

# Danbury Park Community Primary School

*Be wise, be happy, belong!*



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

## Newsletter

**4<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

Dear Parents,

### Reading Awards

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

Freddie P – **Emerald** Luke P – **Emerald** Josh A – **Diamond** Holly C – **Diamond** Sophia W – **Diamond**  
Emily Bu – **Bronze** Henry C – **Bronze** Abigail M – **Bronze** Daisy P – **Bronze**

Well done.

Certificates will be presented in class toward the end of the term

### Weekly Round-up

The Daily Mile continues to go from strength to strength and is popular with all the children. Whilst the junior children have priority using the track in their class bubbles at lunchtimes, the infants make use of it when there is space and during their afternoon break. It gives the children a chance to get some physical exercise and of course lots of fresh air.

Each week now we are running a junior interclass competition to see how many laps each class can clock up over the course of the week. The results are declared each Friday afternoon. Last week's winners were

<b>Class C</b>	<b>547 laps</b>	<b>which equates to 68.4 miles</b>	<b>(8 laps equalling 1 mile)</b>
Class B	465 laps	Class D	301 laps
Class A	250 laps	Class E	283 Laps

We are now entering the last two weeks of term and we know that the children are getting tired. In between our daily structure of lessons, we will find time for some fun festive activities particularly as we move into the very last week. Today the mobiles should be going up in the hall and the teachers will be sending you a letter about how we are asking for money to cover the costs of making them but also, as we have not been able to hold our usual class enterprise stalls at the Christmas fair, for donations to raise funds for each class. Photos of the mobiles will follow next week.

Without a clear directive from the government about children bringing Christmas cards into school, we have decided that the children can't wait any longer and so are putting into place our own plan! The children may bring in cards but they need to be clearly marked with the recipient's name and class. We ask that parents sort the cards into class bundles and secure them with elastic bands/string. We cannot ask the Year 6 children to sort and deliver the cards, so this will be done in each class by adults. The cards need to be brought into school next week and by **FRIDAY 11<sup>th</sup> Dec** at the latest so that they can be left in quarantine over the weekend. **The envelopes must be tucked in at the back, secured with sellotape or left open.** We must prevent the spread of the virus so on no account should they be licked! Whilst we appreciate that some children may want to exchange gifts, this needs to be done as a family outside school as we do not want any unnecessary items brought into classes.

## Class News

### Class Flamingo



We have been very busy in Class Flamingo enjoying our learning on Time Travellers which means we are learning all about life in medieval times and what life was like for various people who lived in a castle. We have learnt about all the different jobs within the castle (ask the children what a gong farmer did! None of Class Flamingo fancied that job!), how to become a knight, what people ate, what they did for entertainment, what castles around the world look like and who built the first castles. Do you like our shields we made?

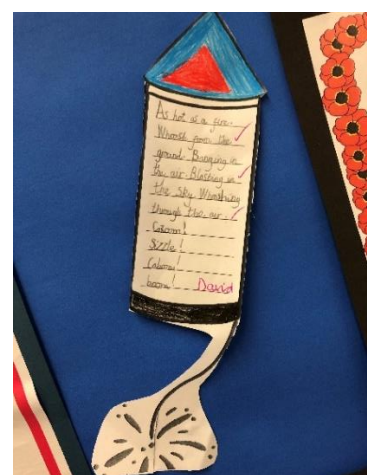
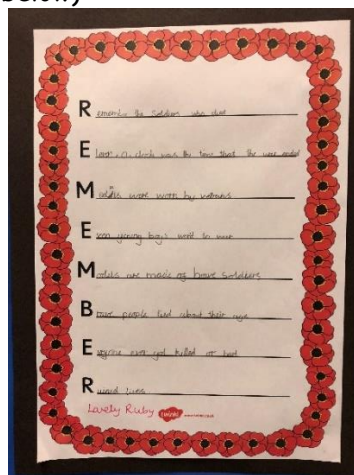
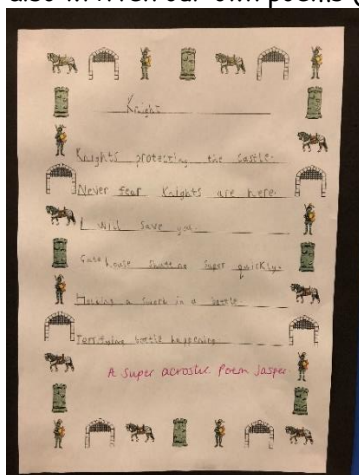


We have also been learning about materials in Science and have enjoyed many investigations linked to the suitability of materials and changing materials.



We have been looking at a variety poems in English. This has included shape poems, riddles and acrostic poems. The children have enjoyed reading, listening to and performing some poems too. We have learnt about the different styles of poems and some special words used like onomatopoeia! We have discovered there a lot of words we like to say over and over again!

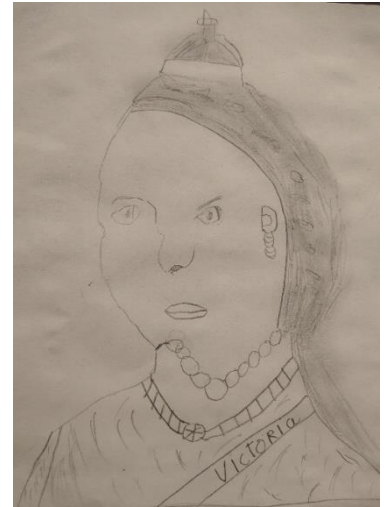
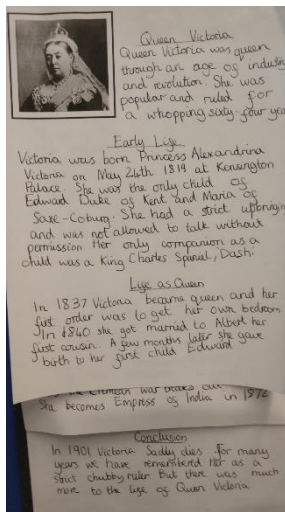
We have also written our own poems (see below)





### Class Budgerigar

This term class Budgerigar have been looking at the Victorians and started the term with a biography of Queen Victoria to go along side learning different pencil techniques in art.

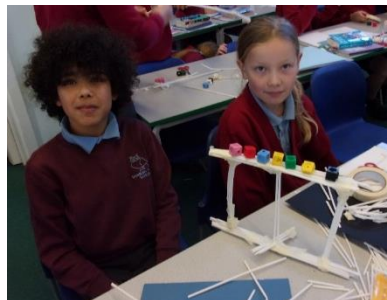


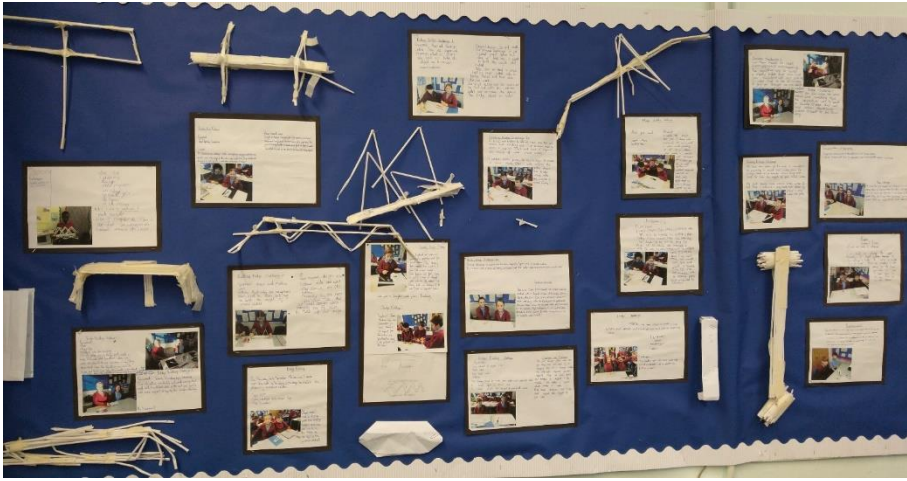
The class have produced some excellent Victorian samples learning a variety of different stitches and have investigated the designs of William Morris.

They have found out about life in Victorian times and have delved into a Victorian artefacts box from Essex Library Services where they were asked to work out what they would have been used for and if there was any modern equivalent.



The age of the railways was a big part of our learning this term and the class found out about impact of the Industrial Revolution and its need for coal to power the new steam engines. In this way we made the link between the need to get coal from the mines to the growing industrial centres initially on horse drawn wagons then wagons on tracks pulled by horses (wagonways) to putting static steam engines on tracks! The Rainhill Trials of 1829 captured their interest and led to finding out more about the engineer George Stephenson and his son, Robert.





Did you know that the first inter city passenger railway line was between Manchester and Liverpool and the track is still used today? It is thirty one miles long and took four years to build. It included tunnels, crossed Chat Moss (a thirty five square acres of boggy land), a nine arch viaduct across Sankey Valley and sixty four bridges. This led us to Isambard Kingdom Brunel and bridges. In DT the class were given three bridge building challenges using either straw or paper.

This is just a flavour of some of the exciting learning that happens in class Budgerigar and as many of you will be unable to view the Christmas mobiles that will be up in the hall this year, class Budgerigar has continued with the Victorian theme by making a Victorian peg doll choir.



A special thanks to Mrs Wainwright for the photos and holding the fort together.  
Keep safe,

Mrs Marsland

## Essex Libraries Winter Reading Challenge

The special reading challenge organised by our local libraries starts today and we hope that you will encourage your child to take part. The libraries are open for the collection of pre-ordered books and they are anxious to keep us all reading.

The challenge is very similar to the summer scheme with the children collecting stamps on a book mark for every book they read with the target of six.





## Community Links

We are working closely with groups in our community and wanted to share with you plans that we have.



Alongside our traditional Christmas gift collection for children through Chelmsford Social Care, we are also supporting the Danbury Coronavirus Volunteer Group by acting as a collection point for donations for their Christmas Gift & Hamper Appeal.

We would ask that donations are brought into the school office at the beginning and end of the school day and placed in the boxes under the counter.

As you can see from the suggested list, even a small thoughtful gift could make a difference to someone who may be feeling isolated this Christmas.

We are also wanting to support families who may be in need this year. The Volunteer Group have a large selection of children's winter coats, shoes and wellies.

If your family could do with this support, please let us know. This can be done confidentially by contacting the group directly or sending an e-mail into school simply requesting that Mrs Gooding speak with you. She will do this as soon as she can and she will make all the necessary arrangements.



Danbury Coronavirus Volunteer Group  
07752 261274

A volunteer initiative supported by the  
Danbury Coronavirus Volunteer Group

Helping those in need  
within our Community



### Children's Winter Coat, Shoe and Welly Boot Appeal

**NOW READY to gift to families  
within our local community**

Please contact [admin@danburypark.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@danburypark.essex.sch.uk)  
Marked for attention of Mrs Gooding  
Or the DCVG Hub on 07752 261274



### Danbury Medical Centre

We want to support our local community and the Danbury Medical Centre has asked if the children could draw some bright and cheerful Christmas themed pictures for them to display in the windows over the festive period.

We thought that this would be something the children would enjoy doing at home. We will collect the pictures in school and pass them on to the Centre. We ask that the children write their *first name only* and *Danbury Park School* on the front so that the children can easily identify their contribution when it is displayed. The last day for sending in pictures is **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December**.

### Advent Live Christmas Trail

Why not take the family for a walk around the village to look at the Advent window displays created by volunteers which will be illuminated between 4pm and 9pm each evening during December. For more details, a map and a children's activity sheet visit [www.danburymission.org.uk/christmas](http://www.danburymission.org.uk/christmas)

## Christmas Plans



Christmas plans are now well under way so that the children can enjoy as much of a traditional Christmas in school as possible. As you can imagine, each activity is having to be carefully thought through so that it is as "COVID secure" as possible. These will include:

🕒 **Christmas Dinner 16<sup>th</sup> December** – Mrs Hind and her team will be preparing their delicious Christmas dinner, which we will enjoy within our bubbles. We will be making hats in class and we are inviting the children to wear a Christmas jumper for the day.

🕒 **Christmas Celebration 11<sup>th</sup> December** – In place of our large scale infant and junior Christmas plays, each class is working on a presentation combining music, dance and drama. We have booked Keith Bonsor to film the celebrations as he has done in the past and he will produce one DVD for parents to purchase so that families can enjoy the children's work. In this way the children will also be able to watch their friends in other classes.

🕒 **Christmas Pantomime** – we have already booked a virtual pantomime which every class will watch in the last week of term.

🕒 **Christmas Parties** – we will hold some fun activities in our classes on the last day of term.

🕒 **DPSA** – sadly we cannot hold our Christmas Fayre but the DPSA are getting creative with alternative ideas to raise funds including the traditional raffle.

## Sustainability

I hope that you saw the great article in the Danbury Contact magazine about our sustainability project which is now starting to gather pace. This week Danbury Park School signed the *Let's Go Zero* pledge to commit to working towards making our school carbon neutral by 2030. The campaign is run by Ashden (a UK-based climate solutions charity) in partnership with Global Action Plan, and a coalition of sustainable schools organisations. As thousands of schools join the campaign, the campaign aims to show politicians that teachers, governors and pupils are determined to take on climate change.

Here at Danbury Park we have already made a great start!

## Memories of 2020

Last week we sent you a Parentmail about a new community project. The Danbury Parish Council and the Danbury Corona Volunteers Group are seeking to compile a book of memories from 2020. They feel this would be a useful reference document for the future, but more importantly could be a communal record helping us all to acknowledge both the trials of this year and the amazing acts of kindness shown during this difficult time.

They are asking families to compile their memories of 2020, whether they relate to being at school, being homeschooled, sewing PPE or wearing masks. They want to capture memories from all ages and of all kinds. They would welcome any photographs or drawings that you would be happy to be published.

Templates were provided but you can also use any format you would like.

The school is happy to act as a collection point so please send in anything you want to share. Alternatively contributions can be e-mailed directly to Michelle Harper at [Michelle.Harper@danbury-essex.gov.uk](mailto:Michelle.Harper@danbury-essex.gov.uk).

## **Safeguarding**

You may be considering buying electronic and online games for the children this Christmas, please remember to check them out for suitability and age appropriate content.

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>

**Let's work together to keep the children safe!**

## **Contacting Teachers**

These are challenging times at the moment and whilst we are working hard to maintain contact with parents, we are having to limit the face-to-face contact we can have with parents in order to keep us all as safe as possible.

If you wish to contact your child's class teacher please either send an e-mail to the class e-mail address (e.g. [classg@danburypark.essex.sch.uk](mailto:classg@danburypark.essex.sch.uk)) or telephone the school office.

Please remember that in primary schools, teachers are in class with the children all day except for their brief weekly allocated Planning, Preparation and Assessment time. They will phone you when they are able to do so but this is likely to be at the end of the working day. Urgent messages can be left with Mrs Brooke, Mrs Packham and Mrs Warner in the office.

Please note that the teachers only respond to e-mails during the normal working day which is Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 5.30pm and that this is more likely to be before or after school when they are not directly teaching their class.

## Admissions to Primary Schools for 2021-22

Essex County Council have asked us to remind parents that the application process for places for children due to start school in September 2021 is now open. All parents need to apply for a place including those with older children already in primary school. Details are available on:

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/topic/admissions>

The closing date is **15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**.

## Notification and Reminders

**Items from Home coming into School** - We have noticed over the past week that some of the children are starting to bring into school unnecessary items including Pokemon cards. Please could you check book bags and coat pockets so that only essential items are brought into school. This is to keep us all safe and limit the transfer of infection and the spread of the virus.

**Track Suits for PE** – We do outdoor PE all year round and with the weather turning colder, all children need a track suit in school for their outdoor PE lessons. This should be navy blue. For girls who wear tights, they also need a pair of socks to wear to prevent their trainers rubbing their feet. It is unhygienic, particularly for the older children to wear their normal school jumper or coat for physical exercise as they do get hot and sweaty!

**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.

**Data Collection Sheets – REMINDER** – could you please return your data collection sheets as soon as possible so that we can ensure our records are up to date. Thank you.

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December** – Please remember to send your child to school in their Christmas jumper (unless they are in Class B) as they are filming the Christmas class celebration that day.

## School Lunches - Costs for Autumn Term 2020

**We would be grateful if you could please settle your accounts  
by the beginning of the last week of term**

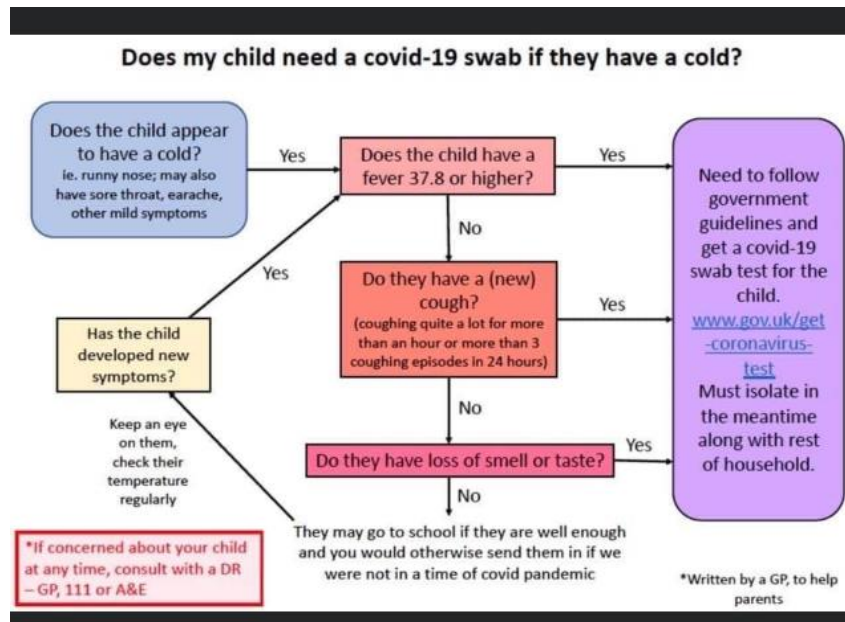
2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term      2 November – 18 December 2019 = 35 days at £2.25 = £78.75

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.



## COVID-19 Support

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



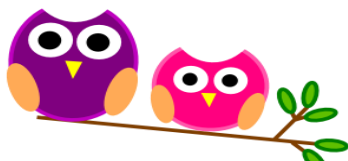
## Well-being

Active Essex have told us that they are conducting a survey with everyone in Essex, of every age, trying to find out how everyone is doing with their lives and wellbeing, during the period of COVID. This is important, as it will help guide both the county and district councils on how we plan for emerging on the other side of the pandemic.

Active Essex are keen to get the thoughts of schools and the families at the schools. We have been asked to share [the survey link](#) with everyone in our school community, including staff, and encourage people to complete it. It should take no longer than 8 minutes.

The link below is also being shared by local doctors' surgeries about Germ Defence and how to keep safe, which parents might find useful:

<https://www.germdefence.org/index.html>



# DPSA News



## Christmas Raffle



Please do sell as many tickets as you can to family, friends and neighbours. Extra tickets are available from the school office or by emailing [dpsa2020@yahoo.com](mailto:dpsa2020@yahoo.com) and we will arrange to get them to you. If you would like to pay for tickets by bank transfer fill in and return the ticket stubs to the office and write on the envelope 'paid by bank transfer', then transfer the money at the same time to 'DPSA', **Sort Code: 20-19-95, Account Number: 03049310** Please use your child's name and class, along with the word 'raffle' (or any part of the word, e.g. 'raf') for bank reference. Tickets need to be **back in to the school office by**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December** for the draw at school on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

The prizes are:-

**£100 cash**

**£50 cash**

**5kg Kellybronze turkey**

donated by ejcoombs solicitors

donated by Multibeton underfloor heating

donated by Kellybronze

Marks and Spencer's Food Hamper

Christmas Floral Decoration

£30 voucher for Lot 33 Pizza deliver

Beer Carry-keg + 4 pints of draught beer

Coffee and cake voucher

Bottle of Gin +gin glasses

Hotel Chocolat Gift Hamper x 2 prizes

Totes Toasties Gift Hamper x 2 prizes

Family of 4 Meal voucher for Five Guys

£20 fish +chips voucher

Cream tea for two voucher x 2 prizes

Stikins name labels – voucher for a free pack of name labels x 3 prizes

donated by HCL Tree Management

donated by Natalie Westhorp

donated by Lot 33 Pizza Delivery, Danbury

donated by The Bell, Danbury

donated by The Bell, Danbury

donated by Martin and Co. Estate Agent, Danbury

donated by Church& Hawes Estate Agent, Danbury

donated by Totes

Restaurant x 2 prizes donated by Fiveguys

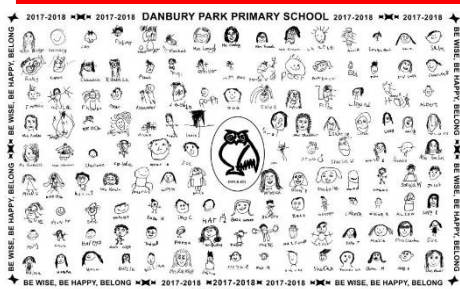
donated by Robinson's Fish and Chips, Moulsham Street

donated by Tea on the Green, Danbury

donated by Stikins



## School Tea-towels – order by today to guarantee them for Christmas!



There are two tea-towel designs, one for EYF/KS1 and another for KS2. The tea-towels cost **£5 each**. Email the order form to [thedpsa2020@gmail.com](mailto:thedpsa2020@gmail.com), alternatively email details of your child's name and class, the number of tea-towels required and of which type, to the same email address. Money can be transferred directly into the DPSA bank account - 'DPSA', **Sort Code: 20-19-95, Account Number: 03049310** and make the payment at the time of your order. Please use your child's name and class for bank reference. Please order and pay by **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December** to ensure you get your tea-towels in time for Christmas.

## Children's Christmas Performance DVD

The EYF/KS1 and KS2 class Christmas performances this year will be recorded in school by a professional company (BVP of Little Baddow) and all put on to one DVD for you to buy. It will be professionally edited and recorded with the use of microphones to ensure little voices can be heard so you can sit back and enjoy the show in the comfort of your own home. DVDs will be available at **£18 each** (£4 of which goes to DPSA funds). A USB version may be available by special request and will cost £3 extra. Order forms have been sent out via Class Reps and by Parentmail.



## Christmas Shopping?

easyfundraising  
.org.uk



amazon  
smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

You just need an email address and a password to register. Every time you make a purchase on-line through the easyfundraising website the retailer donates a percentage to the school.

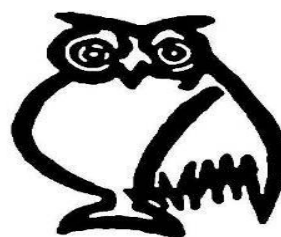
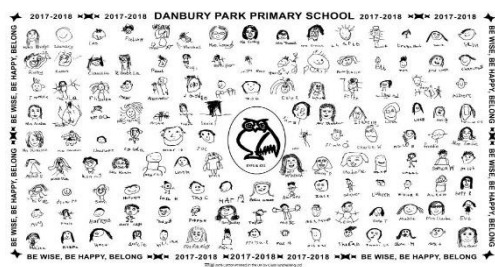
The Co-op are currently adding an extra 50% to the donations they make which is a huge boost to the fund-raising. Extra cards are available at the school office.

Please use this link to get to the Amazon Smile site and shop raising funds for the DPSA.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/285968-0>

**Have a good weekend. The DPSA**

# Danbury Park School 2020-2021 Tea Towel Order Form



The children at Danbury Park School have recently taken part in a project to produce a commemorative tea-towel for the 2020-2021 academic year by drawing their own portraits and adding in a few of the staff as well. They look fabulous and make an ideal keep-sake of their time at school but also make fantastic Christmas presents for relatives and friends. There are two designs, one for EYFS/KS1 (Infants) and one for KS2 (Juniors). They don't have to be used just as tea-towels they can also be used for many other things such as wall-hangings, picnic napkins, sitting mats, teddy blankets or even sewn on to a cushion cover or pillow case.  
Their uses are endless!

They cost just **£5 each**.

To place an order please complete the form below and email it (or send an email containing all the relevant information) to [thedpsa2020@gmail.com](mailto:thedpsa2020@gmail.com) , making full payment at the same time, by **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December**.  
Tea-towels will be sent home in book bags after that date.

All proceeds from the sale of the tea towels will go directly back into funding more fantastic resources for our children at school.

Thank you. The DPSA

✂ .....

Child's Name..... Class.....

Parent Name.....Mobile.....

Contact email..... (to advise of distribution details if necessary)

Tea Towel Design	Number Required
EYFS\KS1 - Infants	
KS2 – Juniors	

**Total cost of order:** .....

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

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

Thank you.



## Owl's Barn School Meals

Week commencing Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December

<b>Week 3 Monday</b>	Cheese and Tomato Pasta Bake Or Salmon Puff (V)	Garlic Bread Peas Cucumber	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b> Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Chocolate Brownie Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Tuesday</b>	Homemade Minced Beef Wrap or Cheesy Stack Wrap	White/Wholegrain Rice Carrot Sticks Sweetcorn	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b> Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Cranberry Flapjack Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Wednesday</b>	Local Butcher's Pork Sausages or Cheddar Whirl	Creamy Mashed Potato Baked Beans Green Salad	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b> Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Strawberry Fruit Jelly Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Thursday</b>	Homemade Pork Meatballs in tomato sauce Or Linda McCartney Vegetarian Meatballs in tomato sauce	Pasta Twists Sweetcorn Green Salad	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b> Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Shortbread Biscuit and Fruit Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Friday</b>	Omega 3 Fish Fingers or Vegetable Fingers	Chips Baked Beans Peas	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b> Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Iced Sponge Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

## Dates for the Diary Week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**Mon 7<sup>th</sup>**

**2.45pm**

**Whole school assembly via zoom**

**Tues 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Weds 9<sup>th</sup>**

**2.50pm**

**Let's Present**

**Thurs 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Fri 11<sup>th</sup>**

**2.45pm**

**Filming of Class Christmas Celebrations  
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
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