They each received a selection gift of a box of chocolates to enjoy for all their hard work.

The members of the DPSA do sterling work raising funds for our school and their efforts enable us to provide resources and equipment that we otherwise could not afford. Last week we installed sixteen new laptops to replace the old ones, which are now too slow to connect to the internet and to operate the newer version of school software.



So we would like to say a big thank you to all the Committee members of the DPSA who work so hard to organise the event and to the parents and families who support all the events.

## Parent Governors

Letters were sent home last week seeking nominations for the two parent governor vacancies that have arisen.

Parent governors play an important role as members of the governing body, which is responsible for directing the conduct of the school and for promoting high standards of educational achievement. An information leaflet containing more detail about the role and responsibilities is available from the school office or from the school website under the governance tab, or if you would prefer Mrs Gooding or Mrs Wray, our Chair of Governors, would be more than happy to speak with you.

The closing date for nominations is **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 9.00am**.

## Save our Library

As I am sure you are aware the village library in Danbury has been earmarked for closure.

Parents and children have been telling us how much they value having a local library and that it is a fantastic and well used community service. The librarians are outstanding - they know the children by name and they all help foster a real love of reading including making book recommendations and taking an interest in their preferences.

We believe that to lose this local resource would lead to a permanent loss of something very precious. The school will be writing to Essex County Council to voice our disappointment and concerns but I know many of you feel that a bigger response would have more impact. If you would like to join our efforts, you can still write to Essex County Council. We understand that there is a meeting at The Mission on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00am** which families are welcome to attend.

## 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

## Christmas Events



### Christmas Plays

#### **Infants – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December; Juniors – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

This week you should have received your tickets for the Christmas plays. Doors will open no earlier than 15 minutes before the performances start. We regret that we do not have enough room for you all to wait inside the front foyer as seating here is reserved for those who are disabled or elderly. Please remember to let us know of any special arrangements that may be required and to bring your tickets with you to the performances as this speeds up the entry process. However, if you do forget, don't worry, Mrs Gooding will have a master list.

Please be advised that due to fire regulations we cannot exceed the maximum number of people in the hall. This means that adults or secondary aged students only are permitted to attend the performances.

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup> December. The collection of presents will be on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December so gifts must be left by the end of school on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you.

### Christmas Parties

This year because of the way that the Christmas holidays fall, we are trying a different approach to our traditional parties. All the children will join together for their Christmas parties on the afternoon of Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December. 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 and we will end with a special Christmas singsong together. 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 and Christmas Jumper Day

This will take place on Wednesday 12<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.

We are inviting staff and pupils to get into the Christmas spirit that day by wearing a Christmas jumper to school. This is a fun activity and no donations are required.

## 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](http://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 **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 1.45pm** and **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 1.45pm**. Please contact the school office to book.

## 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. Please think carefully about where you park before someone is injured.

**Christmas Tree Festival** – If you have time this weekend, why not visit this special event at St John's Church. The children have made decorations for a Christmas tree and it will be on display.

### Letters sent home this week:

-  **Thursday Football Club – Year 4s only**
-  **Christmas Production Tickets**



# DPSA News



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

## Christmas Fayre Thank You

### We raised over £2,600!

Thank you to everyone who helped at the Christmas Fayre last Saturday, setting up, running stalls, clearing up, donating gifts and cakes, and of course by bringing your children along on the day. The hall was full of people and the children all seemed to be having fun which is the most important thing. We are still waiting for the class enterprise stalls to let us know how they did and we will let you know the final total next week.

Congratulations to all of our winners. The hamper raffle organised by the Class Reps was yet again a great success. The hampers looked fabulous thanks to all of your donations and the hamper wrappers..

### Grand Raffle Winners

**£100 cash donated by EJCoombes Solicitors, Danbury**

**5kg KellyBronze Turkey**

**Christmas Floral Door Wreath**

**Family of 4 meal voucher**

**Family of 4 meal voucher**

**Christmas Hamper**

**Family of 4 ticket to Marsh Farm**

**Family of 4 ticket for The Nutcracker at Danbury Mission**

**Vita Bella £25 meal voucher**

**Cream tea for 2**

**Childs long rein riding lesson**

**Family Photo shoot and photo**

**Family Photo shoot and photo**

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**One Month Gym Membership**

KellyBronze Turkeys, Bicknacre  
by Natalie Westhorp

Five Guys Restaurant, Chelmsford

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Woodland Montessori, Danbury

Marsh Farm, South Woodham Ferrers

Arrnstrong Family

Vita Bella, East Hanningfield

Frenchy's Tearooms, Danbury

Chelmsford Equestrian Centre, Galleywood

Barratt & Coe, Coggleshall

Barratt & Coe, Coggleshall

Gavin Woollard Studio

Danbury Sports & Social Club

J Dudley

C Gilbert

S Hodgson

S Grant

Hardingham Family

S Power

Willow E

J Bidgood

E Clegg

B Taylor

E Taplin

G Humphries

S Banks

A Phik

Bowman family

### Children's Christmas Performance DVD

The DPSA has once again arranged to have the Christmas performances recorded by a professional company (the recordings will take place at the dress rehearsal). The DVD will include both the KS1 and KS2 performances and will be professionally edited 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 **£16 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 17<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 which was sent out in book bags this week. Spare forms are available from the school office.



and

### Christmas Floral Table Decoration Evening Next Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>

#### December in the school hall - last remaining spaces



Come along and learn how to make an amazing Christmas Floral Table decoration under the supervision of a professional florist. It costs £30 per person payable on booking. All materials will be provided and you will have a lovely table decoration for Christmas to take home at the end of the evening. Forms have gone out in book bags and spare ones are available from the school office,

### Dates for the diary 2019



#### January

**Sat 12<sup>th</sup> New Year Jumble Sale**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> School Disco**

#### March

**Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Easter Egg Hunt**

#### June


**Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> Summer Fayre**

**Have a lovely weekend. The DPSA**



## Owl's Barn School Meals

### Week commencing Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

<b>Week 1 MONDAY</b>	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
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Local Butchers pork sausage or Vegetarian Quorn Sausage (V)	Creamy Mashed Potato Fresh Sliced Carrots & Peas/ Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Sauce Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 	Roast Turkey, chipolata sausage, sage & onion stuffing or Seasonal Vegetable Wrap	Roast Potatoes Peas Carrots sprouts Yorkshire Pudding	Not available	Christmas Ice Cream Pot or Festive Shortbread
<b>THURSDAY</b>	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
<b>FRIDAY</b>	Bubble Crumb Fish Fillet	Chips Baked Beans / 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 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018

**Mon 10<sup>th</sup>**

**1.45pm** Prospective Parents Tour

**Tues 11<sup>th</sup>**

**12.30pm** School Council Meeting

**Weds 12<sup>th</sup>**

**12.00pm** Christmas Jumper Day  
Christmas Dinner

**Thurs 13<sup>th</sup>**

**12.30pm** Christmas Concert for Senior Citizens at The Mission  
**3.00pm** Girls' Football Match v Priory  
**7.00pm** DPSA Christmas Flower Arranging

**Fri 14<sup>th</sup>**

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 Autumn Term 2018

Date	Time	Event
<b>December</b>		
8 <sup>th</sup>		St John's Church Christmas Tree Festival
12 <sup>th</sup>		Christmas Lunch Wear a Christmas jumper to school day
13 <sup>th</sup>	12.00pm	Christmas Concert at The Mission
14 <sup>th</sup>	Tbc	Christmas Performance Dress Rehearsals
17 <sup>th</sup>	Tbc	Filming of Christmas plays
18 <sup>th</sup>	2.15pm & 6.00pm	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Performance
19 <sup>th</sup>	1.45pm & 6.30pm	KS2 Christmas Performance
20 <sup>th</sup>	9.10am	Celebration Assembly
	Pm	Christmas Parties for all classes
		Last day of term for pupils
<b>January</b>		
7 <sup>th</sup>		First day of Spring term

<b>Spring Term 2018</b>		
12 <sup>th</sup> February	3.40 – 6.10pm	Parent Consultations – all classes
14 <sup>th</sup> February	6.00 – 8.30pm	Parent Consultations – all classes