

Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong!

Newsletter



Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

22nd October 2020

Dear Parents,

Reading Awards

Congratulations to the following children who have passed their reading awards:

Lily B - Silver

Certificates were presented in class yesterday for those children who passed a reading award during the first half of the Autumn Term.

Half-term Round-up

This half-term has certainly been different in some respects but very familiar in others. It was so good for school to fully re-open in September and the children have all come back eager to learn and be with their friends again. After the first few weeks of practising the new routines, the children settled very well and all the staff are pleased with how well they have adapted and accepted the new normal. I had hoped, perhaps over optimistically, that by now we could have expanded our bubbles to spread over year groups or key stages but the government guidance is still that in primary schools, bubbles should be as small as possible to avoid the mass self-isolation of large numbers of children and staff should we have a case of COVID. We can only hope that things will change in the not too distant future so that the classes can start to mix again particularly at break and lunchtimes.

As you will have seen from the newsletters, we have had a steady stream of children in the juniors moving up reading levels and yesterday I visited the classes to congratulate the children and acknowledge all their hard work this half-term. Each week I also visit the infant classes so that I can present stickers to those children who have learnt their sounds and numbers and also to those who have moved up a reading level or tried particularly hard with a tricky piece of work. This week I finally caught up with Class Flamingo and was amazed at how many children have consistently read for at least three times a week, **every week** since September - it was almost the entire class!



We are obviously a school that enjoys reading and I know that the teachers have been pleased with how well the children are doing. We know that their progress, but more importantly their love of books, is down to the encouragement and support you also give them at home. A good standard of reading unlocks the rest of the curriculum.

Keeping Safe

We have noticed that more and more children are bringing soap, hand cream and sanitiser into school and we now also have children bringing in their own towels. This is becoming problematic as we have limited storage in the classrooms and need to keep everywhere as clear as we can so that surfaces can be thoroughly cleaned during and at the end of the day. Towels also pose a hygiene issue as we do not have space to hang these so that they dry out between use and they will harbour bacteria.

We have sufficient soap in school and this is topped up during the day. Similarly the roller towels are replaced by the office staff as soon as we know that they have run out. There is also a stock of paper towels in each cloakroom.

If your child has a medical condition that requires the use of specialist soap or cream or is going through a period where they have exceptionally sore hands, please let the class teacher know and then we can make suitable arrangements. We need to ensure that any creams brought into school do **NOT** contain nuts as we have children and staff with potentially life-threatening allergies.

Please help us keep everyone as safe as we can during these difficult times. Thank you.

Year 6 Visits to Secondary School

Please remember that the statutory closing date for applications from parents of Year 6 children (for a secondary school place in Year 7 from September 2021) is 31 October 2020.

Applications can be made via our website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Please note that requests for leave of absence were automatically authorised for this reason and also for the sitting of the 11+ Tests, but individual letters to acknowledge this were not sent home.

School Photos

Your child will have brought home a proof card for their school photos which were taken recently. These are now ready to view on the photographer's website www.getphotos.co.uk using the QR code on your proof card. If you have already scanned the QR code on the Proof and registered you will receive an auto email notification. If you have not done it yet you can still view by scanning the QR code on your Proof and following the instructions.

If you have not received your Proof or it has been lost please call Vancols Parent Line on 01206 273711.

The last date for orders to be made by is **5th November 2020**.

Christmas Cards

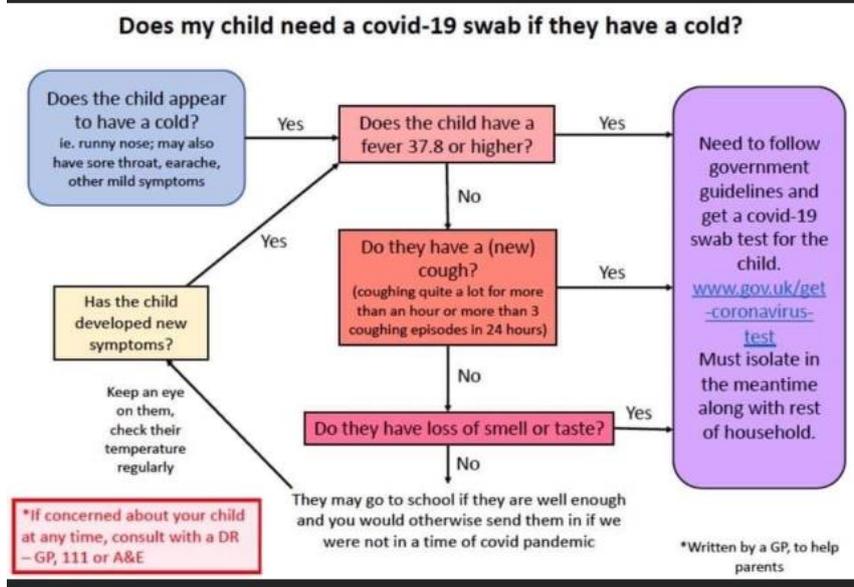
The closing date for orders is tonight, **Thursday 22nd October at midnight**. If you have returned your child's artwork to school please visit www.apfsorders.co.uk to make any final orders by then. Your orders should arrive back in school in mid November.

We are hoping to use the commission raised from the sales of these cards to subsidise a whole school virtual pantomime treat for all the children in December.

Thank you for your support.

COVID-19 Support

We thought this might be useful to parents in trying to decide if their child needs a test.



School Lunches - Costs for Autumn Term 2020

1 st Half Term	3 September – 22 October 2019 = 36 days at £2.25 = £81.00
2 nd Half Term	2 November – 18 December 2019 = 35 days at £2.25 = £78.75

Total for Autumn Term £159.75

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 cost £2.25 per day from September 2020. Thank you. Please note Key Stage 1 and EYFS are still entitled to Universal Free School Meals.

Governor News

Letters were sent out last week regarding the election of a new parent governor. Mrs Georgina Clifford-Smith's term of office comes to an end this month and we would like to thank her for all her hard work and commitment to the school, particularly in Chairing the Curriculum Committee.

If you have any questions about the role of the governor, please do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Gooding or leave a message with the school office and one of our current governors will contact you. The closing date for nominations is **4.00pm Thursday 22nd October.**

This is a very rewarding and interesting way of giving something back to the school.

Safeguarding

Each term we start our Computing lessons with sessions about online safety. These cover the three core aspects:

- 🔒 **Content** – Is what you are looking at and sharing appropriate?
- 🔒 **Contact** – Do you know who you are speaking to and interacting with and is this appropriate?
- 🔒 **Conduct** – Are you behaving appropriately?

This is adapted to suit the age of the children and is made relevant to what they will be using online. In Year 3 as the children move into the juniors, we ask them to sign our *Acceptable Use Agreement*. More information will come from the teachers shortly.

We ask that parents reinforce this and also use it as an opportunity to review practices at home. There are lots of resources available including from the 2 Johns who, hopefully, will be visiting us in June 2021:

<https://esafetytraining.org/>

Other useful resources:

What to do if your child sees something upsetting online (Safer Internet Centre)

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/advice-parents-what-do-if-your-child-sees-something-upsetting-online>

Online resources for parents & carers (Childnet International)

<https://www.childnet.com/ufiles/Parents-and-carers-resource-sheet-1019.pdf>

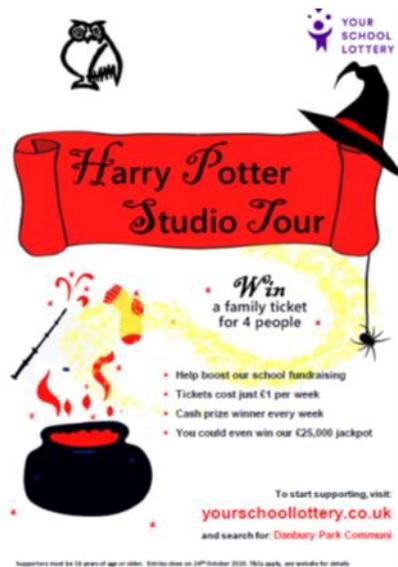
Mobile Phones in School

Over the past few weeks we have noticed that more Year 5 and 6 pupils have started to bring their mobile phones to school. Some of the children in classes Avocet, Budgerigar and Cuckoo are using them to play games when lining up to come into school and this means they are gathering in large clusters and some are reluctant to put them away when the gate opens. At the end of the day children have been seen taking photos of each other and the younger children.

We appreciate that if the children are walking to and from school on their own or with their friends that you want them to be safe and having a phone with them gives them immediate contact in case of need. We are happy to support this but would ask that your child only brings a phone with them, if they are coming to and from school without adult supervision. We will talk to the children about putting phones away before they line up to come into school and not using them until they are on Well Lane.

Thank you for your support.

School Lottery News



Please support the school lottery. All of the funds raised help support projects to make learning fun!

KidAround Magazine

The October issue of KidAround has been published and is available electronically through this link: – [READ KIDAROUND MAGAZINE HERE](#)



Or from <https://www.kidaround.biz/october-issue-is-here/>

It contains lots of useful articles and information for parents and families.



MALDON RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB HOST AFTER SCHOOL TAG RUGBY SESSIONS FOR SCHOOL YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6

Dear Parents / Carers,

With no after school Rugby clubs currently able to be offered within school grounds, I am going to run after school tag rugby sessions from the Maldon Rugby Club ground starting Tuesday 10th November. These sessions will be held every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 4.00pm until 5.00pm for five weeks. **Each session will cost £3.00 per child and payment can be made by cash or by bank transfer.**

Please contact me to let me know which sessions your child/ren plan to attend either by phone (tel. 07793381917) or email (stuartjpearson@hotmail.co.uk) ahead of each session so we can ensure we have an appropriate number of coaches in attendance.

Please be assured that we are following both Government and RFU guidelines to run these sessions. You will be contacted in advance of any sessions that are cancelled for any reasons and monies refunded if paid in advance.

Stuart Pearson

Notification and Reminders

Free School Meals – Due to Covid-19 we understand that your circumstances may have changed or may change in the near future and you may now be eligible for free school meals. To check eligibility please contact Essex County Council on 0345 603 2200 or for more information and online application go to <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Nut allergies – Please do not include nuts of any kind including peanut butter in your child’s lunch box due to the risk of severe allergic reactions. Thank you.

Danbury Food Bank - The Danbury Food Bank organised by the Danbury Coronavirus Volunteer group is continuing to operate and is available to anyone who is currently struggling and families do not need any “official” referral. Donations have generously been made by local residents and businesses. Anyone can use this facility and it will be in the strictest confidence. Just phone the Danbury Coronavirus Volunteer Helpline, who will pass on details to the Food Bank on 07395 904761 or 07752 261274.

Poppies for Remembrance

This year we will have poppies available for a donation in classes on a rota basis in the first week back after half term. We will bring the poppies round to the class as listed below. We are sorry but we can’t offer the other items that we usually have due to the current restrictions on crossing over bubbles.

Please send a donation in with your child if you wish them to have a poppy on the following dates:-

- Monday 2nd November – Classes A and B
- Tuesday 3rd November – Classes C and D
- Wednesday 4th November – Classes E and F
- Thursday 5th November – Classes G and H
- Friday 6th November – Class J

Flu Vaccination Thursday 19th November

An email will be sent today with all the details of this year’s flu vaccination which is being offered in school to your child. This year the consent forms are all being completed electronically and submitted directly to the NHS Essex Partnership University Foundation Trust who organise the vaccinations. There is a link within the email to enable you to complete the form. Please note that our school code is **114992**. There is also a link to a leaflet to explain the vaccination programme. If you need a paper form please contact them directly on 01376 302769 or ask in the school office. Please complete the consent forms as soon as possible. Thanks.



DPSA News



Pre-order Christmas Trees with The DPSA - order deadline Monday 26th October



Don't miss your chance to pre-order a Christmas tree and at the same time raise much needed funds for the school. The trees are premium quality Nordmann Firs with a choice of 3 sizes 5-6ft, 6-7ft, 7-8ft, which will be delivered direct to the school car park on Saturday 5th December for you to collect. This is a great way to avoid traipsing around multiple outlets looking for a decent tree. The order form is in the school newsletter. Please send orders to thedpsa2020@gmail.com and do a direct bank transfer payment to the DPSA account.

Childrens' Pumpkin Carving Competition



This competition is also new for this year. Children need to create a design for a pumpkin, carve it at home and then send a picture of the child with their pumpkin to danburyparkcompetition@gmail.com it costs £3 to enter (bank transfer 'DPSA', **sort code 20-19-95, account number 03049310**) and there are prizes for the best in each class. Look out for the flyer via your Class Rep and Parentmail. **Closing date is Friday 6th November.**

Adventure Island Wrist Bands



Adventure Island is open October half term and every weekend until 15th November. DPSA wristband vouchers are available to buy from the main tills at the Danbury Co-op. The Co-op are kindly doing this to support the school free of charge and each time we sell a voucher we raise much needed funds for the school.

The vouchers are again exceptionally good value:-

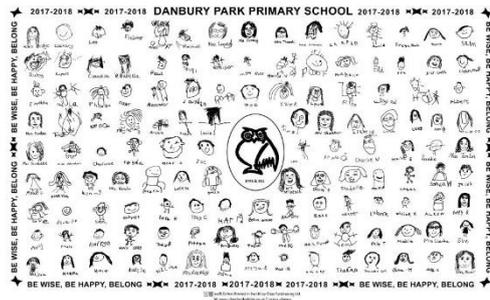
Blue Bands (over 1.2m height) **DPSA cost £18** - saving £4.50 on the internet price and £14 on the 'on the day'

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'

Bag2school Thank you

Thank you to everyone who donated bags of 2 weeks ago. We raised an incredible **£198**

School tea-towels



Over the last 2 weeks the children and teachers have been very busy producing some fabulous self-portraits to put on to two unique school tea-towels. There are two designs, one for EYF/KS1 and another for KS2 . They make great keep-sakes of your child's time at school and will also make fantastic gifts for family and friends this Christmas.

Every tea-towel sold raises funds for the school to buy much needed resources. Look out for the order forms coming to you after half term

Christmas Raffle

The DPSA has got together some amazing prizes for a Christmas. As there will be no Christmas Fayre this year tickets will be sold via book bags and Mrs Gooding will draw the raffle at school. Raffle tickets will be available after the half term holiday.

The main prizes this year are:-

£100 cash

kindly donated by ejcoombs solicitors

£50 cash

kindly donated by Multibeton underfloor heating

5kg Kellybronze turkey

kindly donated by Kellybronze

If you own, or have connections to, a business and would like to donate a prize please do let your class rep know who will pass the information on. All prizes will be listed in the school newsletter after half term.

Have a good half term. The DPSA

Pre-order your Christmas tree The DPSA and raise funds for school



with the

Christmas is just around the corner and this year the DPSA is delighted to be able to offer parents, friends and families fresh Christmas trees for sale at excellent prices.

The trees are a high quality, premium grade, Nordmann Fir from an experienced local supplier and will be supplied and delivered to the school on a pre-order basis.

Trees will be matched and allocated to the orders we have received and will be supplied as fresh as possible, netted and without roots. We are offering three sizes (5-6ft, 6-7ft + 7-8ft).

This is a great opportunity to secure a beautiful, fresh Christmas tree without the need to visit a shop or garden centre in these uncertain times. Collection will take place from the school on **Saturday 5th December from 9.30am**. The exact collection arrangements will be confirmed nearer the time.

To pre-order your tree please email the completed order form direct to TheDPSA2020@gmail.com with full payment by **Monday 26th October** - and don't forget to ask your friends, family and neighbours for their orders too!

All proceeds raised from the sales will go to The DPSA to buy much needed items for the school.

CHRISTMAS TREE ORDER FORM 2020

Adult's Name: _____ Child's Name _____

Class: _____ Contact No: _____ Contact email: _____

	Premium grade 5-6ft	Premium grade 6-7ft	Premium grade 7-8ft
Price	£45	£55	£65
No. required			
Total £			

Total amount: £ _____

Where possible please do a direct bank transfer to 'The DPSA', **Sort Code:** 20-19-95
Account Number: 03049310 and make payment at time of your order. Please use child's name and class for bank reference.

If you are unable to do internet banking please make cheques payable to 'The DPSA', put them in a clearly marked envelope with the order form and leave at the school office.



Owl's Barn School Meals

Week commencing Monday 2nd November

Week 1 Monday	Homemade Pepperoni Pizza or Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza	Pasta Twists Cucumber Sweetcorn	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Shortbread Biscuit with Fruit Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Tuesday	Local Butcher's Pork Sausage or Linda McCartney Vegetarian Sausages	Creamy Mashed Potato Baked Beans Green Salad	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Chocolate Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Wednesday	Chicken served in Gravy With Yorkshire Pudding Or Roasted Quorn Fillet in Gravy with Yorkshire Pudding	Mini Roasted Potatoes Carrots Peas	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Ice Cream Pot Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Thursday	Chicken Nuggets Or Macaroni Cheese	Jacket Wedges Sweetcorn Green Salad	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Strawberry Delight Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Friday	Harry Ramsden's Fish Fillet or Vegetable Fingers	Chips Peas Cucumber	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Flapjack with Fruit Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

Dates for the Diary Week beginning 2nd November 2020

Mon 2nd

2.45pm

7.00pm

Whole school assembly via zoom

Extraordinary Full Governing Body Meeting

Tues 3rd

Weds 4th

2.45pm

Let's Present

Thurs 5th

4.00pm

Fri 6th

2.45pm

Whole school assembly via zoom

Full term dates for this academic year 2020-21 and for next 2021-22 are available on the school website.
Dates for the second half of term are given below.

Yours sincerely

Carol Gooding
Headteacher

Dates for Autumn Term 2020

Date	Activity
02/11/2020	School re-opens after the half-term break
06/11/2020	Autumn Term Pupil Reports to go out to parents
10/11/2020 10.00am	Meeting for Prospective Parents by Zoom NB places must be booked in advance
11/11/2020 11.00am	Remembrance Assembly for all Year 6 children on the playground
17/11/2020 2.00pm	Meeting for Prospective Parents by Zoom NB places must be booked in advance
19/11/2020	Flu vaccinations
25/11/2020 10.00am	Meeting for Prospective Parents by Zoom NB places must be booked in advance
Fortnight beg 30/11/2020	Autumn Term Assessment Tasks and Activities in class
01/12/2020 2.00pm	Contingency Meeting for Prospective Parents by Zoom If required
11/12/2020	Filming of Class Christmas Celebrations
15/12/2020	Christmas Pantomime
16/12/2020	Christmas Dinner
18/12/2020	Christmas parties/fun activity afternoon Last day of term

More details of Christmas activities will follow after the half-term break.