



# Danbury Park Community Primary School

*Be wise, be happy, belong!*

## Newsletter

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

**17<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Reading Awards

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

Oliver C – Emerald    Freya B – Ruby    Bella G – Ruby    Brahman P – Diamond  
Hema M – Bronze    Ophelia S – Bronze    Oscar R – Bronze    Henry C – Gold

*Reading certificates have been or will be presented in class.*

### Weekly Update

Yet again the Autumn Term has closed in not the way we would have hoped. We make our plans with the best of intentions and for the benefit of the children but sometimes matters are out of our control. For some things we must be very grateful and this year we have not had to move to class bubbles or stop the children working and playing with their friends from other classes. There are many positives that we must remember including: class assemblies to which parents were invited, joint Remembrance Day events at the War Memorial with our local schools, Reading Partners, Stay and Play for EYFS, meetings for EYFS parents to help with reading at home, welcoming volunteers back into school and visits from governors, to name but a few.

I would like to pay tribute to the staff at Danbury Park School who have worked so hard this term. It seems that as the pandemic evolves, so the tasks heaped on school become greater. All staff have strived to make the school experience as normal as possible for the children whilst adapting their teaching to fill the inevitable gaps in learning from remote education periods, supporting individual pupils with their anxieties and their well-being, being available to parents to help you with your concerns and constantly adapting to new guidance and regulations. Whilst doing this, they have also embraced new initiatives to help us learn from the latest research so that our teaching is the best it can be. The sign of a happy school is its level of staff absence and overall this has been very low. However, this means that often staff put their responsibilities at school above their own personal and family fears and anxieties. I know many of you are grateful for the way in which staff go above and beyond and this is expressed in your generous gifts at Christmas and the end of the academic year. Thank you!

We are unsure what January will hold, so we ask that you check you have activated your child's Google Classroom account in case of Remote Education and check for Parentmail in early January in case of any change. If you do not hear from us, then everything will run as it has this term.

On behalf of everyone at Danbury Park School, I would like to wish all our families a happy and healthy Christmas and a brighter New Year.

## Christmas at Danbury Park

As ever the mobiles in the hall look very festive. The children were awe-struck when they came into the hall for lunch and saw them for the first time hanging as a whole school display. We would like to say a big thank you to our friends at Danbury Outdoors who came with their long ladder and suspended them from the ceiling.



## Virtual Concert at the Mission

Over the last two weeks, children from Classes Budgerigar and Avocet have been practising their songs for the Christmas play and also some solo performances on their instruments, which were recorded and put together into a PowerPoint presentation to play at The Mission. This special recording was for the Lunch Club's senior citizens to enjoy while they had their traditional Christmas lunch on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December. In previous years children have performed in person, but this year we had to appear on the big screen instead. Everyone played and sang beautifully, and we had an exciting range of instruments for the solos too - guitar, trumpet violin recorder and piano! What talented people you all are, I was so proud to send such lovely work.



Mrs Long



## Autumn Term 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Despite the pandemic, it has been a busy start to the new academic year: meetings of all the committees on Zoom, visits by governors to monitor their key stage, class or curriculum responsibilities and the setting of governor targets within the School Improvement Plan 2021/22 and School Development Plan for the next three years. We also began our series of termly surveys, this term focusing on 'settling-in'. This term has also been about 'bouncing back' and 'bouncing higher' for the pupils and Mrs. Gooding and the staff have worked tirelessly to ensure all pupils receive the best possible teaching to aid their progress: we are grateful for all their hard work.

Reports from the chairs of the committees are as follows:-

### Curriculum and Pupil Related – Chair, Mrs. Katherine Moulding

- 🦉 The committee reviewed pupil progress for the academic year 2020-21, noting how challenging this had been for pupils due to the disrupted learning caused by Covid19 restrictions.
- 🦉 The committee examined the priorities and targets for this academic year for pupils' continued learning recovery in Maths, Writing and Reading and approved Governor Monitoring responsibilities for these areas.
- 🦉 The committee approved the following policies-Teaching and Learning, Marking, Feedback and Presentation of Work, Assessment, Recording and Reporting, Homework, Behaviour, Anti-bullying, Peer-on-Peer Abuse, Exclusions.

### Resources Committee – Chair, Mr. George Fraser

- 🦉 The Resources committee continues with its plans to overhaul the school outdoor play facilities. Application has been made to the local council for the appropriate permission which, once granted, will allow completion before the end of the academic year.
- 🦉 The committee (alongside the local parish council) continues to lobby for improvements to the roads immediately outside the school to enhance safety for pupils and staff at the beginning and end of the school day.
- 🦉 The committee reviewed the recent improvements to the school with regards to 'Carbon net zero' aspirations as well as exploring further improvements that could be made.

### Personnel – Chair, Mrs. Debbie Le Monde

- 🦉 Governors are pleased that all staff vacancies have been filled, confirming the reputation of the school as a good place to work.
- 🦉 The new SENDCO has made an excellent start reviewing working practices.
- 🦉 Governors have maintained links with school staff despite COVID restrictions and are reassured that the current provision of staff benefits the children's education.

The Governors wish you all a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Brenda Wray, Chair of Governors

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

Services commissioned by:  
**NHS** Essex & Salford

## 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 **15<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.

Full information is available on the Essex County Council website [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions).

The application round opened on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November and all applications are made via this site.

## 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.

## 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

📧 Letter from Essex County Council – by parentmail



# DPSA News



## DPSA Christmas Raffle Winners

Thank you to everyone that supported us buying raffle tickets. Mrs Gooding kindly drew 64 winning tickets (the largest number of prizes we've ever had!), and each winner has been contacted directly. The list is far too big to name every winner, but here are the top three! Congratulations everyone!

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize - £100 Cash (donated by Church & Hawes Danbury) – Sarah P**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - £75 John Lewis voucher (donated by Victoria Louise Property) – Natalie W**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – Dulce Gousto Coffee Machine (donated by the Flatman Family) – Vicky**

## Christmas Performance DVD & USB

So far, we've raised over £300! The deadline for delivery pre-Christmas has now passed so any orders placed will not be delivered to the school until the New Year. 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

Please email [DPSA2020@yahoo.com](mailto:DPSA2020@yahoo.com) with your order as the School Office will be closed over Christmas

## Christmas Shopping? New Year Sales?



Over 6,100 shops and sites will donate to Danbury Park Community Primary School for FREE every time you use easyfundraising. If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE to use. You just need an email address and a password to register. 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)



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



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.



Stamptastic sell personalised name stamps usable on most fabrics, so if you'd like to try an alternative to stickers it's well worth looking into. Every time an order is placed for a Name Labels Deluxe Bundle with our PTA Code **CM34AG** you will receive a FREE white fabric pen worth £4.99. Please use the following link to see more: <https://bit.ly/STAMPCM34AG>

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

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

Thank you for all your fantastic support over this last year. The DPSA would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## The DPSA



**Week 1**

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

**Week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022**  
Fresh bread and milk available daily

<b>Tuesday</b>	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
<b>Wednesday</b>	Homemade Chicken Korma with Naan Bread or Homemade Sweet Potato and Lentil Korma (V) 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>	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
<b>Friday</b>	Omega 3 Fish Fingers or (V) 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

### **School Lunches - Costs for Spring Term 2022**

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term: 22<sup>nd</sup> February – 1<sup>st</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bank Holiday - School closed
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> 8.50am	School gates open for the Spring Term
Weds 5 <sup>th</sup>	
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup>	
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup>	

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

Yours sincerely,

Carol Gooding  
Headteacher



Lots of prizes to be won!

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](http://libraries.essex.gov.uk)

WILDERNESS LOVE ESSEX Explorer Essex essex/outdoors Essex County Council



Essex Library Services

### Children's Art Competition

Closing Date: Saturday 5 February 2022

- Have fun and create a piece of A4 winter themed artwork!
- Some great prizes to be won!
- Winners' artwork will be displayed in libraries and shared on social media!

Open to all children aged 4-11.  
Visit [libraries.essex.gov.uk](http://libraries.essex.gov.uk) or ask a member of staff for more information.

Essex County Council

## **Danbury Park Community Primary School**

### **Dates for Spring Term 2022**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
8 <sup>th</sup> February	tbc	Parent Consultations – all classes
10 <sup>th</sup> February	tbc	Parent Consultations – all classes

**A full list of dates will be published in January.**