



Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong!

Newsletter

Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

10th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading Awards

Congratulations to the following pupils who have passed their reading award this week:

Poppy R – Gold

Emily B - Gold

Willow E - Emerald

Reading certificates will be presented in class before the end of term.

Weekly Update

Well done to the children in Class Goldfinch, who completed our series of class assemblies telling us all about Emilia Earhart and how she was a pioneer in aviation. The children shared with us their art work based on Mondrian and all their learning this term. For these children it was their first class assembly and they were nervous but delivered a confident presentation. All the assemblies this term have been a great way of the children sharing the breadth of work taught in class. They are always engrossed in their topics and they become very knowledgeable. I know this from all the information they share with me whilst I have been supervising dinner times this term. There is always a voice saying, "Mrs Gooding, did you know that...?"

As you will appreciate the COVID situation is changing but we are still planning for the Christmas plays to go ahead. We urge all adults attending to do a lateral flow test before they attend and if they are at all unwell to stay at home. We know that the virus is spreading amongst families and we want to keep everyone as safe as we can so that you can enjoy your Christmas break. Please remember to bring your ticket with you as this speeds up the entry process.

On the last day of term, we will have a variety of Christmas based activities in class and play some party games. Given the current situation, we have decided to keep the mixing of classes indoors to a minimum so the festivities will be led by each class teacher and the children will be with their classmates. As usual we will provide the children with a drink and biscuit in the afternoon. This year we ask that children do **NOT** bring in any games from home. However, we are inviting the children to again wear their Christmas jumpers with their school uniform for the day as we did for Christmas dinner day.

Danbury Outdoors

Congratulations to Abbie G in Class Cuckoo whose entry with its bright colouring and thoughtful name for the rain gardens was selected by Danbury Outdoors and the Essex County Council Environment and Climate Action Team as the winner of their recent competition. Paul Stokes, the manager at Danbury Outdoors, told me that they were amazed by the number of entries and also the high standard. It was very hard for them to choose a winner and at one point had ten! Thank you for supporting the children with this activity.

Abbie will receive her prize for an activity day for her and a friend shortly and in due course we will be able to see the gardens along with a special plaque showing Abbie's design.



Donation of Laptops

We would like to say a big thank you to the Boreham family who have donated 14 laptops to the school with another 6 to come! These are units that their business are replacing and like us, they do not like good things to go to waste. As you may know laptops and computers are expensive and constantly need renewing and updating and in the past the DPSA has kindly enabled us to purchase new ones. These are high quality units and will supplement those in our laptop trolley so all the children will benefit.



Santa Dash

This week we enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner prepared by Mrs Thynne (previously Mrs Hind), Mrs Everard, Mrs Wilkinson, Mrs Whitbread and Miss Bond. Including staff the catering team served 250 dinners which is no mean feat, so a big thank you to everyone involved.

During the day all the children also took part in the Santa Dash, which all the schools in our Sports Partnership are being encouraged to take part in this week. It was a great opportunity for some physical activity outside with a festive theme to let off some steam.



Talented Pupils



Congratulations to Caleb in Class E who achieved a Distinction in his Piano Initial Grade.

Well done Caleb and we look forward to hearing you play in future class assemblies and school events.

Mrs Long, our Music Teacher, has been busy working with some of our talented musician's to put together a virtual concert for our friends in the village. At Christmas, a group of children usually visit The Mission to entertain the senior members of the community whilst they enjoy a Christmas dinner together. This year, to keep them all safe, Mrs Long has made a recording of the children playing which our friends will be able to watch. More details next week.

School Improvement Plan Key Priorities for 2021-22

Each year the school's governing body working with the headteacher and the senior leadership team draws up a plan for how the school will develop and improve over the coming year. Below are our priorities for 2021-22

What are we trying to improve?	How will we know when we've got there?
The Quality of Education including Behaviour and Personal Development For most pupils in all year groups to catch up on academic achievement in reading by the end of the academic year For most pupils in all year groups to catch up on academic achievement in writing by the end of the academic year For most pupils in all year groups to catch up on academic achievement in Maths by the end of the academic year	Pupil attainment, as measured at the end of the academic year, is in line with end of year expectations. Pupils, who are significantly below starting points in September, make rapid progress throughout the year. Pupils, who are defined as disadvantaged, make accelerated progress from their starting points.
For teaching and learning to be further improved by developing pupils' memory and retrieval skills.	Teaching makes links to prior learning from not just this academic year but also previous years. Pupils explain how their learning fits into the sequence of lessons and also make links with lessons taught in previous classes.
For the school curriculum to continue to be broad and ambitious and <i>Our World, Our Future</i> (sustainability and environment issues) is embedded into the curriculum	The full school curriculum is delivered (with necessary adjustments for COVID-19). Pupils talk confidently about <i>Our World, Our Future</i> and make links with the topics covered last year. Our experience and resources are shared with the wider community and other schools.
For pupils to continue to be fully supported in their emotional health and well-being	Pupils in need of support are identified early; Support is put in place through school well-being mentors; specialist support is sought where applicable; Pupils report that they feel safe and supported.
The School Environment For the school to have a dedicated and appropriate space for well-being work. For the pupils to be encouraged to be physically active at playtimes to improve their general health and well-being	The DT room is fully converted into a well-being room with a nurturing and welcoming environment. Pupils feel that the room is a safe space. An outdoor gym is in place and is used by all classes in PE lessons and by 80% KS2 pupils during the break and lunchtimes. Pupils' feedback is positive.
Leadership and Management Structures and Systems For the leadership of the school to have due regard for staff's mental health and well-being. For governor communication to continue to improve with all stakeholders. For succession planning and training to be part of, and improve, the working of the governing body. For governor monitoring to be embedded in practice and extended to pupil monitoring of EYFS, English and Maths.	Staff feel supported and valued; staff morale is good; Where possible workload is reduced; staff are consulted on new initiatives and projects; The senior leadership team evaluate new initiatives and projects for impact on workload. Feedback from surveys, parents, pupils and staff and other governing bodies inform us. By the end of the academic year succession planning is part of FGB practice and continued training improves practice. All monitoring visits are in accordance with the Governor Visits Policy and each governor with a responsibility submits a report to the full governing body and appropriate committee after the agreed visit.

Excellent schools are by their nature critical of everything they do and Danbury Park is no exception. We will continue to monitor, evaluate and review our provision and practice, including many aspects that are too numerous to mention, throughout the course of the year.

Safeguarding

If you are thinking about electronic devices and games as Christmas presents this year, please remember to take time to set parental controls and consider ways in which you can support your child to keep safe online. The 2 Johns have information on their website for those of you who may need guidance and it is well-worth reading. They also have a weekly blogs covering topical issues and deal with real and current situations:

<https://esafetytraining.org/resources/parents-carers-area/>

Attendance

Our Attendance Policy has been updated to add clarification for parents/carers about:

- 🔔 Pupils who **arrive late** and the need for a **parents/carer to sign them in**;
- 🔔 The importance **of** phoning school by 9.20am to notify us of any absence and how we would need to contact those persons listed on our files, should we not be able to contact you directly to find out where your child is;
- 🔔 The importance of parents/ carers notifying us of any changes to contact information.

Let's work together to keep the children safe!

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

Services commissioned by
NHS Essex & South Essex

School Uniform

There has been a lot of information recently about the need for schools to ensure that school uniform is affordable and readily available. At Danbury Park School we have a flexible school uniform policy offering two suppliers who sell uniform with our school logo at a range of prices. We also have colours that we know are available in the local supermarkets. The DPSA also run a nearly new uniform sale at their events.

We have always aimed to make our uniform as simple as possible and we are happy for the children to wear a range of styles. The children wear their uniform with pride and we are pleased that parents uphold our policy. Thank you!

School Lottery

The School Lottery has been running now for over 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>



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!

Midday Assistant Vacancies

With Mrs Biggs retiring we are now looking for more Midday Assistants to help us at lunchtimes. This is a rewarding and busy job helping the children enjoy their school dinners and playtimes.

We can be flexible on days so please contact the school office for more details.

Applications for School Admissions September 2022 Reminder for Pre-school Parents

The statutory closing date for applications from parents of preschool children for a school place in the Reception year group from September 2022 is **15th January 2022**.

Full information is available on the Essex County Council website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.
The application round opened on Monday 8th November and all applications are made via this site.

Notification and Reminders

Coats and Gloves – The weather is now decidedly colder. Please make sure that your child has their coat and gloves 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

- 🔔 Filming of Christmas play
- 🔔 DVD Christmas play order form (deadline 16th December 2021)



Essex Library Services
Read, learn, connect.

Winter Reading Challenge

Sign up to the Winter Reading Challenge and be entered into a prize draw to win one of these fantastic prizes!

- Explore Essex Explorer Passes, valid for one year.
- Sky Ropes Session for two, to be taken by 31 August 2022 (subject to availability). Min age of two for the junior course, min height of 1.22m for the main course.
- Essex Outdoors school holiday activity days, for one child aged 8-16, to be taken by 31 August 2022 (subject to availability).
- Wilderness Foundation activity afternoon, Chatham Green centre, for children aged 5-11 (and their parents and siblings) to be taken Saturday 26 April 2022.
- Signed books, from authors Emma Beswetherick, Catherine Emmett and Vassiliki Tzomaka.
- Love Essex goodie bags.

Full terms and conditions can be found on our website: libraries.essex.gov.uk

WILDERNESS | **LOVE ESSEX** | **Explore Essex** | **essex outdoors** | **Essex County Council**



DPSA News



DPSA Christmas Raffle & Chocolate Sales

If you've been doing the school run in the last two weeks you may have noticed the DPSA busy selling the advent calendars, chocolates and sweets which were meant for the Christmas Fayre. Once again, the Danbury Park parents were incredibly generous, and sales totalled over £500! The remaining advent calendars have been donated to Chelmsford Children's Social Care Services.



Thank you to everyone who's bought tickets to the 2021 DPSA Christmas Raffle. The deadline for buying tickets is today (Friday 10th December), Mrs Gooding will do the draw and all prize winners will be contacted directly.

We'd also like to say a huge thank you again to all of you who donated raffle prizes this year and supported the DPSA. Full details of all the prizes are listed in last week's newsletter or can be found on our Facebook page. Adult tombola donations (ie alcohol, chocolates, gifts) will now be included within the raffle.

Christmas Performance DVD & USB

The Christmas performances this year will be recorded in school by a professional company (BVP of Little Baddow) and put onto DVD and USB for you to buy. They will be 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. Order forms will shortly be sent out via Class Reps and by Parentmail. Due to the size of the files, the recordings will need to be split into two: Version 1 (Classes A&B and Classes C,D&E) and Version 2 (Classes F,G,H&J).

	DVD	USB
Version 1 <u>or</u> 2	£17	£20
Version 1 <u>and</u> 2	£22	£25

Christmas Tree Pictures



Jasmine (F)

Unfortunately, as the Christmas Fayre couldn't take place this year, we were unable to display all the amazing Christmas Tree drawings submitted by the children at the school. However, Mrs Gooding kindly picked a winner from EYFS/KS1 and KS2 this week for best Christmas Tree! **Congratulations to Jasmine in Class F and Finella in Class B.**

Your drawings were both beautiful, you should be very proud of yourselves! We especially liked how sparkly Jasmine's tree was and the individually designed baubles on Finella's tree. Prizes will be winging their way to you both very soon.



Finella (B)

Did you know we have a DPSA Facebook page?

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

Have a good weekend - The DPSA



Week 1

Owl's Barn School Meals

Week beginning 13th December 2021

Fresh bread and milk available daily

Monday	Homemade Pepperoni Pizza or Homemade Cheese and (V) Tomato Pizza	White/Wholegrain Pasta Cucumber Sweetcorn	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Shortbread Biscuit Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Tuesday	Local Butcher's Pork Sausages or (V) 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
Wednesday	Homemade Chicken Korma with Naan Bread or Homemade Sweet Potato and Lentil Korma (V) with Naan Bread	White/Wholegrain Rice Mixed Vegetables Green Salad	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Peaches and Ice Cream Pot Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Thursday	Chicken Nuggets or (V) Macaroni Cheese	Crispy Diced Potatoes Sweetcorn Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo	Apple Crumble and Custard Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Friday	Omega 3 Fish Fingers or (V) Omelette	Chips Baked Beans Cucumber	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Iced Sponge Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

School Lunches - Costs for Spring Term 2022

1st Half Term: 4th January – 10th February 2022 = 28 days at £2.25 = **£63.00**

2nd Half Term: 22nd February – 1st April 2022 = 29 days at £2.25 = **£65.25**

Total for Spring Term £128.25

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

Please pay via the online payment system Pay 360 – Thank you

Please ensure that all dinners have been paid for the autumn term.

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.

Dates for the Diary
Week beginning 13th December 2021

Mon 13th	Filming of Christmas Plays
Tues 14th	
9.30am	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Performance
1.45pm	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Performance
Weds 15th	
9.30am	KS2 Christmas Performance Classes E,D,C
1.45pm	KS2 Christmas Performance Classes E,D,C
Thurs 16th	
9.30am	KS2 Christmas Performance Classes A,B
1.45pm	KS2 Christmas Performance Classes A,B
Fri 17th	Christmas Activities and Parties End of Term

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
December		
13 th	tbc	Filming of Christmas Plays
14 th	9.15am & 1.45pm	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Play
15 th	9.15am & 1.45pm	KS2 Christmas Play
16 th	9.15am & 1.45pm	KS2 Christmas Play
17 th	Pm	Christmas Activities and Parties
		End of Term

Spring Term 2022		
8 th February	tbc	Parent Consultations – all classes
10 th February	tbc	Parent Consultations – all classes