Danbury Park Community Primary School
Well Lane Danbury Chelmsford CM3 4AB
Telephone: 01245 224994
Email: admin@danburypark.essex.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs S Jones BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs N Miller BA (Hons)

September 2026

Class Oak
Autumn Term 2026 – Time Travellers

Dear Parents,

Hello and welcome to the Autumn Term, after what we hope was a restful summer break. We welcome you to Oak Class and hope that your children will be inspired and excited by the lessons we have planned for them.

Our topic this term is "Time Travellers" and we are very excited that this topic takes us back in time and is very history based. The children love learning about events which took place a long time ago and how people used to live. We will specifically be looking at castles, how they were used and who lived there. This will include our trip to Hedingham and we know the children will love this interactive day at the castle. Letters have been sent out separately.

Class Routines

Mrs McIntosh is the class teacher and Mrs Fraser is our Learning Support Assistant (LSA).

We encourage the children to drink regularly, from a water bottle during school day and would therefore ask you to continue to provide a named bottle of fresh water for your child daily. This will be even more important when the weather is warmer.

Our PE days are Tuesday and Thursday (Thursdays is with the sports coaches) so children will need to ensure they come to school in their PE kits. Please remember earrings must be removed for PE lessons (we can no longer tape up earrings) and that long hair must tied back **every day**.

Homework – Reading

Reading continues to be a vital part of education and we would ask that an adult hears your child read regularly at home and makes a note in the reading diary. In Year Two, as reading develops, it is equally important to discuss the text with your child as well as 'hear' them read, to develop their comprehension skills. We check the diaries every day and each time you record that your child has read to an adult at home, your child's diary is stamped with a *star*. On a Friday, we count up the number of times a child has read to an adult at home.

If your child reads 3 or more times a week they receive a '*I have read at home 3 times this week!*' reading stamp in their diary.

If your child reads 3 times or more every week they will also receive a '*Star Reader*' stamp. The stamps are awarded on Fridays.

CTSA MEMBER
Healthy Schools
We're part of The Children's Health Project CIC
School Games Gold 2022/23
Music Mark Proud to be a Music Mark School 2023 - 2024

At the end of the half term, those children that have received a 'Star Reader' stamp **every week** will receive a special reading certificate to acknowledge and celebrate their hard work.

Children will continue to have an opportunity to change their books when appropriate and would also encourage the children to occasionally neatly write in their own diaries about what they have read and what they thought about it. We are also encouraging children to take a book from their classroom on a Friday for Fantastic Friday! These books are chosen by the children and we would encourage you to share these chosen books with your children purely for pleasure.

Homework - Maths

We will be asking the children to complete tasks on the Mathletics websites (username and passwords will be given) that will help consolidate or extend your child's learning from the classroom. We will cover the area of maths in class first then set the tasks to do at home.
Times Table Rockstars is always set up for your child to access when they wish.

Homework – spellings

Spellings will be weekly and will be words that we have been looking at in our phonics lessons the previous week. They will be sent out on a Friday for the test THE FOLLOWING FRIDAY. We do ask for spelling books to be returned to school as soon as you have celebrated the result with your child. Every three weeks a Spelling Shed activity will be set (username and passwords to be sent out).

Our Curriculum

English – English is taught daily as well as being embedded throughout all lessons. This term our genres are: stories in familiar settings, traditional stories, stories with a historical theme, an alternative version of a well-known story, and diary writing. .After half term we will be looking at writing an information text about people who lived and worked in castles and also look at some seasonal poetry. We will focus on correct letter formation daily to enable children to eventually join their letters up.

Maths – Maths continues to be taught as a lesson every day but we also try to include real life maths in the classroom as much as possible and provide continuous provision to enable the children to consolidate their learning.

History and Geography– As already mentioned, our "Time Travellers" topic will focus on castles. Once we have found out when and why castles were first built, we will look at how they have changed over time, as well as castles from around the world. Our trip to Hedingham Castle will give the children a fantastic insight into castle life and help them to decide if castles were a good place to live.

Science – Our science topic is materials. Again, we will link this to our topic and looking at materials used in making things and how this has changed from the past.

Computing – We will recap on how to stay safe online, understanding the dangers and children should seek help if necessary. Our units are: Information technology around us; Identifying IT and how its responsible use improves our world in school and beyond. Digital photography; Capturing and changing digital photographs for different purposes.

Art – The children really enjoy their weekly art lessons and this term we will be using a variety of media to create work primarily linked to castles.

CTSA MEMBER
Healthy Schools
We're part of The Children's Health Project CIC
School Games Gold 2022/23
MUSIC MARK PROUD TO BE A MUSIC MARK SCHOOL 2023 - 2024

Design and Technology - In DT we are hoping to include a DT day to make some 3D castles. Further details will come out in due course.

Physical Education – Outdoor PE This will be taught by Premier Sports on Tuesdays and they will be following our curriculum of outdoor team games and ball skills.
Our Wednesday PE lesson will be looking at indoor games, looking at spatial awareness, muscle strength and team games.

Religious Education – In RE we will be looking at Christianity and the teachings of Jesus. We will be looking at big questions like "Is it possible to be kind all of the time?" We will also be looking at what Christians believe around Christmas and Why they believe God gave Jesus to the world.

PSHE – Our weekly PSHE lessons will be centred around the topics "Being Me in My World" - Who am I and what are my hopes and fears for the year ahead? We will also look at "Celebrating Difference" – Showing respect for similarities and differences and discussions around anti-bullying.

Music – This lesson will be taught weekly on a Thursday.

Our new class email is oak@danburypark.essex.sch.uk Please use this for questions or queries for me. I will endeavour to respond within 48 hours, during working hours. If your email is urgent, please contact **admin@danburypark.essex.sch.uk** as I am usually unable to read emails during the school day.

Dates

Parent consultations are Tuesday 20th October and Thursday 22nd October. Appointments are to be booked online; more information will follow in due course.

Our Christmas production will be on Tuesday 9th December and Wednesday 10th December details to be send nearer the time.

Thank you for your support and I look forward to working with you all.

Mrs McIntosh
Class Teacher

CTSA MEMBER
Healthy Schools
We're part of The Children's Health Project CIC
School Games Gold 2022/23
MUSIC MARK PROUD TO BE A MUSIC MARK SCHOOL 2023 - 2024