



# Danbury Park Community Primary School

*Be wise, be happy, belong !*

## Newsletter

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

**20<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Reading Awards

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

*Reading certificates will be presented in assemblies throughout this term.*

### Weekly Update

This half term has flown by and the children and staff have all been working very hard and are looking forward to a well-deserved break. When we come back, it will be the build-up and exciting events leading to Christmas! We hope that you found parent consultations informative and useful. The teachers all commented on how good it was to speak with parents in person and share the progress the children have made. We apologise for any inconvenience in postponing Miss Johnston's appointments and we will let parents know the new dates in due course. We hold two sets of meetings each year with the next due in February and we are sorry but only in exceptional circumstances can we move these to another day or week. Teachers spend a lot of time preparing for the meetings and we plan carefully how the meetings fit in with our curriculum and after-school commitments.

The School Council has met with Mrs Evans and discussed the matter of Key Stage 2 tuck and the Tuck Shop. The councillors take feedback from their individual classes and they have agreed that we will continue with tuck being limited to fruit and vegetables Mondays through to Thursdays. On Fridays in the juniors only, the children may bring in a cereal bar, crackers and cheese but no chocolate or crisps. The children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 already receive free fruit and vegetables so do not bring in any tuck at all. The council's decision supports our aim to teach the children to lead a healthy and balanced life-style.

### Settling in Survey Autumn Term 2022

The governors and staff are always seeking to make our school even better. 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. We would be grateful if you would complete the survey below, one for each child that you have at the school.

<https://forms.office.com/r/Rpps3NC6QA>

Paper copies are available from the school office. The survey will close on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November**.

We hope you have an enjoyable and restful half-term break!

## Harvest Celebration

Last week the children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 presented their special Harvest Celebration to the school and to families. It was so entertaining hearing the children singing their songs and watching the actions that made them come alive. The children in Class Flamingo told us all about the Food Bank collection and why we need to think of others who may be having a difficult time. The children in Class Goldfinch shared the clever poem they had written and we saw art work from Classes Jay and Hummingbird.



### Autumn Sounds

A hedgehog rustles  
In scrunchy, crunchy leaves.  
Crows swoop. "Caw, caw!"  
Squirrels hop and acorns drop.  
  
Pitter-patter raindrops,  
Swishy, swooshy gales.  
Whizzing, whistling wind.  
Bang! Crash! Thunder claps!

Leaves are swirling, twirling  
From the shivering trees  
Tractor rumbles and grumbles,  
Clinking, clattering plough.

A sweet robin tweets,  
Flapping, swooshing wings.  
Conkers plop, pine cones drop –  
The season of autumn sings.

Class Goldfinch

Ms Middleton, one of our HLTAs, shared her poem *Autumn Songs* (soon to be published in America) and this was used as inspiration for the children. They talked about an author's use of onomatopoeia and what effect this has on the reader. The children enjoyed brainstorming autumn onomatopoeia and the list of ideas was very long! They then worked as a class to write a four-verse poem for the harvest festival. Ms Middleton and Miss Johnston thought they did a very good job in the time given.

Well done!

## Talented Pupils

Well done to Albert for successfully completing his 2-stage trial for the Essex Select Academy and being offered a 22/23 season place in their extremely selective football squad of just 12 players from across the county. He has worked so hard and been so dedicated! An exciting (and busy!) season ahead!



Elena took part in a gymnastics competition at Whitehall gymnastics club, Colchester at the weekend and she gained a 1st place on beam, 1st place on range and conditioning, 2nd place on bars, 3rd on trampette and 4th on tumble. It was a fantastic comp and all Elena's hard work and determination paid off.



**Well done Albert and Elena!**

## Mathletics Challenge

We are setting the children in Key Stage 2 a challenge to find out which children and which class are getting the most out of Mathletics. This online resource is funded by the DPSA and is invaluable in helping the children practise their mathematical knowledge and skills. The children need to have quick recall of multiplication and other number facts and this only happens through regular practice to train their memories. Mathletics forms part of our Homework schedule so please encourage your child to spend 10 to 15 minutes each day on the site.

After half-term we will let you know which children and which class are top of our league table.

## Parking

We have been made aware that some of our families are ignoring the "No Parking" signs in the carpark and are causing obstructions with traffic backing-up into Well Lane and Main Road. On Monday we had a visit from our local Police Officers who were alarmed that parents were continuing to try to get into the carpark when there was obviously no space and that they were potentially stopping emergency services from accessing the school and Danbury Outdoors.

We have also been made aware that parents are parking in the disabled bay by the exit barrier from Danbury Outdoors. This is reserved for Blue Badge holders only.

We are fortunate that Danbury Outdoors let families use the carpark as not many schools have this facility but we ask everyone to be considerate and not cause obstructions or abuse this privilege.

## British Legion Poppy Appeal



After the half-term break the Year 6 children will be taking round the British Legion poppies and collection tin. If you would like to donate, please send the money into school in your child's book bag. The Year 6 children will visit each class during the school day.

We have additional items that families may be interested in such as the wrist bands and book marks. These are kept in the front reception area for families to visit before and after school. The suggested minimum donation is £1. We do ask that children do **NOT** wear wrist bands in school as these can be dangerous if they get caught.

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November our Year 6 children will be leading a remembrance assembly for the rest of the school. We will not be visiting the War Memorial this year as we have found that the noise from the traffic detracts from what should be a special event. A small group will be going to the memorial with Mrs Gooding to lay a wreath on behalf of the school.

## Medicines in School

We would like to remind parents that all medicines should be given to the school office by an adult and not left with the children. We store the medicines safely so that they are ready to hand but are out of reach of small children. Children are not allowed to self-administer any medicines, including hard-boiled throat lozenges which present a potential choking hazard. The children need adult supervision and guidance to ensure that medication is taken correctly and is therefore effective. We want to keep everyone in our school safe.

## Safeguarding

We have been asked to remind parents to be vigilant and talk to their children about online Halloween dares and challenges that seem to be going around. Children cannot always see dangers and they need guidance to prevent them engaging in potentially fatal activities. As ever the 2 Johns have lots of advice for parents:

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



Below are some websites which you might find useful:

<https://www.think.gov.uk/resource/be-bright-be-seen-game/>

<https://www.think.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Colour-me-bright.pdf>



New parents may not be aware but we are part of the Schools' Lottery whereby parents can take part in a weekly draw with proceeds going to the school.

In a year we usually raise over £1 000 which we spend on special projects like the EYFS outdoor classroom which we could not otherwise afford.

Please visit the website and support us:

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

Search for Danbury Park School

You must be 18 years of age to play and tickets cost just £1 a week.

## Children's Poetry Workshop

**Danbury Library**  
**Saturday 19 November**  
**2pm to 3pm and 3.30pm to 4.30pm**

Please join our guest poet, Linda Middleton (now internationally published) for a fun hour, listening to and writing poems

- Suitable for children aged 8 to 10 years
- Free sessions
- Booking required



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



Back by popular demand:

Essex County Council is really excited to be able to offer another poetry workshop at Danbury Library. The sessions are free for 8-10yr olds, children are dropped into the library and collected an hour later. There will be poetry reading writing and lots of laughter.

Bookings can be made using the links below:

- 2pm to 3pm event -  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/childrens-poetry-workshop-danbury-library-tickets-435558837207>
- 3.30pm to 4.30pm event -  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/childrens-poetry-workshop-danbury-library-tickets-435551766057>

The pupils who participated last year found this an enjoyable and interesting experience!

## Vacancies

We have vacancies for Midday Assistants to work predominantly on Thursdays and Fridays but also at the beginning of the week supporting the children with their lunchtimes. This is an important and rewarding role so if you are interested please contact the school office for details and an application form.

### School Crossing Patrol (SCP) Vacancies

**Are you looking for  
an opportunity to support  
your community?**

There are around 160 School Crossing Patrol sites across the county of Essex. Sometimes known as Lollipop People, SCP Officers work on school days for approximately 40 minutes each morning and afternoon. Hourly rate from £11.35 ph.

Positions available across Essex, including:

**Danbury Park Community  
Primary School**



For more information and to apply please visit  
[www.workingforEssex.com](http://www.workingforEssex.com)

Or email [resourcing.team@essex.gov.uk](mailto:resourcing.team@essex.gov.uk)



## 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 are using Berol Writing Pens. These will be provided by the school. However if you are happy to supply your child with a good quality ink pen with blue cartridges, then they will be allowed to continue using them. Please note that biros and gel pens are not allowed and if a child needs a different type of pen because of a specific problem, then we will provide them.

**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>

To check your eligibility, please use the free online checker link:  
<https://pps.lgfl.org.uk/>

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:**



## Applications for Secondary Schools Places 2023

We have been asked to remind parents of children in Year 6 that the statutory national closing date for applications is **31st October 2022**.

Applications for secondary schools can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions).

All of the application information is also available on the website.



Week 1

## Owl's Barn School Meals

Week beginning 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022

Fresh bread and milk available daily

<b>Monday</b>	Homemade Pepperoni Pizza or (V ) 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 (V) Vegan Sausages	Creamy Mashed Potato  Mixed Vegetables  Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo	Jam Tart and Custard Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Wednesday</b>	Homemade Chicken Korma With Naan Bread or (V) Sweet Potato and Lentil Korma	White/Wholegrain Rice Carrots, Peas 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 Potato Wedges 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 Peas Cucumber	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b> Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Iced Sponge Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

### SCHOOL DINNERS COSTS FOR AUTUMN TERM 2022

2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term: 31<sup>st</sup> October – 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

Please note that the increase in the cost of school meals was applied from 15<sup>th</sup> September.

**Dates for the Diary**  
**Week beginning 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022**

**Mon 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Nov** History off the Page "Toys" - Classes J and H

**Weds 19<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am Tours for prospective parents (places must be booked through the school office)

10.30am Tours for prospective parents (places must be booked through the school office)

2.55pm Let's Present

**Thurs 20<sup>th</sup>**

7.00pm Governors' Resources Committee meeting

**Fri 21<sup>st</sup>**

2.45pm Class Dove assembly to parents

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 can be found below.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Gooding,  
Headteacher

# Danbury Park Community Primary School

## Dates for Autumn Term 2022

Date	Time	Event
<b>November</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	All day	Classes J & H <i>History off the Page</i> event - Toys
2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30am & 10.30am	Tours for prospective parents
3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm	Governors' Resources Committee meeting
4 <sup>th</sup>	2.45pm	Class Dove Assembly
7 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 – 9.45am	EYFS Class J Stay and Play
8 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 – 9.45am	EYFS Class H Stay and Play
	1.45pm	Tour for prospective parents
9 <sup>th</sup>	Tbc	DPSA AGM
11 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 – 9.45am	EYFS Class J Stay and Play
	10.50am	Year 6 Remembrance Day Event
	2.45pm	Class Budgerigar Assembly
15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Tour for prospective parents
16 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Governor Training
18 <sup>th</sup>		Children in Need
	2.45pm	Class Eider Assembly
21 <sup>st</sup>	8.25am – 16.15pm	Class Dove and Class Eider – Bhaktivedanta Manor Hindu Temple Trip
25 <sup>th</sup>		Flu Immunisation
26 <sup>th</sup>	12.00 – 2.00pm	DPSA Christmas Fayre
Week beg 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov		Whole School Assessment Week
<b>December</b>		
12 <sup>th</sup>		Filming of Christmas Plays -tbc
13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am & 2.15pm tbc	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Play
14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am & 1.45pm tbc	KS2 Christmas Play
15 <sup>th</sup>	12.00pm	Christmas Dinner
20 <sup>th</sup>	Pm	Christmas Parties
		<b>End of Term</b>