



# Danbury Park Community Primary School

*Be wise, be happy, belong!*

## Newsletter

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

**21<sup>st</sup> October 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Reading Awards

**Congratulations** to the following pupils who have passed their reading award this week:  
More to follow next week!!!

*Reading certificates have been presented in class or at your child's Class Assembly.*

### Weekly Update

This half-term has seen a welcome return to school operating as close to normal as we can. In September all the children could come into school and leave at the same time which meant for a smoother start for us all and especially for parents with several children at the school. We could play together again at break and eat our lunch together in the hall. These are all things that we took for granted and only appreciated when we had to put in place the control measures. It took the children a little while to enjoy their new found freedom to mix socially but since September this has been so much better particularly for those children who, because of our split classes, are not in the same class as their friends.

We began the year in style with the Inflatables Afternoon organised by the DPSA which allowed so many families to reunite, catch up and for the children to have some fun. This was especially important for the new children and families joining Danbury Park as they had an opportunity to meet each other and the rest of the school. One comment from a new family was about how impressed they were by the older children playing and helping the younger ones and we have seen this reflected again as we re-introduce Reading Partners.

We are so pleased to be able to welcome parents back into school. The parent consultation meetings enabled us to meet face-to-face and to share all the hard work the children have done since September. Of course, we were also happy to make phone calls or Google Meets as we appreciate that some families need this way of communicating at this time. The class assembly schedule is well under way and many of the children expressed how nervous they were at presenting their assembly to an audience. Last week the children in Class Eider did a great job and needed little direction from Mrs Harden and Mrs Booth. All the children were proud of themselves afterwards. The children show-cased very well the breadth of the curriculum which we have never sacrificed at Danbury Park so they shared with us examples of their writing, maths, science, history, art, PSHE and their love of music and dance.

We have more school events to come and are looking forward to the rest of the class assemblies and then Christmas. We are watching the COVID situation closely and are guided by the Local Authority and DfE but we are planning Christmas plays and the DPSA fayre, even if we have to make adjustments. More details will follow soon.

We hope you all have a safe and relaxing half-term break.

## School Dinners

The uptake of school dinners at Danbury Park is consistently very high and the children and parents have always commended Mrs Hind and her team in the school kitchen for their tasty meals. Working in consultation with the School Meals Service, we have had to adapt our menus because of the additional pressures caused by COVID regulations and also more recently the difficulties affecting suppliers, but we are pleased that we are now close to resuming normal service.

Our menus are seasonal and every year after the October half-term break, we introduce our winter selection and you will see this reflected in the new choices. We are also re-introducing a jacket potato option for the children in the infants on two days a week. Jacket potatoes have been popular with the younger children but by having them every day, we could be limiting their choices and the variety over the course of the week. We have also found in the past that there is a lot of waste and that young children find jacket potatoes difficult to cut and eat. Whilst our Midday Team are there to help the children, the children need to be able to scoop out the potato and cut up the jacket themselves, so if this is your option, please practise at home.



Having helped in the dinner hall now for the past seven weeks, I can safely say that the children at Danbury Park do really enjoy their meals. The children in EYFS have settled in so well and are confident in collecting their meals from the servery and sitting themselves down with their friends to eat. The older children have always enjoyed the variety on offer and there is generally very little waste. Nearly all our meals are made from scratch even the tomato sauce with hidden vegetables which is used as a base for the pizza and spaghetti bolognese. Mrs Hind, Mrs Everard and Mrs Wilkinson spend a great deal of time peeling a wide range of vegetables in order to make the tomato base, as well as for the other meals. They even bake their own bread, cakes and pastries in order to ensure that the items have the right proportion of fats and sugars following the government guidelines. We only buy in pre-made items that it would be difficult to make such as sausages and fish fingers.

Thank you for supporting our school kitchen!

## Governors' Survey

You may have seen at parent consultation meetings that the governors are seeking parents' views on how well the children have settled back into school after all the COVID adjustments and disruption. At the start of the new academic year, we want every pupil to settle in well so that they can make the most of the year ahead and all staff are committed to providing a broad and ambitious curriculum for the children whether in class or remotely and following any necessary catching up. Paper copies of the survey were readily available and thank you if you have already completed one. If you would prefer, there is also an online version on Survey Monkey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NQD9KW8>

Please complete one survey for each child you have at the school as we appreciate they may have different experiences.

Your views are important to us as we strive to make Danbury Park School the best it can be and we would like as many parents as possible to participate. Results will be published in a future newsletter and we aim to do this by the end of this term.

## Our World, Our Future

Following on from our article last week about Class Cuckoo's *Our World, Our Future* responsibilities, we wanted to remind families who are new to Danbury Park that we have a black bin by the front reception area for the recycling of crisp packets. This type of packaging can't easily be recycled with other plastic items so working with the Danbury Community Group, we offered to be a collection point for the community.

The children are encouraged to put any crisp packets from lunch in the yellow bin in the hall and then the children from Class Cuckoo periodically empty this into the larger bin once we have estimated how much we have collected. We are sorry but we can't recycle any other plastic from packed lunches as these need to be washed first. We ask the children after eating to put all their waste back in their lunch bags so that you can recycle at home. It also helps parents keep track of how much the children are eating.

Families are welcome to bring crisp packets from home and put them straight into the black bin. When it is full we arrange for a collection and then the bin is emptied and everything is recycled correctly.

## Morrisons It's Good to Grow Last chance 24<sup>th</sup> October

Remember to keep collecting the tokens! Last day is 24<sup>th</sup> October.

**Please let friends and families know and support us!**

## Safeguarding

Pupil contact forms have been sent home this week so that you can check that the information that we hold on file for your child is correct. **Please complete these and return them by FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER.** This is very important should we need to contact you in an emergency and for safeguarding reasons. Please remember parents must notify the school if your child will be absent from school that day. We ask that you do this as soon as possible and by 9.30am. There is an answerphone option on the school's system to do this.

If we do not know where your child is, we are required to make contact with the family as soon as possible that same day. If we cannot contact parents directly, we will then work our way down the emergency contact list. As part of our Child Protection Policy, if all attempts have failed, we would have to seek advice from Children's Social Care and/or the police.

It also therefore important if your child is late for school that an adult brings them into the school office to sign them in. The roads around Danbury are often congested and we understand that there will be unavoidable reasons why the children may, on occasions, be late. If you drop them off in the car park to bring themselves into school, there is no certainty that they will arrive safely.

When an adult brings the child into school, you and we know that they are on our premises, that you have officially signed them in and that you are then handing them over to our care for the day.

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

## School Lottery

The School Lottery has been running now for two years and we would like to boost the number of supporters in order to keep the prize fund level up and to maximise the donations to school.

The funds raised help us proceed with projects such as the EYFS outdoor area that otherwise we couldn't afford! We always have more that we want to do and now we would like to enhance our stocks of KS2 reading books and also Maths resources throughout the school.

**Support our school and buy your chance to win here -**

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/danbury-park-community-primary-school>

**Calling All Wizards**

SUPPORT OUR LOTTERY AND YOU COULD WIN:

- Please help boost school fundraising
- Cash prize every week
- Win up to £25,000
- Tickets cost just £1 a week

To play the lottery, go to: [www.yourschoollottery.co.uk](https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk) and search for: Danbury Park Community

Supporters must be 18 years of age or older. Offer ends 30<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021. Terms and conditions apply (see website)

We would like to say a big thank you to those parents who over the years have donated their winnings back to the school. We are very grateful!

## Children's Well-being

**PHEW!**

**Parenting Help for Emotional Wellbeing**

"I cannot stop worrying"  
"I don't want to go to school!"  
"They don't seem very happy"  
"They seem to be unable to cope with their emotions, and I don't know how to help them"

The Essex Child and Family Wellbeing service are offering a 30 minute virtual appointment for you to discuss your current challenges and offer strategies to best support your child or young person's emotional wellbeing.

We can signpost you to online resources and recommend services that best support your child or young person's needs.

Last **Monday** of the Month (excluding Bank Holidays)  
Appointments available throughout the day  
Please contact 0300 247 0014 to book

[www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk](http://www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk)

Services commissioned by:  
**NHS** Essex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

## COVID-19 Support

The Local Authority has updated their guidance, detailed with the newsletter dated 17<sup>th</sup> September, showing the latest letter and flow chart to help parents know what to do in the case of your child having COVID or being a close contact.

The main clarification is that if your child is required by Test and Trace to take a PCR test because they have been identified as a close contact of someone with COVID, they can still come to school whilst they await the result.

## School Lunches - Costs for Autumn Term 2021

2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term: 1<sup>st</sup> November – 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021 = 35 days at £2.25 = **£78.75**

**Please pay monies for the rest of the term as soon as possible. Thank you.**

Please send monies in with your child via the book bags in a named envelope making cheques payable to **Danbury Park Primary School**. Please note the change of payee as we now have our own bank account and no longer come under the ECC umbrella. **This change also means that meals should be paid for in advance 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 note Key Stage 1 and EYFS are entitled to Universal Free School Meals.

Our new online payment system for parents will be available shortly. Watch this space!

## Notification and Reminders

**Guitars** – Mrs Long would be grateful for donations of any guitars that you may have awaiting a good home. These would be used to enhance our music lessons.


**Long hair** – Please remember that as part of our school uniform policy children should have their long hair tied back. This helps prevent the spread of head lice which are always a feature of primary school life but is also a health and safety consideration, especially during PE and physical activity.

**Coats** – The weather will start to turn cooler and it looks as if it will be rainy next week. Please make sure that your child has their coat with them as we will still go out to play even if it is drizzling.


**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>

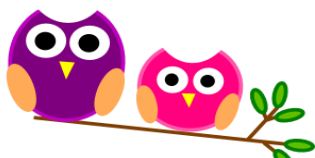
## Letters/Parentmail sent out this week

 Classes H & J – Animal Encounters letter for class experience 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

 Class F – Parent Consultation changes.

 Van Cols Photographs – Final date to order for free delivery into school is 26<sup>th</sup> October.

 Project Christmas Card – Final date to purchase online and return original artwork to school is Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov. If the original is not returned the artwork cannot be produced.



# DPSA News



## DPSA Christmas Fayre – 4<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Christmas is fast approaching, and plans are well underway for the 2021 Christmas Fayre! The DPSA will be meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November to discuss the finer details, so if you'd like to be involved in the planning, please let us know.

If you've not experienced one of our Christmas Fayre's before, you'll not want to miss it! We'll have plenty of stalls such as:

- \* A Santa's Grotto
- \* Christmas Stalls
- \* Tombola
- \* Christmas Hamper Raffle
- \* The Grand Raffle with prizes up to £100
- \* Secret Gift Room
- \* Food and drinks for everyone

## We need your help!

The Christmas Fayre involves the whole school, and we'd love your help! We're still in need of the following:

- \* Willing volunteers to display Christmas Fayre Church & Hawes boards on their lawn
- \* Donations for the raffle – if you have or know anyone with a local business to promote, we can help!
- \* Wrapped multipack chocolates and adult gifts (ie toiletries, bottles etc) for the tombola
- \* Secret room gifts – where children choose and wrap a secret gift for parents and grandparents
- \* Good quality toys and children's books/DVDs
- \* Cake bakers for the refreshments stall
- \* Helpers on the day
- \* A Grotto helper that doesn't mind wearing a beard



If you would like to help, please get in touch at [DPSA2020@yahoo.com](mailto:DPSA2020@yahoo.com).

## The Big Book Collection

If you have any books the kids have grown out of (suitable for EYFS to Year 6 children), please donate in the plastic box at the school office. Your books will either go to the school or they'll be donated to charity so absolutely nothing gets wasted.



## Stikins Name Labels

Stikins name labels are a great way to ensure items are never lost again, and can be used on clothes, shoes, water bottles and more. Visit the website [www.stikins.co.uk](http://www.stikins.co.uk) to order using code 5641. The DPSA receive commission on the labels sold.

## Online Shopping – Fundraising while Christmas Shopping!



Easyfundraising.org.uk is the UK's biggest charity shopping fundraising site with over 4,700 retailers ready to donate to Danbury Park Community Primary School for FREE every time you shop with them. If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE to use. Just visit: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> click 'Support a Cause' and search for Danbury Park School.



Amazon Smile – Shop at [smile.amazon.co.uk](http://smile.amazon.co.uk) and they'll donate to your favourite charitable organisation. Just click on the menu in your Amazon app, select Gifting and Charity, then select Amazon Smile. Search for Danbury Park School Association to start donating at absolutely no cost to you.

## Did you know we have a DPSA Facebook page?

All DPSA news and events are regularly updated on our Facebook page @DanburyParkDPSA.

## DPSA BACS Details

Danbury Park School Association | Sort Code: 20-19-95 | Account No: 03049310 | Ref: Event, Surname & Class

**Have a good weekend – The DPSA**





**Week 1**

## **Owl's Barn School Meals**

**Week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021**

<b>Monday</b>	Homemade Pepperoni Pizza or Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza	White/Wholegrain Pasta Cucumber Sweetcorn	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b> Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Shortbread Biscuit Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Tuesday</b>	Local Butcher's Pork Sausages or Vegan Sausages	Creamy Mashed Potato Peas Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling  Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo	Marble Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Wednesday</b>	Homemade Chicken Korma with Naan Bread or Homemade Sweet Potato and Lentil Korma with Naan Bread	White/Wholegrain Rice Mixed Vegetables Green Salad	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b> Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Peaches and Ice Cream Pot Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Thursday</b>	Macaroni Cheese or Jacket Potato with a choice of fillings	Homemade Bread Sweetcorn Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling  Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo	Apple Crumble and Custard Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Friday</b>	Omega 3 Fish Fingers or Omelette	Chips Baked Beans Cucumber	<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 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021

<b>Mon 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Poppies will be available to purchase from the school office.
<b>Tues 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	
<b>Weds 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	
9.30am	Prospective Parent Tour - please note places must be booked in advance through the school office
10.30am	Prospective Parent Tour - please note places must be booked in advance through the school office
2.50pm	Let's Present in classes
<b>Thurs 4<sup>th</sup></b>	
7.00pm	Governors' Resources Meeting
<b>Fri 5<sup>th</sup></b>	
2.45pm	Class B Assembly to parents

Full term dates for the academic year 2021-22 and 2022-23 are available on the school website.

Yours sincerely,  
Carol Gooding  
Headteacher

## Danbury Park Community Primary School Dates for Autumn Term 2021

Date	Time	Event
<b>November</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	8.50am	School re-opens after half-term break
3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30am or 10.30am	Open Morning for prospective parents
4 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Resources Committee meeting
5 <sup>th</sup>	2.45pm	Class B Assembly
8 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am - 10.00am	Class Jay Stay and Play
9 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am - 10.00am	Class Hummingbird Stay and Play
	1.45pm	Open afternoon for prospective parents
11 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Governor Training
12 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am - 10.00am	Class Jay Stay and Play
	2.45pm	Class C Assembly
16 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am or 10.30am	Open Morning for prospective parents
19 <sup>th</sup>		Children in Need



	2.45pm	Class D Assembly
24 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Class H & J – Animal Encounters – in class visit
26 <sup>th</sup>	2.45pm	Class F Assembly
Week beg 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov		Whole School Assessment Week
<b>December</b>		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	2.45pm	Class G Assembly
	tbc	DPSA Christmas Fayre
8 <sup>th</sup>	12.00pm	Christmas Lunch
13 <sup>th</sup>	tbc	Filming of Christmas Plays
14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am & 2.15pm tbc	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Play
15 <sup>th</sup>	1.45pm & 6.00pm tbc	KS2 Christmas Play
17 <sup>th</sup>	Pm	Christmas Party
		End of Term

<b>Spring Term 2022</b>		
8 <sup>th</sup> February	tbc	Parent Consultations – all classes
10 <sup>th</sup> February	tbc	Parent Consultations – all classes