



Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong !

Newsletter

Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

25th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading Awards

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

Tommy P - Gold	Charlotte N - Bronze	Avy S - Bronze
Arabella E - Bronze	Holly C - Bronze	Gracie B - Ruby
		Harry V - Diamond

Reading certificates will be presented in class during the term.

Weekly Update

I hope that you all had a good half-term break. Despite the lifting of restrictions yesterday COVID has not gone away and as a school we are still taking this virus very seriously in order to protect and keep our pupils, staff and families as safe as possible. This week you should have received a letter from Clare Kershaw, Essex Director of Education to explain how schools in Essex will be operating going forward (see below). We have instilled good hygiene practices with the children over the past two years so we will be continuing with regular hand-washing, cleaning and ventilation of rooms. Further in the newsletter we have included a flow chart to help you decide when your child should return to school should they become infected. We ask that everyone in our community follows this.

On a lighter note next week sees the start of Book Fortnight. One week is never enough so we plan to use two! The focus this year is around going on a reading journey so we are using tales from around the world. As ever we aim to use high quality texts to inspire the children not only in broadening their reading and vocabulary but also in enriching the structure and quality of their own writing. We will be changing the displays around the school to reflect the work done in class and we hope you will all have the chance to see them sometime this term. We will also have a special newsletter to share with you.

Friday 4th March is our dressing up day and we are inviting the children to come to school dressed up either as a book character or, to make life easier for parents, as a word! So your child could come as Alice from *Alice in Wonderland* or dress totally in red to represent the word "crimson" or even "angry". We would like the children to be as creative as possible and felt that the "word" option would give a new twist to this traditional event and inspire and motivate the children to try something new. We are asking for a donation to cover the cost of Mike Dodsworth, a visiting story teller on **Friday 11th March**, who will work with all classes in the school and to purchase more reading books. This year we are suggesting a donation of £2 but if you feel you could give more, we would be grateful. Unfortunately we cannot use Pay360 as at this time it does not give us the flexibility to leave the amount open. Please send any donations into school via the book bags.

Another busy few weeks ahead!

Letter from the Local Authority

Thursday 24 February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to advise you of the changes to Government Covid-19 guidance which come into place from Thursday 24 February 2022.

Whilst we are now learning to live with COVID-19, it is important to remember that the global pandemic is not yet over. However, the Government have stated that vaccines have enabled the gradual and safe removal of restrictions on everyday life over the past year and will remain at the heart of their approach to living with the virus in the future.

On Monday 21st February 2022, the Prime Minister announced the following:

Testing:

Regular asymptomatic testing has helped to reduce transmission in education and childcare settings and maintain face-to-face education and care. However, it has also placed a burden on teachers, parents, pupils and students throughout the pandemic.

The Government has announced therefore that it is in a position to lift this guidance for staff and students in most education and childcare settings, allowing pupils and students across the country to focus on their education. This guidance was lifted as of Tuesday 22 February 2022.

However, staff and pupils of secondary age and above in specialist SEND settings, Alternative Provision, and SEND units within mainstream schools are advised to continue regular twice weekly testing. Staff and students are able to access test kits from their local pharmacy or online.

The Legal Duty to Self-Isolate:

As of Thursday 24 February 2022, the Government has removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test.

Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days or until the 10th day.

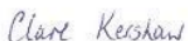
Fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 will no longer be required to test daily for 7 days, and the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate has been removed.

Routine contact tracing will end. Contacts will no longer be required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests.

Free testing will end from 1st April 2022 for the general public, including those with symptoms. However, the Government will continue to provide free tests for symptomatic people for the oldest age groups, and those who are most vulnerable.

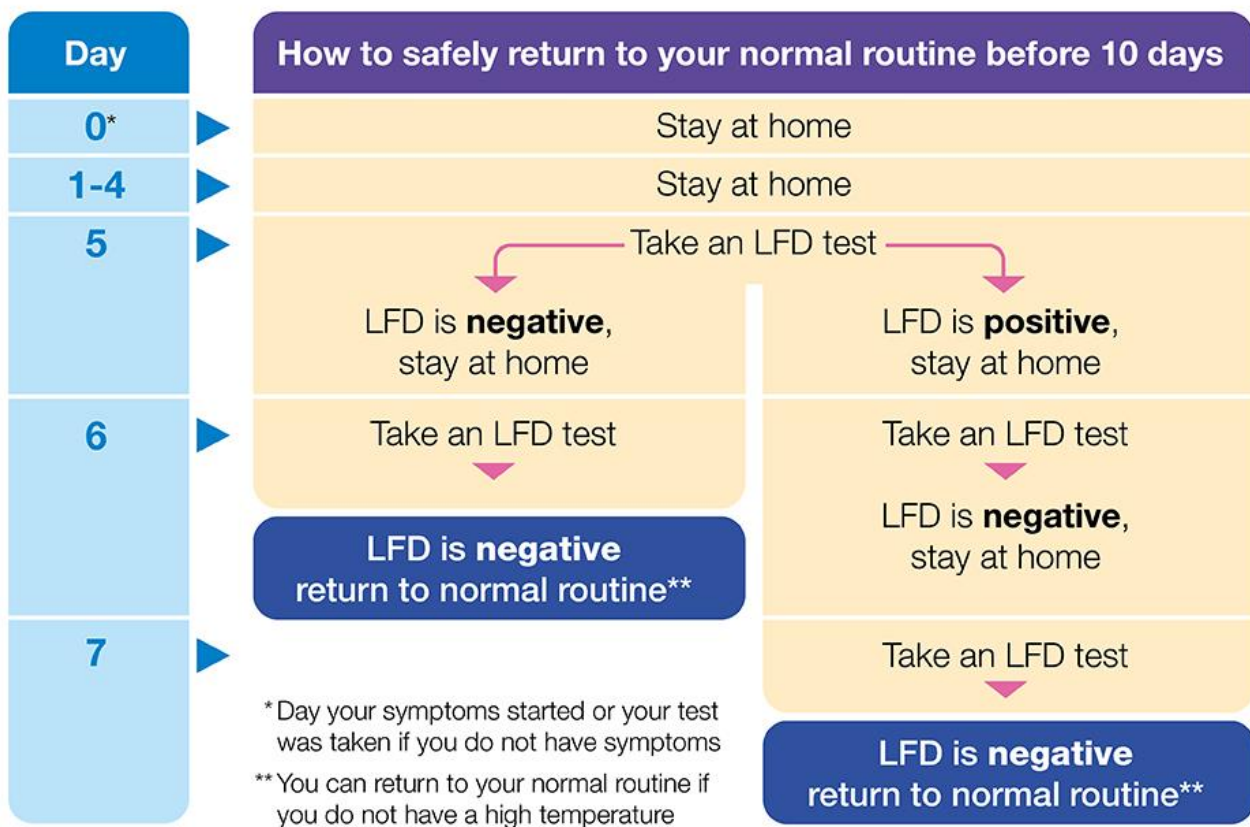
I would like to remind you that school attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age, and it is a priority to ensure that as many children as possible regularly attend school. Therefore, your child should be attending school unless they are not well enough to attend or they test positive for Covid 19 – see guidance above. Thank you once again for all for the support that you continue to provide in supporting your child's education, which remains paramount at this time.

With best wishes



Clare Kershaw
Director of Education
Essex County Council

COVID Guidance Flowchart



Parent Survey – School Uniform

In line with government requirements we are reviewing our school uniform to ensure that it is **affordable** and **easily available** to **all** our families. At this time we do not feel there is a need to make any changes to the uniform itself.

As part of the survey we are reviewing our existing contracts and would appreciate your views. We have set up an online survey and would be grateful if you could spend just 2 minutes answering the questions using the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y9TQ6R8>

A paper version is available from the school office if you would prefer.

The survey will be open until Monday 14th March.

Thank you.

Safeguarding

Prevent Duty

In July 2015, the **Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015** placed a new duty on schools and other providers of education and care, in the exercise of their functions to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. The guidance states that schools should be safe spaces in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge these ideas.

This aspect of safeguarding and child protection is regularly included as part of our regular programme of staff training. At Danbury Park School we take seriously our duty to:

- Teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life and must promote community cohesion;
- Be safe spaces in which children can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge these ideas;
- Be mindful of our existing duties to forbid political indoctrination and secure a balanced presentation of political issues.

Our children do love to engage in discussions and debates and they are confident to share their thoughts and also what they have heard, so our staff have a good overview. Parents can play their part by discussing topical issues through presenting a balanced view, so that the children can be supported in drawing their own conclusions.

If we are ever concerned, we will contact parents and we are here to help, should you need it.

Let's work together to keep the children safe!

Notification and Reminders



Food and Drink in School – Please remember to check any food brought into school for nuts. We have children and staff with potentially fatal allergies so we are a nut free environment. With Natasha's Law now in force, we are having to tighten up on treats brought into school, so we are sorry but we cannot distribute treats brought into school to mark your child's birthday. Please save these for your child's party or celebration.

Please send your child in with suitable unbreakable water bottles. No glass bottles are permitted.

Pay 360 – Thank you to all the parents who have now joined the new online payments system. Our office staff are happy to support you if you are experiencing difficulties. Please note that we are now well on our way to being a cashless school as part of *Our World, Our Future* project. By having the online system, staff need to make fewer journeys by car to the bank, thus reducing emissions and we are using less paper.

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 the LA – Covid Guidance
-  Book Week Update



Week 2

Owl's Barn School Meals

Week beginning 28th February 2022

Fresh bread and milk available daily

Monday	Fillet of Fish or (V)Quorn Dippers In a Brioche bun	New Potatoes Cucumber Peas	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Chocolate Brownie Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Tuesday	Homemade Spaghetti Bolognese Or (V) Vegan Bolognese	French Bread Sweetcorn Cauliflower Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo	Jelly and Fruit Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Wednesday	Roast Gammon in Gravy with Yorkshire Pudding or (V)Cheesy Stack Wrap	Roasted Potatoes Cabbage Carrots Green Salad	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of fillings	Ice Cream Roll Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Thursday	Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza or (V) Vegetable Nuggets	White/Wholegrain Pasta Sweetcorn Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo	Fruit Crumble and Custard Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Friday	Beef Burger in a Roll or (V) Quorn Burger in Roll	Chips Baked Beans Peas Green Salad	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of fillings	Chocolate Crispy Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

School Lunches - Costs for Spring Term 2022

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

Please pay monies up to 1st April 2022 ONLY as the summer term falls within the new financial year. Thank you.

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

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 28th February 2022
Beginning of Book Fortnight

Mon 28th Feb

Tues 1st March

Weds 2nd

2.45pm

Let's Present

Thurs 3rd

7.00pm

Governors' Resources Meeting

Fri 4th

2.45pm

Dressing-up Day

Class Hummingbird Assembly

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

Yours sincerely,

Carol Gooding
Headteacher



Play Now! Go to:
YourSchoolLottery.co.uk/play
and search for: Danbury Park Communi

Supporters must be 18 years of age or older. See website for T&Cs. Closing dates: 28th February 2022

Danbury Park Community Primary School

Dates for Spring Term 2022

Date	Time	Event
February		
25 th	2.45pm	Class J Assembly
WB 28 th		Book Fortnight
March		
3 rd	7.00pm	Resources Committee Meeting
4 th	2.45pm	Class H Assembly
11 th		Mike Dodsworth, visiting Storyteller
18 th	2.45pm	Class F Assembly
WB 21 st		Assessment Week
		Display change
21 st	6.30pm 7.00pm	Pay Committee meeting Personnel Committee meeting
22 nd		Class D Mayan Day
25th	2.45pm	Class G Assembly NB Date change
26 th		DPSA Easter Fayre
April		
1 st		Last day of term

Please remember all events are dependent on the COVID situation at the time.