



Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong !

Newsletter

Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

16th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading Awards

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

Finella K - Topaz

Daniel E- Ruby

Congratulations also to **Belle P** who came 3rd in her recent free-style dancing competition and was named as best student. She received two large trophies, of which she is very proud!

Congratulations also to **Fred** (Class C) who passed his Debut Grade acoustic guitar exam with a Merit award (85/100).

Reading certificates will be presented in assemblies throughout this term.

Weekly Update

It was wonderful to see so many families at the performances of the Christmas plays this week. We had hoped that this year we would be able to invite an audience but after the past two years, we do not take anything for granted! We managed a high number of illnesses, not just amongst the children but also amongst the staff, and with team work we pulled together! The children were unfazed by being asked to deliver additional lines or making last minute changes to their dances. They told me that although they were nervous, they enjoyed performing. This year we were even allowed to sing and I am sure you will agree that we are making up for lost time and that the children sang beautifully.



In January I am pleased to announce that we will be joined by Miss Karen Lees as Class Eider's teacher on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays working with Mrs Buer. She has already been into school to meet the children and is looking forward to becoming part of our team.

We would like to officially announce that George Fraser was re-elected as parent governor and we look forward to his continued work as Chair of the Resources Committee and Class Avocet's governor.

Although school does not finish until Tuesday 20th December, this is the last newsletter of this year so we hope that you have a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas and a happy New Year.

Christmas Mobiles

Yet again the classes have made some amazing mobiles to decorate the school hall and we hope that you enjoyed seeing them at the Christmas plays. Each child makes their own decoration which is then combined with everyone else's to form the whole class, and then the whole school display. We will be taking them down and apart next Tuesday, when your child will be able to take theirs home. Don't worry, we will keep them safe until January if your child is unwell and not in school. Over the seven years that your child is at Danbury Park, they will build up a collection of decorations that will follow their progress through the school and which we hope you will treasure.



We were originally going to ask for donations towards the cost of the mobiles as this year we have not held our usual class enterprise project, but we have decided that they are our gift to you as so many families generously supported the DPSA Christmas Fayre and the DPSA has donated £100 to each class for special resources.

We would like to say a big thank you to our friends at Danbury Outdoors, who help us with the monumental task of hanging and taking down the mobiles.

Class Goldfinch's Design and Technology Day

On Friday 25th November, Class Goldfinch were engineers and had a lunar buggy making day. This is because we have been learning about Neil Armstrong and his voyage to the moon. In our DT lessons we investigated vehicles and how they were made, including learning the names of the different parts. We then worked on making axles and how they connect to the chassis. Finally, we had to design a lunar buggy that would be compact and light.

We were lucky to have so many parents come in to help us make them. We spent the morning using our designs to help us construct the vehicles. We made sure that our moon buggies had wheels, axles and a chassis.

Then, in the afternoon, we painted them and added any final parts like lights and satellites. We are really proud of our work and Miss Johnston has put them on display in our classroom. Our next task is to evaluate our models and compare them to our designs. It was the best day ever! Thank you to all of the adults that came in to help us.

Nathan, Jessica, Tanvi & Jake



Mathletics Challenge

The overall winners for our Mathletics Competition this term were

Class Eider

who week in and week out made a concerted effort to get the most out of this online teaching resource. Today they are choosing their reward which we will make sure they get.

The competition will continue next term but please encourage your child to keep practising their maths with Mathletics and multiplication tables with Time Tables Rockstar.

GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term 2022



Dear Parents/Carers,

I write this end of term newsletter having just had the pleasure of watching the school Christmas plays in person for the first time since 2019. After a hiatus of a couple of years, even the severe weather could not stop these going ahead, and it was great seeing parents, pupils and staff coming together as a community to celebrate the festive season.

Of course, this type of success is only possible thanks to the hard work of all the staff and comes at the end of a challenging year that included pandemics, power outages and heatwaves. The school governors are extremely appreciative of the teaching staff, assistants, office staff and senior leadership team, all of whom have responded to every challenge, putting the pupils' best interest first on all occasions.

School governor business continued throughout, and a termly update from each of the Committees is presented below:

Curriculum and Pupil Related – Chair, Mrs. Katherine Moulding

- 🦉 The committee reviewed the 2021-2022 results and congratulated the Head Teacher, staff and the pupils on the very pleasing results
- 🦉 The committee approved the overall target for 2022-23 of 80% of pupils to achieve the expected level of development for their age group.
- 🦉 Detailed plans for achieving the 2022-2023 targets in English and Maths were presented to the committee by the subject leaders.
- 🦉 The committee were pleased to receive a very positive report from the Head Teacher on the success of the Year 6 Residential trip for summer 2022. The plan for the Year 6 Residential 2023 trip to visit Stratford upon Avon was duly noted. Governors hope it will be as successful as the 2022 trip.
- 🦉 The committee appointed Governors to monitoring roles for Development priorities for 2022-2023.

Personnel – Chair, Mrs. Debbie Le Monde

- 🦉 The school is fully staffed except for vacancies within the midday support team.
- 🦉 Governors are very pleased that the school's success and popularity promotes interest from suitably qualified individuals when vacancies arise.
- 🦉 Staff continue with appropriate training programmes, enabling not only enhanced provision of education to our children but also personal development and opportunity for redeployment or promotion.

Resources Committee – Chair, Mr. George Fraser

- 🦉 Over the course of the autumn term the resources committee has looked at continued improvements to the fabric of the school including the possibility or refurbishment of the KS2 toilets as well as drainage around the school. We continue to focus on the current 'cost of living' crisis, including trying to keep the impact of increasing energy and school meal costs to a minimum whilst maintaining nutritional standards in the kitchens. The committee has also been looking into improving environmental standards at the school, with a food recycling pilot project from LoveEssex.
- 🦉 Over the last year much work has been done to modernise the school's banking systems, including a move to purely electronic payments, which have had a multitude of benefits to the school's administration. The revenue generation subcommittee has looked into enhancing additional financial resources for the school, and we look forward to closer work with the DPSA in this matter.

On behalf of all the school governors, I would like to wish pupils, parents, staff and their families a peaceful and happy Christmas.

Paul Sutton, Chair of Governors

Library Challenge



Safeguarding

The Essex Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB) are reminding parents and carers that if their child receives new technology for Christmas, it's important to set up devices correctly to keep them safe when online. There are resources from Brook Essex looking at how to support young people to have healthy relationships in a digital world, and Brook's popular podcast on "Consent" will also be shared once again. The [resources](#) created by the ESCB and partners help provide parents and carers the information they need to support their child to safely navigate the online world.

More information is also available from the 2 Johns:
<https://esafetytraining.org/resources/parents-carers-area/>

Let's work together to keep the children safe!

Parking

This week was particularly challenging with the snowy and icy conditions and we appreciate that driving and parking was difficult. We received two complaints from our neighbours in Well Lane regarding parents parking across residents' driveways, causing obstructions and preventing them from leaving their properties, thus making them late for work. This does reflect badly on our whole school and causes bad feeling in our local community.

Please park with care and consideration for our neighbours.

Reception Admission for September 2023

The primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **Monday 7 November 2022**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2023. The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2023**.

From 7 November 2022, applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions and 99% parents in Essex applied online last year. All the application information is also available on the website above.



The poster features the NHS logo at the top right and the Mid and South Essex Integrated Care System logo at the top left. The main text reads 'Find out what to do if your child is unwell'. Below this, it says 'Download our free guide' and includes a QR code with the text 'Scan me'. At the bottom, there is a photo of a woman holding a baby, with three circular icons overlaid: 'Treat at home?' (green), 'Call 111?' (orange), and 'Visit A&E?' (red). The bottom left corner has the 'CHILDREN'S HEALTH MATTERS' logo.

We have been contacted by the Mid Essex Alliance, part of Mid and South Essex Integrated Care System (ICS) to share this important information with you. Across mid and south Essex, there is continued pressure on local health systems. **Data shows that there is increasing paediatric emergency presentation in local A&E departments.** However, for much of the time, the outcome of the attendance is recorded as self-care/advice and no treatment is given.

As a response, the ICS has re-launched a campaign to promote the **Children's Health Matters guide**, updated with new information for winter 2022/23. The free guide was co-designed with local parents and is packed with expert advice and guidance on what to do when children are unwell with common childhood illnesses. **It explains how to treat children at home, when to see a GP or call 111, and when symptoms are more serious and you should seek emergency help.**

In addition to the CHM guide, they have a family health newsletter that families can subscribe to - subscribers get 10 weekly email newsletters each covering a different aspect of family health and wellbeing - the link to subscribe is below:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKMSEHCP/signup/32458>

SCHOOL DINNERS **COSTS FOR SPRING TERM 2023**

1st Half Term: 5th January – 10th February 2023 = 27 days at £2.50 = £67.50

2nd Half Term: 21st February – 31st March 2023 = 29 days at £2.50 = £72.50

Total for Spring Term = £140.00

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

Notification and Reminders

Tights and Socks for Infants – We like to hold a stock of tights and socks for the infants in case of accidents. If you have any in good condition that your children have outgrown, please bring them into the school office.

Named Uniform – please can all parents check that their child's school uniform is clearly named. We continue to have a large pile of unnamed school uniform and we are sure you are as frustrated about missing jumpers as we are.

Music Lessons – Mrs Long has limited spaces available starting in January for piano, recorder and guitar lessons. Please contact Mrs Long or the school office should your child be interested.

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

Letters/Parentmail sent out this week:

 Chelmsford City Football Club – Years 2,3,4 only



Owl's Barn School Meals



Week beginning 19th December 2022



Monday	Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza Or (V) Vegetable Nuggets	White/Wholegrain Pasta Sweetcorn Cucumber	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Chocolate Crispy Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Tuesday	Fish Fillet or (V) Omelette	Chips Peas Baked Beans Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo	Shortbread Biscuit Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

Week ending 6th January 2023



Fresh bread and milk available daily

Thursday	Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza Or (V) Vegetable Nuggets	White/Wholegrain Pasta Sweetcorn Peas	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo	Ice Cream Roll Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Friday	Fish Fingers or (V) Omelette	Chips Peas Baked Beans	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo	Marble Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

Dates for the Diary
Week beginning 19th December 2022

Mon 19th

Tues 20th
3.25pm

Christmas Parties
School closes for the Christmas break

Christmas Holiday

Week beginning 2nd January 2023

Thurs 5th Jan

School re-opens

Fri 6th

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 Spring Term will be published in January

Yours sincerely,

Carol Gooding,
Headteacher