

Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong!

Newsletter



Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

6th December 2019

Dear Parents,

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

Joe F - Diamond Serena D - Bronze Ava B - Bronze

Our next Celebration Assembly is on Thursday 19th December at 9.10am

Families are welcome to join us.

Christmas Fayre Enterprise

The classes have now had time to work out their expenditure and income from their enterprise projects and have arrived at their profits. Each class is a winner in their own rights as the children get to decide how to spend the money they raised.

Class	Project	Profit	What they intend to purchase
Avocet	Clay Pots, Biscuits and Pine Cones	£79.20	Books
Budgerigar	Pipe cleaner and wool Christmas Elves	£86.00	Classroom resources
Cuckoo	Photoframes and decorations	£94.65	Books and art pens
Dove	Christmas candle holders	£104.00	Anglo-Saxon purses, Mayan cooking, Maths problem solving resources
Eider	Snowmen baubles	£57.10	Classroom resources
Flamingo	Peppermint Christmas Creams	£70.20	Art resources and books
Goldfinch	Log slice Christmas tree decoration	£60.05	New bead strings and other maths equipment
Hummingbird	Christmas Trees made from sticks and ribbons	£51.00	Classroom resources
Jay	Glass candle holders	£71.10	Reading garden accessories

The winning class is Dove.

This brings the grand total raised at the Christmas Fayre to over £3600.

Thank you to all the members of the DPSA who organised and ran the fayre, to the teachers and teaching assistants for their hard work in class making the products, and to all the families who supported us. The money you raise means we can provide the children with extra resources and equipment that we could not have otherwise. We will have a full update on the new exciting all-weather track next week!

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

Tilly H, Ollie W, Aaron M, Finella K, Ophelia S, Isabella F, Freddie P, Jensen B, Lilly W

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

Christmas Mobiles

I am sure you will agree that, once again, the Christmas mobiles look fantastic! Each child has made a decoration to contribute to the class mobile and they will be able to bring their work of art home at the end of term to decorate the family tree.



We would like to say a big thank you to our friends at Danbury Outdoors who hang the mobiles for us from the ceilings in the hall.

Christmas Events



Christmas Plays

Infants – Tuesday 17th December; Juniors – Wednesday 18th December

There are two performances of each play, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. In the evenings the junior play will start at 6.30pm and the infant play at 6.00pm so that our youngest children can still get back home and to bed at a reasonable time! Please be advised that due to fire regulations we cannot exceed the maximum number of people in the hall. Unfortunately this means that **adults 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 2nd December. The collection of presents will be on Thursday 12th December so gifts must be left by the end of school on Wednesday 11th December. Thank you.

Christmas Parties

Building on the success of last year, our traditional Christmas parties will follow the new approach. All the children will join together for their Christmas parties on the afternoon of Thursday 19th 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 11th 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.

Christmas Cards

Could we please ask you not to let your children put sweets in their Christmas cards as many of them fall out and some children suffer from allergies. Thanks for your help.

Results of the Governors Settling in Survey November 2019

27 replies at Parents' Evenings; 13 replies on line –40 total. Percentages rounded to nearest whole number.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
My child has settled in happily at school this term.	26 65%	13 33%	1 2%	0	0
I am confident my child is safe and well cared for while at school.	29 73%	11 27%	0	0	0
Any concerns or issues I have raised during the half term have been handled well.	23 58%	12 30%	1 2%	0	4 10%
All the staff are approachable and helpful.	25 62%	15 38%	0	0	0
I have been informed of the topic my child is learning about this term.	26 65%	14 35%	0	0	0
The time my child is expected to spend reading, learning spelling, playing Maths games, etc., and any additional homework as set by the upper junior teachers is manageable. N.B. 5 parents did not participate in this question as children are not upper junior pupils so base of 35 used.	23 66%	12 34%	0	0	0

Additional Comments from Parents:

One parent (Year R and 2) commented that, "Year 2 spellings are hard!" However this is due to the National Curriculum and the standards set by the government.

Analysis of results (based on number of replies to each question):

- 98% of parents agree that their children have settled in happily at school this term
- 100% of parents agree that they are confident their children are safe and well cared for while at school
- 88% of parents agree that any issues they raised were dealt with well (10% did not know, i.e. no issues raised)
- 100% of parents agree that staff are approachable and helpful
- 100% agree they have been informed of the topic being learned this term
- Only a very few parents (2) disagreed across the survey

Breakdown of participants by Year group (some parents have two children in school):

- EYFS 11
- Year 1 6
- Year 2 5
- Year 3 5
- Year 4 7
- Year 5 7
- Year 6 4

Thank you for sharing your views with us and it does show how much parents value the efforts that school takes to ensure children settle well at the beginning of a new year.

Brenda Wray, Chair of Governors

Mathletics Challenge

Last week Danbury Park School took part in the international Mathletics Challenge and we came a very respectable 229th out of the 530 schools participating.

Mathletics is a fun way for the children to practise what they have been learning in their Maths lessons and it certainly helps them with quick recall of number facts and manipulation.

Well done to everyone who contributed to our score!

Safeguarding

The bbc website has some excellent material to support children and families with keeping safe on the internet and when using electronic devices. We would urge parents to have a look and spend some time with their children looking at a relevant section in some detail. They cover online gaming, what to do if you see something online you don't like and bullying.

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit>

Save the date – Wednesday 10th June 2020

On Wednesday 10th June 2020 we will be holding special workshops with all children from Reception through to Year 6 about e-safety. These have been designed and will be led by the specialist team of professionals including police officers and teachers. Our aim is for the children to hear from experts about how to keep themselves safe! After school there will be training for all school staff which will be followed by an information session for parents. In the ever changing world of technology it is vitally important that parents understand what their children are involved in and the risks they face.

More details will follow nearer the time but please spread the word and save the date!

Let's work together to keep the children safe!

Danbury Park School Lottery



The winner this week was Mrs Hale

For every £1 spent by our supporters, the school will receive 40p with the rest of the money going towards the prize fund and administration cost. We hope you will agree that for an investment of as little as £1, our supporters have a chance of winning, whilst the school wins every time.

Notices and Reminders

Toilet Facilities – Recently we have had an increasing number of requests for parents and families to use the school's toilets at the beginning and end of the school day. We need to ensure that the children are safe in school and therefore for safeguarding reasons, we cannot allow visitors unsupervised access to the building. Requests to use the facilities take the office staff away from the front reception and their duties. We regret that access to the toilets can no longer be granted.

Letters sent home this week

-  Christmas Production Tickets
-  Class D Mayan Workshop

Piano Lessons

Mrs Long will make up the missed piano lessons from Monday 25th November on Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th December in the mornings and the lessons from Tuesday 26th November will be made up on Tuesday 10th December in the afternoon.

Guitar and Recorder/Woodwind Lessons

There are currently a couple of spaces for these lessons. Please contact the office if your child is interested.

School Lunches - Costs for Autumn Term 2019

2nd Half Term: 4th November – 19th December = 34 days at £2.20 = **£74.80**

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.** You will only pay for those meals that your child has and any credits will be carried forward to the next term. Thank you.

Parking

Please remember that the car park is under the management of Danbury Outdoors and they kindly allow our parents to use the car park.

Blocking access to the two sites could cause serious problems should either the school or Danbury Outdoors require urgent assistance. This could put lives at risk.

We remind parents that they should only park in the main car parking area and not alongside the roadways in and out or block the free flow of traffic through the carpark. If there is no space, parents should exit the site and park elsewhere.

We are fortunate as a school to have use of a car park so close to school but it must be used with consideration and care before someone gets injured or parents lose this privilege.

Applications for School Admissions September 2020 Reminder for Pre-school Parents

The statutory closing date for applications from parents of preschool children for a school place in the Reception year group from September 2020 is **15th January 2020**.

Full information is available on the Essex County Council website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.
The application round opens on Monday 11th November and all applications are made via this site.

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 and on the scrolling news on the first page of the school website. We will 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.

Premier Sports Christmas Party Camp – Friday 20th December

Details of this holiday club are available on their website. To book visit premier-education.com or call 01953 499040



DPSA News



Christmas Fayre Thank You We raised over £3,000!

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 huge success. The hampers looked fabulous so thank you for all of your donations, the class reps for organising and the hamper wrappers for putting them together.

Raffle Prize Sponsor Thanks

Thank you to the generous sponsors of our raffle prizes which helped to make the fayre a great success.

£100 cash - kindly donated by Multibeton

5kg Kelly Bronze turkey – kindly donated by KellyBronze

Floristry Xmas door wreath - donated by Nathalie Westthorp

Woodlands Montessori

Five Guys

Marsh Farm

Tyndall's Garden Centre, Nazeing

Claremont Garden Centre, Danbury

Kasan Kai Karate

Robinson's Fish and Chips (Moulsham Street)

Creative Touch Beauty

Trebor photography

Barratt and Coe photography

Chelmsford Equestrian Centre

Danbury Sports and Social Gym

Stikins Name labels



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 and 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 **Monday 16th**

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



Dates for the diary



January
February
March
June

Fri 24th
Sat 8th
Sat 21st
Wed 10th
Sat 20th


School Disco
Quiz Night
Easter Egg Hunt
Digital Safe-guarding evening
Summer Fayre

Have a lovely weekend, The DPSA.



Owl's Barn School Meals

Week commencing Monday 9th December

Week 3 MONDAY	Cheese and Tomato Pasta Bake or Salmon Puff (V)	Garlic Bread Peas Sweetcorn Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Lumpy Bumpy Cake Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
TUESDAY	Homemade Minced Beef Wrap or Roasted Vegetable Wrap (V)	White and Wholegrain Rice Carrot Sticks Mixed Vegetables Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Homemade Shortbread Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
WEDNESDAY 	Roast Turkey, chipolata sausage, sage & onion stuffing or Roasted Quorn Fillet (v)	Roast Potatoes Peas/Carrots/Sprouts Yorkshire Pudding Gravy or vegetarian Gravy	Not available	Christmas Ice Cream Pot or Festive Shortbread
THURSDAY	Homemade Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce or Linda McCartney Vegetarian Balls in tomato sauce (V)	White and Wholegrain pasta Cauliflower Florets Sweet Corn Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Apple Crumble and Custard Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit
FRIDAY	Oven baked Young's Omega 3 Fish Fingers Or Vegetable Fingers	Chips Baked Beans Peas Cucumber	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Red Velvet Cake Organic Fruit Yoghurt Selection of Fresh Fruit

Dates for the Diary Week beginning 9th December

Mon 9th

Tues 10th

Weds 11th

Christmas Lunch

Wear a Christmas jumper to school day (no donation required)

Thurs 12th

12.00pm

Concert at The Mission

Fri 13th

**Full term dates for the academic year 2019-20
and for 2020-21 are available on the school website.**

Yours sincerely

Carol Gooding
Headteacher

Danbury Park Community Primary School

Dates for Autumn Term 2019

Date	Time	Event
December		
11 th	12.00pm start	Christmas Lunch & wear a Christmas jumper day
13 th	tbc	Christmas Performance Dress Rehearsals
16 th	tbc	Filming of Christmas plays
17 th	2.15pm & 6.00pm	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Performance
18 th	1.45pm & 6.30pm	KS2 Christmas Performance
19 th	9.10am	Celebration Assembly
	Pm	Christmas Party
		End of Term

Spring Term 2020		
11 th February	3.40 – 6.10pm	Parent Consultations – all classes
13 th February	6.00 – 8.30pm	Parent Consultations – all classes
9 th March	Am	NSPCC Assemblies and workshops <u>Assembly x 2 – Monday 9th March</u> KS2 = 9:05-9:35am KS1 = 10:50-11:10am <u>Year 5/6 workshops x 2 – Monday 9th March</u> Workshop 1 = 9:35-10:30am Workshop 2 = 11:20-12:20pm