

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading Awards

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

Ophelia S - Silver Harry T - Bronze Isabella F - Diamond Willow E- Ruby

Reading certificates will be presented in assemblies this term.

Welcome Back!

We all hope that you had an enjoyable and restful summer break. The children have settled very quickly into their new classes and they all seem happy to be with their friends in class and in the playground. We welcome the new children and families starting in Early Years and also the children who have joined us in other classes in the school.

This September we also welcome some new members of staff: Miss Parsons, who is Class Budgerigar's teacher and Mrs Murphy, who is teaching in Class Eider with Mrs Buer. We hope that they will be very happy at Danbury Park. As ever holidays often bring other changes and sadly Mrs Babbs, Learning Support Assistant and Wellbeing Mentor, will be leaving us at the end of September to take up a different role in another school. In anticipation of her departure, Ms Middleton has already moved to Class Budgerigar and in October Mrs Parker will become the Learning Assistant in Class Cuckoo supporting every morning and Mrs Croucher will be in Class Eider every morning. We will also say goodbye to Miss Bond, who works in the school kitchen. We wish them the very best for the future.

We are busy finalising the dates for the Autumn Term and these will be shared with you in full in next week's newsletter. Today you should receive a letter from your child's class teacher to inform you of the topics being studied this term along with key information about the class timetable and routines. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the teachers.

Danbury Outdoors has asked that we give you advance warning that they are holding a big training event over the weekend of 30th September and on that Friday they need full use of the front carpark, so it will be closed to the school and Woodland Montessori.

Yesterday saw the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. She embodied many admirable qualities as the children found out when we celebrated her Platinum Jubilee last term. We are all saddened by this momentous event and our thoughts are with the Royal family. Please be assured that we will support the children in understanding what has happened and take our lead from them as they try to make sense of everything.

Changes for 2022-23

This year, as we strive to improve and develop our curriculum, we have a few changes to share with you:

Key Stage 2 Spelling

This September we are introducing the *No-Nonsense* spelling programme throughout Key Stage 2. Whilst we know that many children learn their spellings for tests, they do not always apply the spelling patterns in their writing or to other similar words. The new programme ensures that spelling patterns are taught thoroughly and systematically and allows for a deeper understanding. The teachers will be sending home spelling lists in due course and will explain how this works in more detail.

Educational Visits

We are aware that with the rising cost of living, many of our families will be feeling the strain this year. We are therefore being mindful about the costs of educational visits this year. Unfortunately the cost of coaches has escalated and so we have decided that we will seek to make the most of our locality and aim to organise only one bigger off-site event for each class at some point during the year. Unfortunately school is also feeling the pinch so we are unable to heavily subsidise educational visits. Where we feel an additional educational visit would be beneficial to the children's learning, we will seek parental support before we proceed with making firm commitments.

We have already made provisional arrangement for the Year 6 residential journey in June, which we feel is an important learning experience and preparation for the move to secondary school. A meeting for parents will take place next week.

Tuck

The children in Key Stage 2 are invited to bring in **fruit or vegetables** to enjoy at break times and additionally on Fridays a treat in the way of a cereal bar or crackers. Please note that the children should not bring in sweets or chocolate and that we are a **nut free** school. The tuck shop will be setting up again next week. This is run by our Year 6 children at break time in the hall.

The children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 do not bring in tuck as they are supplied with free fruit and vegetables from the government.

Talented Pupils

Tom and Avy (Class A) who play for the same cricket team have just had an exciting weekend having won their league final. Tom and Avy plus eight other players represented Rayleigh in the SECPG Division 2 League Final against Stanford Le Hope on Sunday. Rayleigh won a very close game by 8 runs.

Avy and Tom both bowled and batted brilliantly to help the team over the line. Well done!





Safeguarding

As the new term gets underway, we start our computing lessons with reminders and teaching about online safety and PSHE lessons about using technology to send and exchange messages responsibly and respectfully. We have information available on the school website to support parents.

Over the summer we have been made aware of children nationally getting involved in online challenges often though TikTok. As ever we would urge parents to go with their children on their journey through the online world and spend time finding out what platforms and games their children are using and how.

We would recommend that parents sign up for the free services of the 2 Johns. For those new to the school the 2 Johns are ex-police officers with a wealth of experience who offer information and training to schools, children, staff and parents. They last visited us in Summer 2021 and we hope to invite them back soon. In the meantime, please check out their pages and follow them on *facebook*, as they issue timely alerts about new trends:

https://esafetytraining.org/

Let's work together to keep the children safe!

School Vacancies

We are looking to recruit a catering assistant to support the team at lunchtimes every day, term-time, from 12.00 - 1.30 pm. The duties are predominantly washing up the cooking equipment and utensils as well as trays and cutlery. This is an important role in helping ensure lunchtimes and food service run smoothly.

For more information please contact Mrs Brooke in the school office.

Before and After School Clubs

Clubs start next week:

	Before School	After School	
Monday		Premier Sports High 5 Netball –	
		Yrs 4, 5 &6	
Tuesday		Chelmsford City Football – Yrs 2, 3	
		& 4	
Wednesday		Premier Sports Multiskills – Yrs R,	
		1,2 & 3	
Thursday	Premier Sports Girls Football –	Premier Sports Boys' Football -	
	Yrs 4,5 &6	Yr 5 & 6	
		Premier Sports Multiskills - Yrs R,	
		1,2 & 3	
Friday		Art Club – all pupils	
		Tag Rugby – KS2	

Notification and Reminders

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.

Ink Pens – We have now moved away from using fountain pens in the classroom and will going forward encourage the children to use Berol Writing Pens. These will be provided by the school.

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

This is the eligibility criteria ECC use:

Entitlement and what is required

The Government set the criteria for free school meal entitlement. To be entitled, you need to receive:

- Universal Credit with an annual income of £7,400 or less
- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment & Support Allowance
- Pension Guarantee Credit
- Child Tax Credit (But not working tax credit) with an annual income of less than £16,190
- Parents with Asylum Seeker status who receive support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit 'Run-on' the payment someone may receive for a further 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Please apply on the link above

Letters/Parentmail sent out this week:

- Topic Letters for each class
- Invitation to Year 6 parents to attend the School Journey meeting
- Invitation to Year 3 parents to attend a welcome meeting
- Information for EYFS parents regarding the Reception Baseline
- Invitation to EYFS parents to attend a meeting about reading
- Invitation to parents to join Pay360 cashless payment system
- Year 6 letter for Permission to walk to school



Week 2

Owl's Barn School Meals

Week beginning 12th September 2022

Fresh bread and milk available daily

Monday	Fillet of Fish or (V) Quorn Dippers In a Brioche Bun	New Potatoes Sweetcorn Cucumber	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Chocolate Brownie Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Tuesday	Homemade Pasta Bolognaise or (V) Vegan Mince Bolognaise	Homemade Bread Peas, Cauliflower Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo	Jelly and Fruit Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Wednesday	All Day Breakfast; Chipolata Sausage, Bacon and Egg (V) Vegan Sausage, Egg, Hash Brown	Hash Brown Mushrooms Baked Beans Green Salad Peas	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Ice Cream Roll Fresh Fruit Fresh 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 a roll	Chips Peas Baked Beans Green Salad	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Chocolate Crispy Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

SCHOOL DINNERS COSTS FOR AUTUMN TERM 2022

 1^{st} Half Term: 5^{th} Sept – 20^{th} October 2022 = 34 days at £2.50 = £85.00 2^{nd} Half Term: 31^{st} October – 20^{th} December 2022 = 37 days at £2.50 = £92.50

Total for Autumn Term = £177.50

Please note that all school meals should be paid for in advance and via Pay360.

Dates for the Diary Week beginning 12th September 2022

Mon 12th

MON 12	
Tues 13 th 3.30pm	Meeting for parents re Year 6 School Journey
Weds 14 th 2.55am	Let's Present
Thurs 15 th 9.10am	Welcome meeting for Year 3 parents
Fri 16 th	
Sat 17 th	11+ tests
	Full term dates for the academic years
	2022-23 and 2023-24 are available on the school website.
	A full list of dates for the Autumn Term will follow shortly.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Gooding, Headteacher