



Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong!

Newsletter

Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

22nd January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading Awards

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

Florence M – **Emerald** Ronny A – **Ruby** Darcie R – **Diamond** Olivia H – **Bronze** Bailey T – **Gold**

Certificates will be presented when the children return to school

Weekly Update

We hope that everyone in our community is well and we wish those of you who are suffering the effects of COVID a speedy recovery.

We are now settling into our new normal and we hope that you are managing to juggle home schooling and working better. We do appreciate that for parents this is a difficult time and whilst we all want the children to continue with their education, we are realistic about what can be achieved. All we ask is that families support their children as best they can and we will continue to provide learning activities and tasks in the best way we can. I have asked the teachers to send me samples of work from the children so that over the coming weeks I can share these with you and we can celebrate their achievements. So please do share the newsletter with the children. It is an important way for them to keep in touch.

There is no substitute for children being in school and at the primary phase they learn so much from instant feedback. It is only as we try to adapt to remote learning, that we have realised how much relies on a teacher or teaching assistant being able to work with a small group of children focusing in on their very specific task, to wander through the classroom spotting those children in need of clearer direction or even challenge, to offer support to a child struggling with a problem, be it academic or personal. Primary teaching is nurturing, hands-on and very personal which is something we struggle to replicate remotely. So even as you as parents may feel frustrated at the current situation, so are we! As ever though, we will continue to look for different and new ways to engage and provide for the children.

Yesterday Gavin Williamson gave a clear indication that he was not expecting schools to return until later this term but that we would be given two weeks' notice. As soon as that happens, we will spring into action and be ready to welcome the children back.

Please remember that we are still here for you and that the office is open every day. If you need any support either phone the office or contact the class teacher via their class email.

News from Class Budgerigar

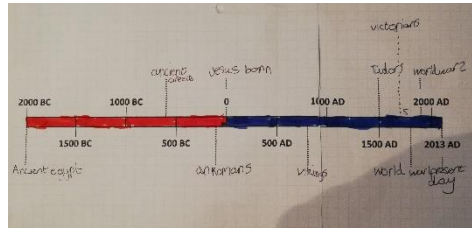
Class Budgerigar's topic this term is Ancient Greece and the children have all immersed themselves whole heartedly in their work. One highlight was a recording of Tommy reading his retelling of the creation myth. His use of vocabulary and sentence structure had both Mrs Marsland and me enthralled.



Daisy



Sherwen



Max Sq



Alex found this fresco

The Minoans

The Minoans were the first great Greek civilization. They were known as such after their legendary king Minos. The archaeologist who coined the term Minoan was Sir Arthur Evans. Examples of Linear A have been found on stone tablets. The Romans conquered the Greek peninsula in 146 BC. Greek ideas around education and language were highly valued by the Romans. It was considered mandatory to learn Greek and study the works of philosophers such as Aristotle, Plato and Socrates. The ancient Greeks influenced Roman religion as the Romans adopted similar or the same gods. They influenced the army by creating a military formation known as the phalanx, the Romans used this technique to improve their military and expand their empire.

Ava

The Ancient Greek Creation Myth

What happens when something turns to nothing? From a new land to nothing? All that was straight was now curvy! Crashing and curving and circling and climbing up to down, down to up. Like a lion trapped in a cage raging to get out for its revenge. Things once as bright as a burning torch turned into the night as wolves howled. Butterflies where once flying in the bright sunny sky but now dead, frozen without movement. KAPOW!!!!!!!!!!!! Nothing made sense it was all a big free for all. Out of the free for all there was a big need for something special. That was Gaia, the mother force.

Gaia's heart grew as she sucked heat through her veins and they throbbed with every last bit of warmth that she could find. As she grasped the pieces of earth around her and pushed them together to form beaches as yellow as the sun and fields luscious lime green. She fashioned mountains with snow at their peaks, with the snow white and bright and as icy cold as possible since all of the nice warmth was contained in Gaia's heart. As the waters poured out of Gaia forming streams, rivers and immense oceans so Pontus was born. The heavens floated over the seas and were named Uranus. She gave way to the gasses and the gasses made a home in holes and cracks. Of all the holes that were formed there was one that was the deepest darkest and dreaded; it was the hole for the dead! But Gaia didn't know that she had made it, she was like a bird seeing a fox for the first time and knowing that it is prey to the fox but it is interested with it anyway...

Josh

The Stone Baby

Once in a world of peace and tranquillity there lived a contented, joyful married couple called Rhea and Cronus, Cronus and Rhea were titans (Gaia's children) and they lived a merry marriage until they started having babies this is why; when Cronus was younger his father (Uranus) was very mean to some of his children about the way they looked and he banished them to the eerie, hair-raising underworld just because of the way they looked. Gaia thought this was unfair so she had a plan, she had clearly picked the wrong husband and she had to sort it out, she got one of her kind-hearted and courageous children and made them injure their father (Uranus). Cronus was chosen and he went up into the sky (Uranus) and then cautiously climbed under Uranus' mysterious cloak of stars and when he was not looking he pounced on his father and wounded him enough to send him floating foolishly in the un-identified universe just as his mother had told him to.

Soon after, Gaia married Pontus and had a happy marriage with him. Now because of what Cronus had done when he was younger he grew up he became the almighty king of the world and as much as he wanted to have children there was a problem: he didn't want them to grow up because when he was younger he betrayed his father and nearly killed him so he was frightened that his children would do the same horrific thing to him. So he ate them all up and somehow managed to miraculously convince his wife Rhea that they would grow up inside him and little did his cunning, careless mind know that they would do that exactly. Now Rhea was getting a bit suspicious and wanted at least one child of her own that wouldn't be gobbled up so consequently she went to her mother Gaia and asked her what she should do and Gaia replied "You should play a little trick on Cronus and make a stone baby and pretend it's the real one and then hide the real baby somewhere that Cronus will not find it" so that's precisely what she did. She had a gorgeous baby and carefully placed it with the sprites in the towering mountains, she told the sprites don't let Zeus (her baby's name) go out of your sight and play some loud music when he cries so Cronus won't get seriously sceptical about the noise. When Rhea handed over the replica stone baby Cronus threw it in his mouth without a doubt and Rhea's unknown trick remained secret...

Poppy

The children were also set a challenge for Design and Technology.



Bailey



Bella



Harry



Max

Safeguarding Keeping your Children Safe Online



Are you concerned about child's safety on the internet and would like advice and support on how to keep them safe?

**The Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service presents
Virtual eSafety Parent Workshops with**



eSafetyTraining
'The 2 Johns'

Thursday 28th January 2021 3:30pm-5:00pm

or

Thursday 4th February 2021 starting at 8.00pm-9:30pm

These free parent's workshops will look at the online world and how our young people are using it. How they are navigating around restrictions and using the internet without the parent's knowledge.

This includes :

- Favourite apps and games.
- Dangers they face
- How young people are being influenced online
- Solutions that parents can adopt to help keep their children safe.
- Stranger Danger message that parents are familiar with and make it ready for 2021



To book your place now please call us on **0300 247 0014**

Monday – Friday 9am-5pm

Services commissioned by:

www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk



Keeping in Touch

As in the previous school closure, schools have been asked to ensure that we have regular contact with children and parents. The children will be taking part in at least weekly Google Meets with their teacher and we know that parents often make an appearance helping their children login. Many of you have also been e-mailing teachers with questions.

To help us manage this “keeping in touch” responsibility, we would ask that once a week, you send your children’s class teachers a brief e-mail to say that you are okay or ask for help if you need it. Some of you will already be in regular contact with Mrs Trussell and with the school office but if we don’t hear from you, please don’t be offended if we phone just to see if the family is okay and if there is anything we can do to help.

For anything urgent or more serious, please phone the school office. It is manned from 8.30am – 4.00pm every week day and either Mrs Gooding or a senior member of staff will be on duty and able to help. We are here to support you!

Let’s work together to keep the children safe!

Community News

Danbury Park School is continuing to work with our local community and we will share with you each week information that we think families might find useful. Here are a couple of suggestions for families to get some exercise during school closure.

The Danbury Coronavirus Volunteer Group has set up a Get Danbury Walking initiative with the aim of seeing if villagers can replicate the feat of Phileas Fogg from the novel by Jules Verne by circumnavigating the globe in 80 days. You can submit your steps as a family. The Challenge is running from 1st Dec to 19th Feb. The link below shows total progress so far by villagers:

https://www.danburycorona.com/get-danbury-walking?fbclid=IwAR09dimieke1c26_TVCrjtu5QbD2NOWB0Vdfuiv7I6h3PgT3yU-7psbQ9QI

An added bit of fun is that people are encouraged to take a photo of something interesting on their walks and post it to the village facebook page with hashtag *getdanburywalking* with the question "Where am I?" People can then guess where you are. Here's the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/getdanburywalking>

Joe Wicks is also restarting his very popular "PE with Joe" sessions from this week. He is streaming them live from his YouTube channel Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9am lasting just 20 minutes. Like last time, the sessions will be saved on the channel so families can do them at a time to suit them if 9am doesn't work.

Printing of Children's School Work

We have also heard that many local estate agents are supporting families by printing children's school work, many for free.

Those we know of are:

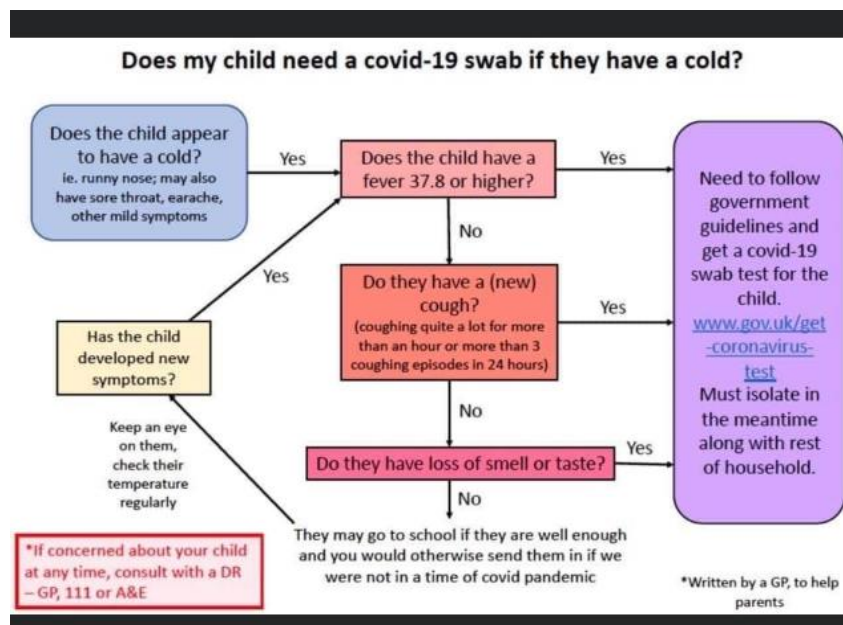
- Martin & Co, Unit 3, The Spinney, 121 Main Rd, Danbury, Chelmsford CM3 4DL
- Charles David Casson, Imperial House, Victoria Rd, Chelmsford CM1 1NY

If you know of any others please share the information with other families.

COVID-19 Support

Schools are still being asked to collect information for the government and even if your child is not eligible to be in school, we still need to be informed if your child tests positive for COVID-19 or is isolating due to being in direct contact with a case. You can do this by leaving a message on the school answer phone, speaking to the office staff or by e-mail.

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



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.

Even though school is only open to a small number of children, we may still have to close in adverse weather conditions.



'Wellbeing Wednesday' – Premier Education Home Schooling Support For Parents

Premier Education are working in partnership with our school to offer pupils an exciting 'Wellbeing' Virtual lesson delivered by Premier Education. Their experienced and qualified team will be hosting a series of Wellbeing virtual lessons that our school community can have FREE access to.

What is it?

The popular Wellbeing programme focuses on healthy living and lifestyles. They will allow pupils to explore the key 4 fundamentals of 'Eat well, Drink well, Move well and Sleep well'. This is great for cross curricular links such as Science, History, Geography and maths – all completed within a healthy lifestyles topic. The session will be suited for all ages and will allow parents and teachers to support their pupils learning from their own working environment.

When does it take place?

Sessions take place every Wednesday at 11am, until February half term, so add this to your home school timetable!

How do parents join if they are home schooling?

Parents can tune in to the session via the Facebook Live platform or Zoom link. Both can be found on Premier Educations Facebook page – Please like and Follow 'Premier Education – Norfolk & North Suffolk'.

How do I sign up?

Simply Like and Follow 'Premier Education – Norfolk & North Suffolk' on Facebook and join the live lesson on that coming Wednesday.

Premier look forward to seeing you on each Wednesday at 11am!

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.

School Lunches - Costs for Spring Term 2021

1st Half Term = 29 days at £2.25 = £65.25

2nd Half Term = 25 days at £2.25 = £56.25

Total for Spring Term = £121.50

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. Thank you. Please note Key Stage 1 and EYFS are entitled to Universal Free School Meals.



YOUR SCHOOL LOTTERY

Sweep The Floors With This Prize!

ROBOT BINGO

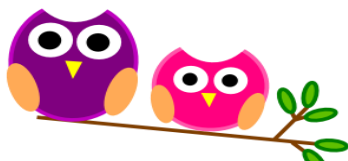
WIN

Landscape Robotic Lawnmower + Eufy BoostIQ RoboVac Cleaner

- Support your school this term
- Weekly cash prizes up to £25,000
- Ticket cost just £1 a week
- Help boost school funds when we need it most

To start supporting your school, go to:
YourSchoolLottery.co.uk
and search for: Danbury Park Community Primary School

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older. Offer ends 30th Feb. Terms and conditions apply (see website for details).



DPSA News



School Tea-towels.



We still have a few tea-towels left so if you would like to order one please do so by using the form that was sent out or by emailing thedpsa2020@gmail.com and we will arrange to get one to you.

Children's Christmas Performance DVD

For this year only, as these last few months have been particularly exceptional and difficult for some, the DPSA has arranged to rent out the Christmas Performance DVD to those of you who were unable to get hold of a copy of it before the school holidays but would still like to see your child or children perform. It will cost £3 for 3 nights or £5 for a week to rent. Please email dpsadvdrental@hotmail.com and we can arrange a suitable time for collection and drop-off with you. Payment will be required at the time of you receiving the DVD.

Name Labels



Stikins are name labels for clothes and school equipment. They are 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 the DPSA will automatically receive a donation for our funds.

Co-op Community Cards



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.

Online Shopping?



At this particularly challenging time for us all, please don't forget that over 4,100 shops and sites will donate to Danbury Park Community Primary School for FREE every time you use easyfundraising to shop with them. This means you can support the school, when you get your groceries, order a takeaway, renew your insurance policies or buy anything else online – at no extra cost to yourself! If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE to use. Just visit: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/danburyparkcommunityprimary/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=s-n4

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.



Please use this link to get to the Amazon Smile site (which is exactly the same as the main Amazon site) and shop raising funds for the DPSA. <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/285968-0>

Second-hand School Uniform

Second-hand school uniform items - jumpers, cardigans, polo shirts and PE kit - are now being sold via Natalie W so please let her know what you are looking for by emailing her at Westthorp222@mail.com and she will be able to let you know what is in stock and arrange to get it to you. Items are now selling from £2 each.

Did you know we have a DPSA Facebook page?

Like us on Facebook and make sure you know what's happening when. Our page is constantly updated so you never forget things important things.

**Have a good weekend.
The DPSA**



Owl's Barn School Meals

Week commencing Monday 25th January

Week 2 Monday	Fish Fillet Wrap Or Macaroni Cheese	Potato Wedges Peas	(KS2 only) Jacket Potato	Iced Sponge Cake Fruit
Tuesday	Spaghetti Bolognaise or Vegetarian Bolognaise	Garlic Bread Sweetcorn	(KS2 only) Jacket Potato	Flapjack Fruit
Wednesday	Pork Sausages with Yorkshire Pudding Or Cheddar Whirl	Mini Roast Potatoes Carrots	(KS2 only) Jacket Potato	Ice Cream Pot Fruit
Thursday	Cheese and Tomato Pizza	Pasta Sweetcorn	(KS2 only) Jacket Potato	Shortbread Biscuit Fruit
Friday	Beefburger in a roll Or Quornburger in a roll	Chips Baked Beans	(KS2 only) Jacket Potato	Chocolate Brownie Fruit

Yours sincerely

Carol Gooding
Headteacher