



Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong !

Newsletter

Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

13th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading Awards

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

Oscar R - **Gold** Phoebe N - **Bronze**
Avalon L - **Topaz** Florence C - **Topaz**
Ruby C – **Diamond** Rachel S - **Ruby** Amber H – **Emerald**

Congratulations also to **Ophelia** who passed both her recent dancing exams with distinction.

Reading certificates will be presented in assemblies throughout this term.

Weekly Update

With a new year comes new projects and initiatives and I am pleased that this week we have been able to proceed with our plans and put into place two more really exciting projects.

When I first joined the school some eleven years ago one of the highlights in the Reception classes was the walks over the Country Park. Over the years we have adapted these and then with COVID, they became difficult to organise taking into account the restrictions. I am pleased that this week the Early Years Team has set five dates for the Spring Term when we will be taking the children for a walk over the Country Park to explore the big outdoors and see where their inquisitive nature leads them. The teachers will be putting more details for parents on *Tapestry* as inevitably the weather could be cold and damp so we will need to wrap up warm and of course, we need parents to volunteer to accompany us. Being outside in the fresh air is so good for the children but also we have a wonderful setting and we want the children to appreciate the natural world so that they can understand our responsibility to look after it.

The teachers have also now fully explored *Spelling Shed* and today Miss Johnston, as our English lead, is sending home a letter via parentmail to parents from Year 2 through to Year 6 about this online resource which children can use at home to practise their spellings through games and fun activities. A lot of the activities allow the children to revise spelling patterns and common exception words that they have already been taught – you will be amazed how many children even in the juniors continually misspell common words such as *was* – *woz*.

Spelling Shed has been purchased by the DPSA to support all our children in their learning and parents often request ideas for how they can help at home. This is just another example of how important the fundraising efforts of the DPSA are and how vital your support is. A big thank you to the DPSA officers and the committee who work tirelessly for the benefit of the children at our school!

Safeguarding

Please see the article below from Andrew Hall, a well-respected specialist safeguarding consultant:

Child Safety and the Metaverse

Christmas has now come to a close and a new year has begun. As pupils and staff return to school, the annual playground inquisition will begin. Among their peer group young people will begin to discuss what they got for Christmas. For many the answer will almost certainly be 'a Fortnite battle pass, a new PC, a PlayStation 5 etc'. All devices which allow both unfettered access to the internet and expose children to voice chat, text chat and photo sharing with complete strangers.

This year presents an acceleration of vulnerability window as, VR headsets, connected to Facebook's Metaverse have been released onto the marketplace. The Metaverse seeks to link users to the internet as a Virtual Entity through the use of Virtual Reality Headsets. This amplifies the danger children are exposed to online. Over the coming months it will be vital for parents and schools to understand these Christmas gifts and the issues linked to them.

To help you understand this new, fast changing issue the NSPCC has published a guide to both the Metaverse and VR headsets. To find out more please follow the link:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2022/christmas-vr-safety-advice-for-parents-metaverse/>

More information is also available from the 2 Johns:

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

The DPSA has kindly agreed to fund workshops with the 2 John on 23rd May. Please keep this date free in your diaries as there will be an evening workshop for parents that we are sure you will find illuminating. More details next week.

Let's work together to keep the children safe!

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 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.

Library Challenge



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.workingforesex.com
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.

Parking

Please remember to use the local roads and the school car park with consideration and care for others. Before Christmas 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.

Find out what to do if your child is unwell

Download our
free guide



Scan me

CHILDREN'S
HEALTH
MATTERS

Treat at
home?

Call
111?

Visit
A&E?



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>

Danbury Park School Lottery

We would like to remind parents about the school lottery and thank those who regularly donate their winnings back to the school.

The Schools' Lottery is where 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 and which we could not otherwise afford. Every little contribution helps!

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.

**WIN A
YEAR OF
HELLO FRESH**

- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Win a whole YEAR of HelloFresh!
- Please help give our fundraising a boost
- Save money and eat fresh in 2023

PLAY NOW:
Go to
www.yourschoollottery.co.uk
Search for: Danbury Park Communi



Supporters must be 16 years of age or older. See website for Terms & conditions. Enter by 25/02/2023.

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.

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:

 **Year 4 – Superstars Festival 2023**

 **Years 2-6 – Spelling Shed**

 **Year 6 – Use of mobile phones**



Owl's Barn School Meals

Week beginning 16th January 2023

Week 2

Fresh bread and milk available daily

Monday	Fillet of Fish or (V) Crispy Vegan Quorn Dippers	Creamy Mash Potatoes Sweetcorn Cucumber	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Chocolate Crispy Cake 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	Lumpy Bumpy Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Wednesday	All Day Breakfast; Chipolata Sausage, Bacon and Egg (V) Vegan Sausage, Egg and Hash Brown	Hash Brown Mushrooms Baked Beans Fresh Tomatoes	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	Chocolate Chip Biscuit Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Friday	Beef Burger in a roll or (V) Quorn Burger in a roll	Chips Peas Green Salad	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Marble Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

Dates for the Diary
Week beginning 16th January 2023

Mon 16th

Tues 17th

1.00pm

Mrs Wade to visit Class J for Chinese New Year

Weds 18th

9.30am

Year 6 and EYFS Height and Weight checks

2.45pm

Let's Present

Thurs 19th

7.00pm

School Spring Census

Governors' Curriculum and Pupil Related Committee Meeting

Fri 20th

12.00 pm

Young Voices at O2

Full term dates for the academic years
2022-23 and 2023-24 are available on the school website.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Gooding,
Headteacher

Danbury Park Community Primary School

Dates for Spring Term 2023

Date	Time	Event
January		
17 th	1.00pm	Mrs Wade to visit Class J for Chinese New Year
18 th	9.30am	NHS EYFS and Year 6 health and measurement checks
19 th		Schools Spring Census
	7.00pm	Curriculum and Pupil Related Committee Meeting
20 th	12.30pm	Young Voices at O ²
27 th	Am	EYFS Welly Walk
	5.30 – 6.30pm	DPSA EYFS & KS1 Disco
	8.00 – 8.15pm	DPSA KS2 Disco
30 th	9.30am	Class J – Stay and Play
31 st	9.30am	Class H – Stay and Play
February		
1 st	Pm	Class Cuckoo - Royal Observatory online digital session
3 rd	9.30am	Class J – Stay and Play
	2.45pm	Class Flamingo Assembly to parents
Week Beg 6 th		Mental Health Week
7 th	9.30am – 11.45am	Year 4 Superstars
	3.40pm – 6.10pm	Parent Consultations – all classes
9 th	3.40pm – 6.10pm	Parent Consultations – all classes
10 th	Am	EYFS Welly Walk
	2.45pm	Class Goldfinch Assembly to parents
13 th – 17 th		Half-term break
20 th		School closed for staff training
21 st onwards		Book Fortnight
24 th	Am	EYFS Welly Walk
March		
2 nd	7.00pm	Resources Committee meeting
3 rd		Dress-up day
13 th	6.30pm 7.00pm	Pay Committee meeting Personnel Committee meeting
15 th	Am	EYFS Welly Walk
17 th		Comic Relief
	2.45pm	Class Jay Assembly to parents
Week Beg 20 th		Assessment Week
24 th	Am	Pre-school activity morning
29 th	9.00am	EYFS Egg Rolling and Welly Walk
	Pm	Inter-house Hockey Matches
31 st	9.15am 2.30pm tbc	KS2 OWOOF assembly to parents Year 3 & 4 parents with classes J & H Years 5 & 6 parents with classes F & G
		Last day of Spring Term

