

Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong!



Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

Newsletter

8th January 2021

Dear Parents,

Reading Awards

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

Lucy C-S - Emerald Lucy K - Bronze William R - Bronze Eve R - Bronze Elena M - Diamond

Don't worry Reading Certificates for children who were not in school before Christmas are being kept safe and will be presented when school fully re-opens.

In the meantime, teachers will go back to holding reading conferences over Google Meets so carry on reading and writing in your journals!

Welcome back!

This is not quite the start to the Spring Term that I had hoped for and I know that for many of you this is going to be a challenging few months. Schools do not get advance warning of any government announcements so we came back to school on Monday planning for a two week delay to the start of the term. By Monday evening we were then looking at full national lockdown and probably not re-opening until after the February half-term at the earliest. Behind the scenes staff are dealing with the logistics and communications of this situation but we have tried to keep Parentmails to the essential and important information that you need at this time.

There is no substitute for children being in school and all the staff would prefer for us to be open and operating as normally and as safely as we can. However, we do have to adhere to the law and the government and local authority guidance. The reason for schools closure and the lockdown is to restrict the spread of the infection. This is why we can only have in school those children who need to be here. I am sure you will join us in supporting those parents who are working on the frontline in the medical profession treating those severely affected, saving lives and also in rolling out the vaccination programme. We need to limit the number of children in school at this time to contain the potential spread of the virus to other households. We need to protect the children and their families but also our staff. This is why we have a rota in place to cover those children who are in school and if there is an adult at home, the children should stay at home.

The teachers very quickly uploaded work for this week on Google Classrooms and through supporting the children in school, we now have first-hand experience of what this looks like to parents. We have taken on board the feedback you have given, so that next week the work should be easier to follow on a day by day basis. We have included video clips to help. We know that you are not teachers and that many of you have your own work to do, so please do not be too hard on yourselves. We would rather provide too much work than too little and we ask that you support your child in doing as much as you can manage. The teachers have been inviting children to Google Meets and some have been experimenting with working with larger groups online at a time. More information about remote learning will come next week.




The office is open so please if you need any support either phone them or contact the class teacher via their class email.

Safeguarding










Keeping your Children Safe Online

The children will be going online more over the coming week and the teachers are reminding them about protocols for using Google Meets. Below is a reminder of our Acceptable Use Agreement and Online Safety Rules:

When using Google Classrooms, adults and children remember to think about:

-  **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?

Our Code

-  We use our own personal login and password and we don't share it with others.
 -  By using our personal login and password, we are consenting to participate in the stream.
 -  We keep our personal information such as our address, date of birth or phone number private.
 -  We use school-allocated email addresses, not personal ones.
 -  We do not use video-conferencing on a one to one basis and use it only when instigated by an adult.
 -  During online activity, we will be in a neutral area (i.e. not in a bedroom or bathroom).
 -  We make sure that other people cannot reproduce and distribute the stream.
 -  We only send files or comments that are relevant for learning.
-  If you are worried about anything you see or hear when using Google Classrooms, you can let Mrs Gooding know by phoning the school on 01245 224994 or by e-mail at admin@danburypark.essex.sch.uk.

Remember that your child can also use their Xbox or PlayStation to access Google Classrooms. Both consoles are simple and there are instructions online. Remember, though, to set parental controls.

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.

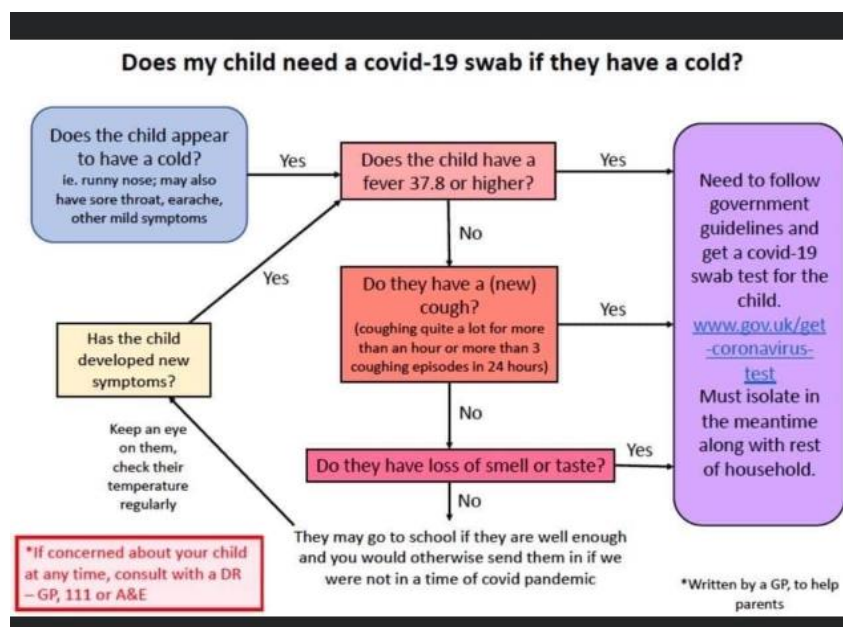
To help us manage this “keeping in touch” responsibility, we would ask that once a week, you send your children's class teachers a brief e-mail to say that you are okay or ask for help if you need it. Some of you will already be in regular contact with Mrs Trussell and with the school office but if we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

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.

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.

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 will close on **15th January 2021**. 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>



Owl's Barn School Meals

Week commencing Monday 11th January

Week Monday	Fillet of Fish or Quorn Dippers In a brioche bun	Cucumber Peas	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Lumpy Bumpy Cake Fresh Fruit
Tuesday	Homemade Spaghetti Bolognaise or Linda McCartney Vegetarian Mince	Garlic Bread Sweetcorn	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Shortbread Biscuit Fresh Fruit
Wednesday	Local Butcher's Pork Sausages or Linda McCartney Vegetarian Sausages	Creamy Mashed Potato Baked Beans Salad	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Flapjack Fresh Fruit
Thursday	Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza	Pasta Twists Sweetcorn	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Ice Cream Arctic Roll Fresh Fruit
Friday	Beef Burger in a roll Or Quorn Burger in a roll	Chips Peas	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Iced Sponge Fresh Fruit

Yours sincerely

Carol Gooding
Headteacher



Sweep The Floors With This Prize!



WIN

Landxcape 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 20th Feb. Terms and conditions apply (see website for details).