



Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong !

Newsletter

Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

9th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading Awards

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

Zachary H - **Topaz** Claudia M - **Bronze** Sophia W - **Ruby**
Charlotte N - **Silver** Josh H - **Silver** Hema M - **Gold**

Reading certificates will be presented in assemblies throughout this term.

Weekly Update

Today we said goodbye to Miss Parsons, Class Budgerigar's teacher, and we wish her the very best with her new venture. We are pleased that Mrs Gilbert, one of our regular supply teachers, will be joining the class until the end of term, so we know they are in good hands. We also hope to be able to confirm the teacher for Class Eider in the next few days – we just need to complete our formalities.

The time is flying by now and the preparations for the Christmas plays are reaching the finishing touches. Please remember to bring your tickets with you to the performances as this speeds up the entry process. We do, however, have a list in school for those who may forget! We need to ask parents to queue outside, unless you are disabled or injured and unable to stand, in which case come to the front office and we will let you into the hall as soon as we are ready. Please do not bring any food or hot drinks into the hall as we have children and staff with potentially fatal allergies. **Babies and pre-school children will not be admitted to the performances** as we want as many adult family members as possible to enjoy the performances which the children have worked so hard to achieve.

We have Christmas dinner to look forward to on **Thursday 15th December**. There is no need to book in advance but please note there will not be any jacket potatoes that day. We are inviting the children to wear a Christmas jumper or t-shirt to school that day with their school skirt/pinafore or trousers so that we all look very festive. We are doing this as a fun event so there is no need to send in a donation.

In the last week of term on the afternoon of **Tuesday 20th**, we have the Christmas parties to look forward to and the teachers will organise activities and games. We will end the day with a whole school Christmas sing-a-long. The children may bring in some party clothes in a bag to change into after lunch.

We appreciate that many of you are concerned about the recent situation with Strep A and scarlet fever and we will continue to send out any new information that we receive via Parentmail. If your child does have a confirmed case, please let us know.

Mathletics Challenge

The children in all classes have now taken up the challenge with fresh determination and this week the winners outstripped Avocet, who came in last place, by 20 hours which is a massive achievement!

The class that made the most use of Mathletics from 29th November to 4th December was:

Class Eider

and the pupil was:

Jasmine (again) also in Class Eider.

Next Friday we will announce the overall winners for this half-term and there will be a special reward negotiated with the children, which may be additional playtime, an edible treat etc!

Well done and keep up the good work!

Class Hummingbird

This week in Class Hummingbird we have discussed the importance of giving to others. So, the children made a card for The Lunch Time Club at Danbury Mission. Mr Hartwell came in and collected it from the class.



Emergency School Closures – SNOW!

As we approach the time of year when inclement weather and snow is more likely, we would like to advise you of the school's emergency closure procedure. The decision to close the school is never taken lightly but there may be rare times when the site is unsafe or insufficient staff can get into the school and closure is unavoidable. Please note that the local radio stations no longer give out announcements.

Schools will notify Essex County Council and the information will be available on their website at: <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx>

We will also put a message out on Parentmail and on the scrolling news on the first page of the school website. We will aim to do this by 7.30am.

If the weather and traffic are bad, please take care and get to school safely. We will understand if you delay your journey and arrive later than the usual time.

Class Eider's and Class Dove's visit to a Hindu Temple

A few weeks ago the children from classes Eider and Dove visited Bhaktivedanta Manor. This linked to their work on Hinduism and gave them a great opportunity to see the temple for themselves and learn about what it means to the people who work and worship there.



On Monday 21st November class Eider went to a Hindu temple for a school trip. We went on a coach. When we got there the first thing I saw was the cart ride.

When we got inside Khrisha asked us what we already knew. We went in the first room. There was a lady. The lady dressed us up as Shiva, Vishnu, Lakshmi and Parvati.

After that we fed the cows with carrots. The cows didn't bite when you put the carrot near them. They were very gentle. After that we saw a sculpture made of dung. We went to the big green house where plants dried. They were made into long necklaces and bracelets and there were one hundred and eighty beads on the neck bracelet. After that we had lunch. For lunch I had vegetable curry, rice and chips, everybody's favourite potato, and traditional crackers and bread. We sat on the floor.

Oliver N

Khrisha took us to another lady called Alison. When we came up to her room, we all heard calming music and saw statues of gods and goddesses. We all sat on mats and Alison told us about Hindus. After, we all had a chat. Alison showed us a big book which was called the Bhagavad-Gita and she showed us how to pray. The word of calm was Namaste.

After lunch we sat in a room to get our face painted! I had a flower chain round my eye. I had red petals, white pollen and purple branches. Flowers remind me of summer.

Zoe S



Library Challenge



Safeguarding

This week we have been informed of some concerning and potentially harmful behaviour on TikTok whereby children are being given very graphic and distressing comments. If you allow your child to have access to this site, please look at it with them and reassure them that they can tell you about feedback and responses and that you will support them. More information is available from the 2 Johns:

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

Let's work together to keep the children safe!

Parking

After last week's notice politely asking parents not to park behind the double row of cars, we have yet another member of staff blocked in by three cars and unable to leave at the end of the school day. This is disrespectful to our school staff and the community and those who do use the car park with consideration.

Please do not obstruct other cars or the flow through the carpark.

Please note that the school carpark will be closed to parents on the days of the school Christmas plays. There will be access for blue badge holders, staff, Woodland Montessori and Woodford Clinic.

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.

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.essex.gov.uk/admissions
Or email resourcing.team@essex.gov.uk


Essex County Council

Vacancies

We still have vacancies for Midday Assistants to work during the week supporting the children with their lunchtimes. This is an important and rewarding role so if you are interested, or know of someone who might be, please contact the school office for details and an application form.



WIN A PS5 BUNDLE



- Cash prize every week
- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Win up to £25,000!

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

Search for Danbury Park School
You must be 18 years of age to play and tickets cost just £1 a week.

PLAY NOW:

Scan the QR code or visit:

www.yourschoollottery.co.uk

and search for: Danbury Park Communi



Supporters must be 16 years of age or older. See website for Terms & conditions. Enter by 10th Dec 2022.



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:



Class C – Royal Observatory Experience



Owl's Barn School Meals



Week 1

Week beginning 12th December 2022

Fresh bread and milk available daily

Monday	Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza	White/Wholegrain Pasta Sweetcorn Cucumber	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Shortbread Biscuit Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Tuesday	Local Butcher's Pork Sausages or (V) Vegan Sausages	Creamy Mash Potato Mixed Vegetables Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo	Flapjack Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Wednesday	Homemade Chicken Korma with Naan Bread or (V) Sweet Potato and Lentil Korma	White/Wholegrain Rice Carrots, Peas Green Salad	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Peaches and Ice Cream Pot Fresh Fruit Fresh Yoghurt
Thursday Christmas Lunch 	Roast Turkey, Chipolata Sausage Sage and Onion Stuffing ball Yorkshire Pudding with Gravy	(V) Roasted Vegan Fillet in Vegetarian Gravy Roast Potatoes Carrots Peas and Sprouts	NO JACKET POTATO	Festive Shortbread Biscuit Christmas Ice Cream Pot Fruit or Yoghurt
Friday	Omega 3 Fish Fingers or (V) Omelette	Chips Baked Beans Peas Cucumber	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Iced Sponge Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

SCHOOL DINNERS COSTS FOR AUTUMN TERM 2022

2nd Half Term: 31st October – 20th 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 15th September.

Dates for the Diary
Week beginning 12th December 2022

Mon 12th	Filming of Christmas Plays
Tues 13th	
9.30am	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Play
2.30pm	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Play
Weds 14th	
9.30am	KS2 Christmas Play
1.45pm	KS2 Christmas Play
7.30pm	DPSA Christmas Decorating Event
Thurs 15th	
	Wear a Christmas jumper to school day (just for fun!)
	Christmas Dinner
Fri 16th	

Full term dates for the academic years

Yours sincerely,

Carol Gooding,
Headteacher

Danbury Park Community Primary School

Dates for Autumn Term 2022

Date	Time	Event
December		
12 th		Filming of Christmas Plays
13 th	9.30am & 2.30pm	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Play
14 th	9.30am & 1.45pm	KS2 Christmas Play
15 th	12.00pm	Christmas Dinner
20 th	Pm	Christmas Parties
		End of Term