



# Danbury Park Community Primary School

*Be wise, be happy, belong!*

## Newsletter

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

**12<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Reading Awards

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

**Keep reading over the half-term and don't forget to try the library scheme!**

*Certificates will be presented when the children return to school*

### Weekly Update

So we come to the end of the first half-term of the Spring Term and what a challenging time it has been for children, parents and staff alike! I am hoping that the infection rate will have fallen and the pressure on the NHS eased sufficiently, that schools can start to re-open to more children on 8<sup>th</sup> March. I attended a meeting with the Local Authority yesterday and they have no more detail or information other than what we are all reading in the media. There should be an announcement on 22<sup>nd</sup> February followed by the guidance, so as soon as we know more, we will share it with you.

We are very grateful to our families and particularly those critical key worker parents, who have supported us in keeping the number of children in school as low as possible during this lockdown. We have striven to minimise the number of households mixing in school to protect families and staff and prevent the wider transmission of the virus. This also means that whilst the learning support assistants have been in school helping the children with their learning, the teachers have been able to work from home and focus on the remote education. The live sessions on Google Meets have been very well received and these have helped the children interact with their teachers and have also enabled a more personal approach. We know that the children have enjoyed seeing their classmates and sharing their experiences.

One good thing to come out of lockdown has been the ability to make rapid progress with large building projects. The work on the school roof is three weeks away from completion and this has involved days with no windows in parts of the school, noise overhead and large lorries delivering to the site. As part of the project we have had better insulation fitted, new windows installed at the top levels and new fascia boarding. This will (hopefully) address all the leaks and smarten up the external appearance of the school. We will also have remedial work carried out on the large oak tree in the EYFS outdoor classroom over half-term. This is all quite an achievement!

School will be closed for the half-term break and we will re-open on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February for the children of our critical key workers who have registered with us for places. There will be no academic work set for the half-term break as we want everyone to have a restful and pressure-free break.

## News from Class Eider

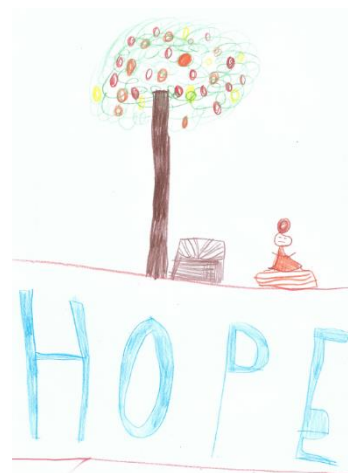
Class Eider have been learning about Buddhism as part of their R.E. lessons. They were asked to create mantra and flags to encourage positivity and keep them happy while learning at home (or school in some cases).



Freddie P



Jayden C



Claudia M

"Peace and harmony."

Jacob F

"Hail to the heart of an eagle."

Brahman P

"Listen to your teacher."

Jacob W

"I am an amazing person and my family loves me."

Phoebe N

"We're all leaders to the very end. Be happy."

Teigi S

As part of Our Island Nation topic, Class Eider have been finding out about the monarchy. They were asked to design and make a crown of their own, and there were some fantastic creations!



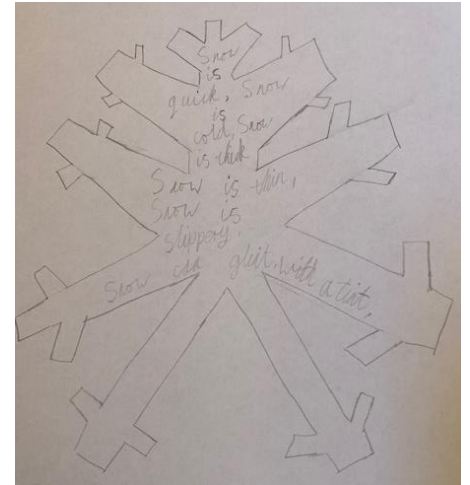
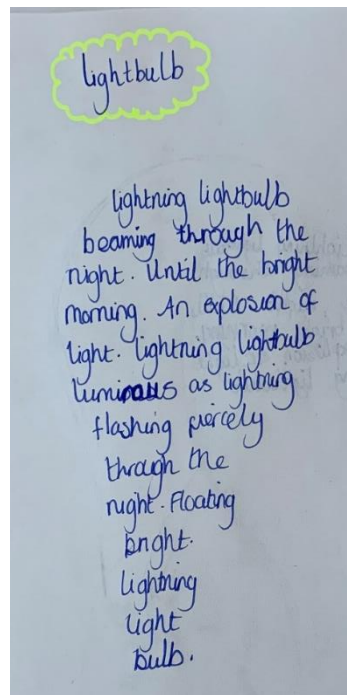
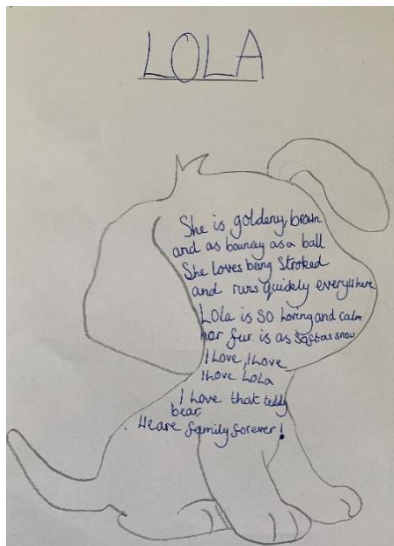
Lucy C-S



Archie F



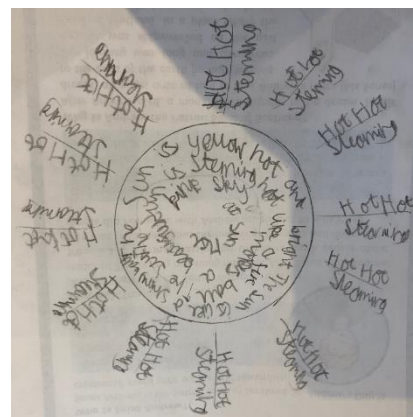
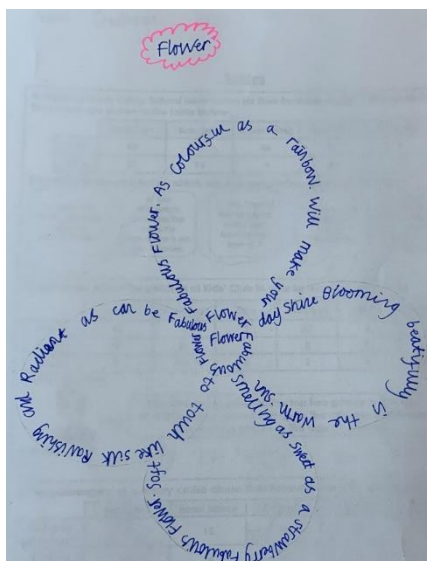
Lexie F



Oliva C

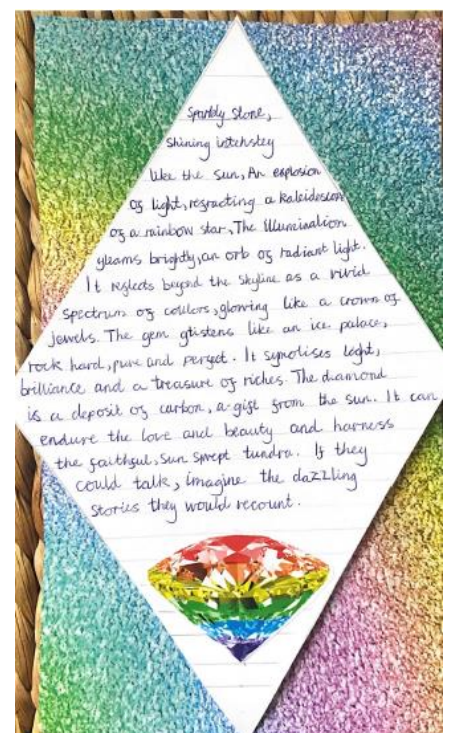
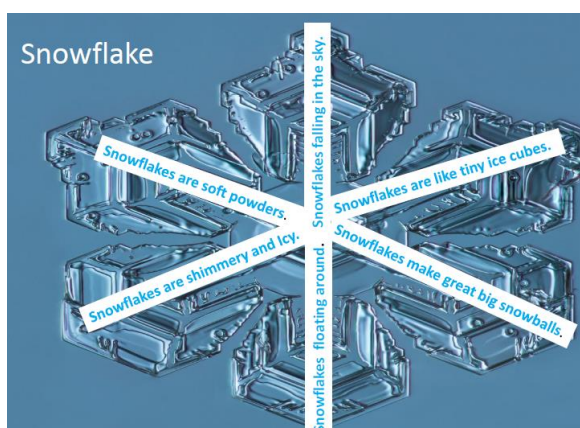
Archie F

Luke P



Lexie F

Jacob F



Zoe

Phoebe N



## Learning in Class Hummingbird

In Class Hummingbird, our topic is Day and Night. We enjoyed a live art lesson. We all painted 'A Starry Night' by Vincent Van Gogh. The children had to sketch out the picture before adding the paint and textures. They had to mix colours to create different tones and give their paintings texture. The children carefully followed step by step instructions and really listened carefully.



Harriet C



Oliver N



Amelie



Harry O



Samuel



Lily



Ahalya



Sidney



Henry

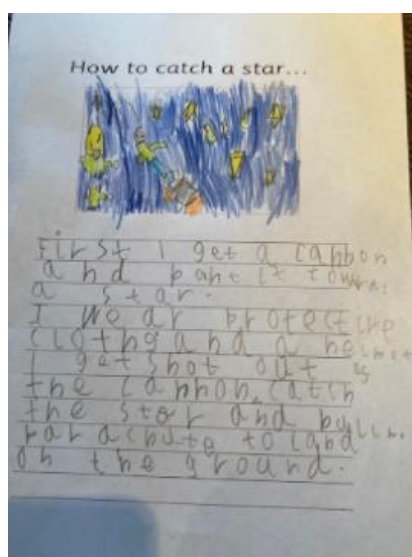


Oliver O



Theo

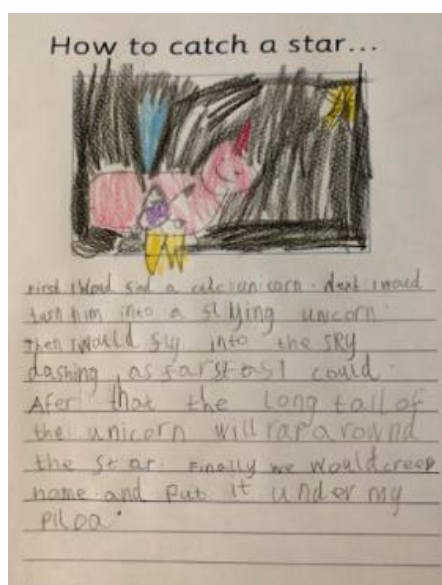
We shared the text 'How to Catch a Star'; the children came up with some amazing ideas on how they would catch a star!



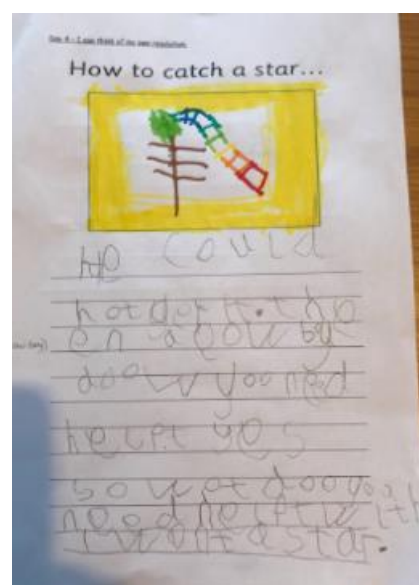
Charlie



Georgia



Eliza-Mae



George

## Safeguarding

### Safer Internet Day – 9<sup>th</sup> February

9<sup>th</sup> February was Safer Internet Day and there was a range of virtual assemblies available. We hope that you managed to watch one of them. The links are still open in case you missed them but please find some time to talk to your child about online safety as this is an important life skill!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/live-lessons/safer-internet-day-live-lesson/zdh2wnb>

For the Juniors:

A live assembly from the BBC with follow up worksheets available.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/detective-digiduck-virtual-assembly-3-7s>

For the Infants:

This assembly is based on Digi Duck's latest adventure and this is a series we have used in school. This can be accessed at any time.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2021/i-am-educator/work-7-11s/virtual-assembly-7-11s>

For the Juniors:

This is all about reliability and whether we can trust what we find or receive in messages online and is very relevant in the time of "fake news". This can be accessed at any time.

## Keeping in Touch

As next week is half-term break, teachers will not be making their "keeping in touch" phone calls.

These will resume after the break when we will know more about schools reopening and we can then finalise and share our plans for Spring Term parent-teacher consultation meetings.

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

## School Lunches - Costs for Spring Term 2021

2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term = 25 days at £2.25 = £56.25

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.

**Temporary Midday Assistant post** – we would like to recruit an extra Mid-day Assistant to cover 4 days a week for 1½ hours per day on a temporary basis. This would be for an immediate start and a job share would be considered. Please contact Jacki Brooke in the office for more details.



## Community News

Danbury Park School continues to work with our local community and we will share with you each week information that we think families might find useful.

### Danbury Library

Mrs Medcroft, Librarian, has asked to share the following information:

This February half term we're joining storyteller John Kirk for two online story hunt events for the family, completely free of charge!

A story hunt is an interactive adventure that takes the hunter into a world of wonder and imagination for 30 minutes of family fun. These events incorporate popular folk and fairy tales and are suitable for families with children aged 3+. Get ready for a virtual storytelling experience like no other as you take part in a story-led scavenger hunt that will turn your house upside down!

You can book session 1, Library Adventure, here: [Story Hunt session 1- The Library Adventure Tickets, Tue 16 Feb 2021 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

You're off to visit the library but, oh no, the librarian has had her door keys stolen by a hairy, scary monster. Go on an adventure to find the key thief and help save the day.

You can book session 2, Underwater Wonderland, here: [Story Hunt session 2- Under the Sea Adventure Tickets, Fri 19 Feb 2021 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

In this session you're deep-diving into an under the sea wonderland. What will you discover?

### Danbury Coronavirus Volunteer Group

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\\_TVCrjtu5QbD2NOWB0Vdfuiv7l6h3PgT3yU-7psbQ9QI](https://www.danburycorona.com/get-danbury-walking?fbclid=IwAR09dimieke1c26_TVCrjtu5QbD2NOWB0Vdfuiv7l6h3PgT3yU-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>

### Loved by Danbury and the Volunteer Group

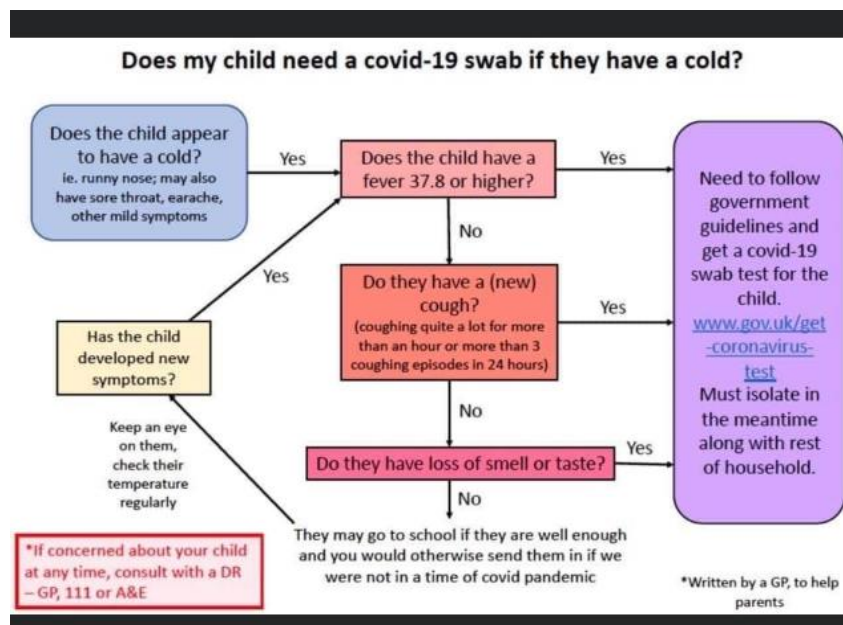
These two groups have managed to secure funding from Essex county Council to provide half term lunch and fun boxes for families in our community.

Please contact Stephanie Smith at [info@lovedbydanbury.co.uk](mailto:info@lovedbydanbury.co.uk) or the volunteer group on 07395 904761

## 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.**



## Children's Well-being

Following on from Children's Mental Health Week, below are some useful resources from the School Nursing Team which you may find helpful.

### How are you?

- Anxiety
- Low Mood



- Sadness
- Worries about COVID-19

Counselling for Children and Young People (5-18 years)

01245 348707

or email: [cypcounselling.kidsinspire@nhs.net](mailto:cypcounselling.kidsinspire@nhs.net)

Need to talk to someone? We can help.

A service for Castlepoint and Rochford, Mid Essex and Southend

The Children's Society

**Online Activities**

1<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021 via Microsoft Teams

You can access Microsoft Teams via the internet or download the app

FOR AGES 8-12, 13-18 and families

**Note:** By booking a place, you are giving your consent to share any interactions you use during the online session with other participants, eg. Video streaming and audio content. Participants are required to use their camera and use headphones during the cyp virtual session.

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10 AM	Mindfulness and Relaxation Families	Self-Care For You Mixed ages CYP	Staying Active Families	Self-Care For You Parents	Yoga Families
12 PM	Conflict resolution and managing anger 13-19	Staying Safe in a Virtual World Mixed ages CYP	Strong Resilience and emotional wellbeing 13-19	Boot camp Mixed ages CYP	Let's get Arty Mixed Ages CYP
2 PM	Creative Creations Mixed Ages CYP	Strong Resilience and emotional wellbeing 8-12	Conflict resolution and managing anger 8-12	One Community 13-19	
4 PM	Coping through Covid Families	Yoga Families	Family Fun Families	Staying Active Families	

To book your place, please check out our website: [www.childrenssociety.org.uk/east/services/safe-in-essex](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/east/services/safe-in-essex) or contact [Essexreferrals@childrenssociety.org.uk](mailto:Essexreferrals@childrenssociety.org.uk)

Safe in Essex Advice Line 10am – 2pm: 07725 639571 (if unanswered, leave a message and someone will contact you)

For more ideas go to: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

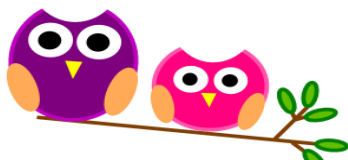
There is also a pinboard of information for parents and carers, covering the main themes and the support that is available for children, young people and their families at:

<http://www.essexlocaloffer.org.uk/family-support-group-weekly-drop-in-virtual-pin-board/>

## 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>

**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.



# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](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](mailto: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 22<sup>nd</sup> February

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

Yours sincerely

Carol Gooding  
Headteacher



## PUBLIC CONSULTATION -

### NEW EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES FOR DAWSON MEMORIAL FIELD

Danbury Parish Council are looking to enhance and improve the recreation facilities within our Village for our younger residents and we are looking for your views on the equipment proposed (as shown in images below)

#### How can you get involved?

Just fill in the form overleaf and return it to the Parish Office, Old School House, Main Road, Danbury, CM3 4NQ

Alternatively complete the Survey online via the link-  
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/R3T9TPV>

Please submit your completed questionnaire by  
15 March 2021

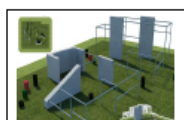


Image 1 - Parkour



Image 2 - Aerial Runway



Image 3 - Climbing



Image 4 - Trim Trail

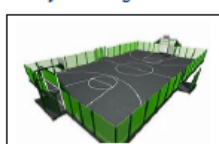


Image 5 - Multi use Games Area

#### Part 1 - Your Details

1. Name: ..... 2. Contact Number: .....

3. Email Address: .....

4. Age Range: (Please circle) Under 10years 10 - 16years 16 - 21 years 21 years+

#### Part 2 - Type of Facility

Please indicate by circling the response for each image (for illustration only) as shown overleaf, the equipment you would be in favour of:

Parkour (Image 1)	YES	NO	Don't Know
Ariel Runway (Image 2)	YES	NO	Don't Know
Climbing (Image 3)	YES	NO	Don't Know
Trim Trail (Image 4)	YES	NO	Don't Know
Multiuse Games Area (Image 5)	YES	NO	Don't Know

#### Part 3 - Additional Comments

Please let us know if there are any other types of recreational facilities you wish the Parish Council to consider:

#### Part 4 - Data Protection

I consent for my data and information to be collected and stored for the purpose of being contacted and to process my interest into activities in Danbury. This data will be processed by Danbury Parish Council. Your data will be stored for up to 12 months and will be anonymised thereafter. Your data will not be shared with a third party. You can request that your information is deleted at any time. Data will be processed and held securely and in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018 (and any updates).

Signed:

Date:

