

Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong!

Newsletter



Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

1st February 2019

Dear Parents,

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

Joe K – **Bronze**

Serena D - **Ruby**

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

Class Cuckoo's Visit to the Royal Observatory



On Monday 21st January 2019, an excited Class Cuckoo made their way to the Royal Observatory because our topic is space. First of all, we visited the Planetarium. When we walked in, the first thing we realised the large, white, dome roof. We sat down on our comfy, black seats and looked up. Slowly the lights dimmed and the show began.

The first thing that was projected on the dome was a view of the Royal Observatory. As our astronomer scrolled up and we saw the night sky. The first thing we talked about was the constellations, 'The Big Dipper' or 'Plough' was the centre of attention. Our astronomer said that if you moved along from the top star you would reach the North Star (Polaris). A constellation is a group of stars put together to create a shape.

Our astronomer moved on to our planets. There were two groups - four gas planets and four terrestrial planets. He selected one terrestrial planet (Mars) and gave us a talk. He told us that since Mars is colder than Earth, the snow has frozen so much it has created dry ice. Mars has a very large dormant volcano and it is named Olympus Mons. Mars is red since it is called Mars after the Roman god of war. He then selected a gas planet - Uranus. When Uranus was discovered, it was called George, although astronomers from other countries changed the name to: Uranus. When we had looked at the maps of the early solar system and astronomers realised that Uranus had changed places with Neptune. Uranus has 27 moons - most of which are named after Shakespeare characters.

Class Cuckoo's Visit to the Royal Observatory (contd)

Before lunch, our group had time to explore more of the observatory. Outside, our group found the Meridian Line. We put one foot on each side. Then we went to the Equatorial telescope. It is the largest telescope in the world. It is fixed so it showed that the Earth moves (rotates around the sun).



Next we went to see the red time ball. The time ball was high up and every day at 1pm it rose. It was used to help ships set their clocks.

We had been given an activity sheet with a map and questions we had to answer.

After lunch we had a sun, moon and Earth workshop. Our astronomer, Patricia, started by identifying the sun (to its picture), the moon (to its picture) and the Earth (to its picture). Patricia chose myself and seven other volunteers to stand at the front. Each child got given a different sized ball. I got given a ping-pong ball. Then she brought a giant beach ball in and we were asked to vote on which is the Earth compared to the giant beach ball. Beau had a marble and that was the Earth compared to the sun.

Patricia then talked about the phases of the moon. She had a chart and explained the meaning of waxing and waning. Waxing means getting bigger and waning means getting smaller. She then explained eclipses.

After Patricia's workshop, we went outside and saw Herschel's telescope. Our group thought it was massive, although it was only one section of it. The rest had been destroyed when a tree fell on it. The whole telescope was 40 feet long!

We also learnt that John Flamsteed built a 30 metre well so he could look up using his telescope. Next we counted how many names there were on the building - 10. We then did a short treasure hunt.

I felt the trip was amazing, brilliant and life changing experience. My favourite part was the planetarium because it is not every day you get that experience.

Ella H.



Class Flamingo Buggy Making Day

On Friday 25th January Class Flamingo had their Moon buggy making day. It was so much fun! We invited parents and helpers to come and join us and we think they enjoyed it too!

First we had to get our materials together. This included a box, wheels, dowling, scissors, cardboard tubes, glue, foil and sellotape. We had already designed our moon buggy and we used this to help us make our moon buggy come to life. Once we had constructed our buggy we had to decided whether we wanted to paint it or cover it in silver foil. The classroom was very busy, messy and noisy but everyone was still working extremely hard (we could just about hear the Star Wars music in the background!).

We were all very pleased with the outcomes and would like to say a HUGE thank you to all the parents, grandparents and helpers who gave up their time to share this exciting morning.

Class Flamingo



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.

Safeguarding Keeping Safe

At the beginning of each term we remind the children about using the internet safely, so now is a good time for you to sit down with your child and reinforce the messages about online safety.

There has been a lot in the news recently about children struggling to cope with all the pressures of living in a digital age particularly when they move to secondary school. We are aware that this starts much earlier in Year 6 and even Year 5 usually when the children get their first mobile phones. As part of our PSHE programme we undertake work explaining about social media and how the children can keep themselves safe. We also include work on friendships and how saying something in a text or via a digital message should be viewed in the same way as saying something to each other in person.

There are excellent reports and resources for parents to use, including on the link below. Please take some time to read them and sit down with your child and review how they can keep themselves safe and use how they can use these ways of communicating responsibly.

<https://www.nwgnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Online-Onguard-Read-Online-Version.pdf>

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk>

Let's work together to keep the children safe!

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 academic year and cost £2.20 per day. Thank you.

Rural Community Council of Essex Growing Communities Packed Lunch Plot Competition

Don't forget the RCCE Competition is still open.

All entries must be in school by the morning of Monday 11th February, as we need to post them to the RCCE in plenty of time.

First Prizes

£500 allotment equipment for the school.

Two Runners up Prizes

£150 allotment equipment for the school.


Good Luck!

Notices and Reminders

Parent Consultations – Letters with dates of appointment times will be sent out on Monday 4th February. Please remember that if you are on holiday during this week, we are unable to offer an alternative evening appointment. If you wish to discuss your child's education, the class teacher will arrange a time after the half-term break but this will be dependent on their availability.

Data Collection sheets – If you haven't yet returned the data collection sheet given out at last term's parent consultations we would really appreciate them back or alternatively an email to let us know that no contact details have changed. Thank you.

Letters sent home this week:

 E-safety alert to parents of children from Year 2 to Year 6.

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



DPSA News



Find us on:
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School disco thanks

Thank you to all the parents helpers and teachers who helped at the school disco last Friday. The children certainly seemed to be enjoying themselves and we made an **amazing £709 profit** which will go towards buying new tablet computers and digital cameras for the school.



Bag2school Thanks



Thank you to everybody that donated bags for the Bag2school collection last week. With your help we raised a **fantastic £128.**



Adventure Island Wrist Bands – It's Open February Half Term

The DPSA have again teamed up with Adventure Island in Southend to offer discounted wristbands for their theme park.

Blue Bands (over 1.2m height) **DPSA cost £18** - saving £4.50 on the internet price and £12 on the 'on the day'

Green Bands (1.0 -1.2m height) / **Red Bands** (under 1m height) **DPSA cost £15** – saving up to £3.75 on the internet price and up to £10 on the 'on the day price'

If you'd like to buy wristband vouchers, which are valid until the end of 2019 please contact Nicky at nickythomason@me.com who will arrange to get them to you. Payments need to be in cash or a cheque made payable to 'The DPSA'. Family and friends are welcome to buy too!

Name Labels



Stikins are name labels for clothes and school equipment. It's a great way to ensure items are never lost again and they are very easy to use as they just stick in. The same label can be used for clothes, shoes, water bottles, etc. Visit the website www.stikins.co.uk to order and **use the code 5641** at the checkout and we will automatically receive a donation for our funds.

Dates for the diary 2019



March

Thurs 7th

Sat 30th

June

Tues 18th

Sat 22nd

July

Friday 5th

DPSA Committee Meeting 8pm The Bell – all welcome
Easter Egg Hunt 2-4pm

Bag2school
Summer Fayre 12 -3pm

School Disco

Have a lovely weekend. The DPSA



Owl's Barn School Meals

Week commencing Monday 4th 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 Bolognese or Quorn Bolognese (V)	Garlic Bread Sweetcorn Peas Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Giant Cookie with Fruit Wedge 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 Peas	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 4th February 2019

Mon 4th

9.15 - 10.15am

EYFS Stay and Play

Tues 5th

Am

12.30pm

Internet Safety Day

Class Avocet's Chinese activities

Year 4 Superstars at Melbourne

Weds 6th

2.50pm

Celebration Assembly - families welcome

Thurs 7th

Fri 8th

9.15 - 10.15am

2.50pm

EYFS Stay and Play

Class Goldfinch's Assembly

**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

Date	Time	Event
February		
5 th	12.30pm	Year 4 Superstars
	9.00am	Chinese Morning Class A
6 th	2.50pm	Celebration Assembly
8 th		Class G Assembly
12 th	3.40 – 6.10pm	Parent Consultations
14 th	6.00 – 8.30pm	Parent Consultations
15 th	8.30am	School closed for staff training
18 th – 22 nd		Half-term
March		
1 st	Am	Classes H & J Owl Visit
Week beg 4 th		Book Week
7 th		World Book Day Dressing up Day
	6.30pm	Resources Committee Meeting
15 th	2.50pm	Class H Assembly
18 th	6.30pm	Pay Committee Meeting
	7.00pm	Personnel Committee meeting
20 th	9.00am	Infant Music Festival Year 2
20 th		Fire and Rescue Workshops (Yr 3, Yr 6)
22 nd	2.50pm	Class J Assembly
27 th	2.50pm	Celebration Assembly
30 th	tbc	DPSA Easter Egg Hunt
April		
2 nd	10.00am	Spring/Easter assembly for guests & infants
5 th	2.30pm	Spring/Easter assembly for parents
		Break up for Easter holidays