

Danbury Park Community Primary School Be wise, be happy, belong!

Newsletter

Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

16th June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Reading Awards

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

Fred P - Silver Florence M - Bronze

Indigo K – Ruby Barnaby F – Emerald Olivia M – Emerald

Reading certificates will be presented in assemblies and in class throughout this term.

Weekly News

Well done to the High 5 Netball team who played their final match of the year against St Anne's Prep School yesterday. We enjoyed a good game and whilst we made the most of our chances to score, for St Anne's it didn't quite all come together. We won 9-1 which was an uplifting end to the season. It was so good to see the girls playing so well as a team, maximising opportunities and setting each other up to shoot. Well done!



Last week in school was our Science Week and the classes spent some extra time carrying out scientific investigations and experiments. Below you will find reports from the classes so that you can read and appreciate the depth of the children's scientific knowledge and thinking. It's impressive!

At this time of year, we are juggling a mountain of lost property, a lot of which is unnamed. The office staff have taken advantage of the good weather and have been putting out all the clothing and shoes so that parents can check at the end of the school day.

If clothing is named we reunite it with its owner, so we would urge parents to sew in labels. The DPSA has linked with: www.Stickins.co.uk The company provides labels which can be used for uniform, shoes, water bottles, bags, lunch bags! If you use the code **5641**, the school receives a donation – so we all benefit.

Please note that sadly the DPSA Summer Fayre planned for 17th June is not taking place this year.

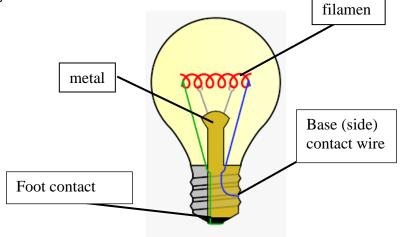
Science Week Reports

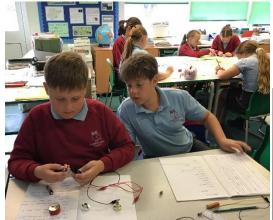
Class Avocet

It has been an exciting week in class Avocet as we have had science week. We started by thinking about what we knew about electricity and what we would like to find out in this topic. After a quick quiz to check our knowledge, we were given the challenge to make a complete circuit with the fewest components possible. To show that the circuit was complete we could include a light bulb or buzzer or motor. On the first try, the group with the fewest parts was Albert and Josh who used just four components where most groups were using six or seven.

On the second attempt, most groups got it down to four components by removing the bulb holder and finding out where on the base it was best to hold the wire. It helped to know that there was a contact wire connected to the base and connected to the side of the metal cap of a light bulb.



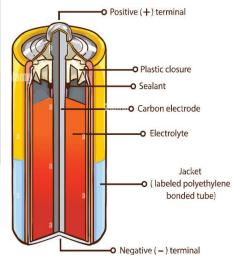




We then had to draw our circuit and label its parts and in our own words write an explanation of how the complete circuit worked. As this was challenging, Mrs Marsland explained how a battery works which helped in our circuit explanation.



Parts of a Dry Cell



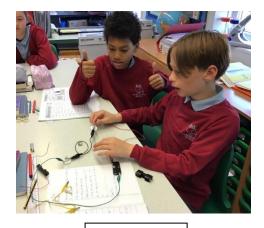
Next, we then turned our attention to static electricity. Did you know that our bodies can even become charged with static electricity? Dragging your feet across a carpet, rubbing a balloon on our hair, or playing on some kinds of playground equipment can charge us with static electricity. Don't' worry this is not dangerous! We investigated how friction between two objects creates a movement of electrons between the objects that changes their electrical charge: losing electrons makes the objects positively charged and gaining them makes the object negatively charged. Like magnets, opposites attract, and same charges repel each other.



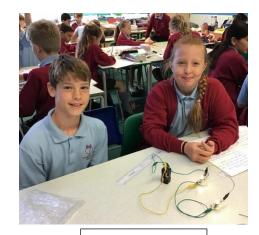
Sam's hair has become positively charged with static electricity! Each strand is positively charged and is repelling the other strands of hair, making it stand on

The class have also been busy researching scientists involved in the invention and harnessing of electricity and have evaluated their legacies. One of the more popular scientists to investigate was the Italian physicist Alessandro Volta (1745 – 1827), who proved that electricity could be made using voltaic pile. His invention, the voltaic pile, was the world's first battery. If you want to find out more about his and others work you will need to come and see our new display when it goes up in the school hall which will include our research and a timeline of the scientists and developments in field of electricity.

On Friday we looked at the differences between series and parallel circuits and discussed why each type is useful. Our next task was to draw our parallel circuits using the correct symbols.



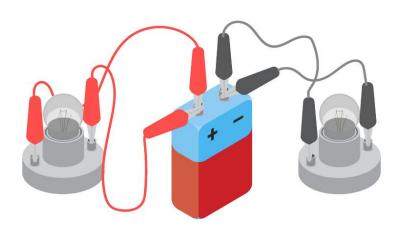
series circuit



parallel circuit

We looked at this diagram and some of us were unsure if the circuit was complete so when we tested it we found out it did not work as the flow of electricity needs to flow from negative to the positive terminal.

We are looking forward to carrying out more investigations into electricity next week.



Class Flamingo

In Class Flamingo we started Science Week by discussing what we knew about scientists and looked at the stereotypes which some scientists have.

We then explored the connection between how vegetables grow and how they end up on our plate. We started by asking the question "Where does our food come from?". We discussed this in small groups and made notes to share with the rest of the class. Some of the answers we came up with were quite broad but we soon realized that our food comes from animals and plants.

We then asked the question "How does our food get from the field to our fork?". We used the iPads to research the journey of one the following vegetables; carrot, broccoli, cress and cucumber. We were able to find out how it was planted, the best conditions for it to grow and then how it got from the field to the supermarkets. Finally we found out how to cook it or prepare it and decided on the best food to serve it with! Yum! We then made colourful story boards to tell the story of the journey of our chosen vegetable from field to fork.

We finished the week by drawing lots of different vegetables and using pencils, pastels or water colours to colour them appropriately.







Class Budgerigar

Class B have had a brilliant time studying Guglielmo Marconi, who was responsible for Chelmsford being recognised as the 'Birthplace of Radio'.

We began the week by learning the biology and physics around sound, culminating in a really enjoyable day of exploring how sound travels through different mediums. One innovative group made a 'circuit of sound' using what they could find around them! Please look at our class display for more information.

We then learned about Marconi's inventions and how they transformed the way people communicated with one another.

We still have more to do: Science Week has most definitely wetted our scientific appetites!

Class Dove

Making Connections - The Human Body

The week began learning about the human skeleton. During our study of the skeleton, we asked the following questions:

- 1. Why does a body need a skeleton?
- 2. What enables a skeleton to move?

We found out that a skeleton is needed to keep our body upright, to help us move, to protect our organs, to make our blood and to produce calcium and minerals. From our research, we found out that all of our bones are connected to another bone apart from one, the hyoid bone. The hyoid bone keeps the tongue in place, but works alone.

We noticed that, as we moved, our bones could move in different ways depending on the joint being used. Finally, we made our own moving hand.







Our next question was:

What are organs and why are they important?

We discovered that there are 79 different organs in the human body and they are all needed for a human to survive. Lots of amazing facts were learnt such as:

- There are 19 million cells on one square inch of skin!
- The body has two kidneys, but only needs one to survive.
- The skin is the largest organ.
- Your heart beats approximately 115,000 times a day.



Finally, we looked at the digestive system. We followed the journey of food from the mouth until it exited the body as waste!















During the week we learnt an amazing amount about our human body! "I actually enjoyed it!" said Indigo.

Class Eider

With **The British Science Week** theme of **connections**, Class Eider focused on the connections between animals and their habitats and the effects of humans on these habitats.

We started the week looking at how animals are connected to their environment and how they have adapted to be able to survive in these habitats. The children researched an animal of their choice and found out how it is connected to its environment.





Next, we made rainforest dioramas showing the types of plants and animals that live in the same habitat and environment. For this, we painted, stuck, cut and drew which was lots of fun. Food chains were our next focus looking at rainforest habitat food chains and webs to see how the animals are connected together.

To add in an investigation, we investigated which material would soak up an oil spill the best. This involved us recreating an oil spill in the sea and predicting which material would help soak it up the best. We had to discuss fair testing, how we would carry out our investigation, recording results and drawing conclusions.



What a fun week we had!

Class Jay

In Science week, Class Jay investigated rainbows. We looked at how rainbows are made when sunlight travels through water. We made our own rainbows in scientific experiments. We looked at whether warm water or cold water would dissolve the colours on skittles faster and then what colour was made when all the colours mixed together. We carried out a walking water experiment using food colouring. Red, yellow and blue food colouring was placed in alternative cups and the water 'walked' across the kitchen towel to mix and form orange, green and purple in the remining cups. We made rainbows by spraying the hose away from the sunlight and used CDs to reflect rainbows onto our bodies. We had a fantastic week!







Class Cuckoo

During Science Week we have been learning all about Living Things and their Habitats.

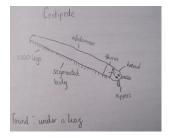


First, we found out what makes something living. We found out there are seven different things all living things do. We then went on an invertebrate hunt in our local environment. We found many different creatures, including a green caterpillar that landed on Claudia! We think it fell down from the tree. We didn't know the names of some of the invertebrates, so we used a classification key to ask questions and sort the different species.

We also looked at all the different plants in our playground. We found at least 20 different plants just in the stinging nettle area. We know that this makes a good habitat for a wide variety of animals. We have even seen rabbits on the edge of the field!







By Phoebe N, Mya-Rose and Claudia

Class Goldfinch Our World, Our Future

The children in Class Goldfinch have also been helping me plant out some of our seedlings this week. Unfortunately, the KS2 Gardening Club did not take place as planned due to the lack of Midday Assistants and the need for me to cover at lunchtimes. Their class topic is all about looking after the insect population and in particular the important role that bees play. We have lots of plans to plant more vegetables and to sow the wild flowers seeds that King Charles has given to every school to create a special area at the front of the school. We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Cooke, who cleared many of the raised beds so that we could use them.







Year 2 Mini-Games

Last Thursday, the children from Year Two took part in a Mini Games Day event at Melbourne Stadium in Chelmsford. It was a very hot but enjoyable afternoon! We had prepared for the day by practicing some team activities, making our Ukrainian flags and also having a very early lunch!

Each school had been asked to represent a country and we were Ukraine. When we arrived we sat in our teams on the big field and then did a parade around it waving the flags we had made chanting "Ukraine!".

The children were split into two teams and some older children from Great Baddow High School carefully explained every activity as we went round. The activities included balance bikes, throwing, speed stacks and cheer leading. Some activities were timed and others were how far they threw or how many times they did something. The children cheered their classmates on and had a great time trying their very best for their team. Each and every one gave everything they had got!





After everyone had completed all the activities, we did another parade around the field and then it was time for the results! Out of 9 schools, we came 3rd on that day and Ophelia from Class Flamingo won a silver medal! We got back on the coach and just about made it back to school for the end of the day.

We had a wonderful afternoon and the behaviour and smartness of the children was commented on by others schools. I was very impressed with their behaviour, their enthusiasm and also their effort in each activity. Every one of them gave their very best and I am extremely proud of each of them.





Mrs McIntosh

Future Summer Events

Eddie the Penguin – Year 2

The Year 2 children are busy working on their annual musical production which this year is again *Eddie the Penguin*. We are inviting families of children in Year 2 to join us on Tuesday 27th June at 2.45pm for a special performance. The rest of the school will have the opportunity to see the play at a different time so that we do not have to restrict the number of family members attending.

Eddie the Penguin is a firm Year 2 favourite and the story fits so well with our work on Our World, Our Future and our Science Week.

We hope families will be able to join us.

Sports Day - Friday 14th July

This year Sports Day will take place on Friday 14th July. There is NO parent parking available unless you hold and can display a blue badge. We are following the same format as in previous years combining our Sports Day and Open Afternoon. To save busy parents having to take two days off work, we are combining the two events on the same day with the traditional picnic lunch in the middle. The timetable for the day is:

9.10am	Front gates will be opened to visitors
9.15am	KS2 opening ceremony on the playground
	Sporting events for Key Stage 2 (Classes E, D, C, B & A)
	NB EYFS and KS1 children stay in their classes
10.30am	KS1 and Early Years opening ceremony on the playground
	Sporting events for Key Stage 1 and Early Years (Classes J, H, G & F)
	NB KS2 children stay in their classes except Year 6 helpers
11.30am	Whole school come together for running events on the field
12.00pm	Awarding of cups and trophies followed by picnic lunch on the field
1.20pm	Children return to class to change out of PE kits and for registration
1.45pm	Open afternoon in classes with an opportunity to look at your child's work and then visit their new class for next year
3.25pm	End
3.23pm	Liiu

If you would like to bring a picnic lunch to share with your child you are welcome. We are offering the opportunity to order a lunch from the school kitchen and a letter will be sent home shortly with details. Please note that you **must pre-book** your picnic lunch using the slip and that no other lunches will be provided by the school kitchen that day. Universal free school meals will be available in the form of the packed lunch for all the infant children and those junior children entitled to a free school meal, but you **must let us know that your child will require a lunch for that Friday in advance**. You must complete the slip, enclose any money and <u>order</u> a picnic lunch even if your child has school dinners every day. Replies must be received by **12 noon on Monday 3rd July** as late requests will not be possible. <u>Please note that payments for adults must be cash only for this event and sent into the school office with the order form</u>

In the event of bad weather, we will make a decision as early as possible on the day as to whether events can go ahead and let you know by Parentmail. Regardless, we will still hold the lunch for families and we will picnic in the school building if needs be.

Talented and Thoughtful Children

Archie's parents have let us know that he was recently awarded Player of the Season in rugby.

He has worked extremely hard this season and his family and we are proud of him.



Mathletics Challenge

The class that made the most use of Mathletics last week was:

Eider who amassed an average of 27.47mins per pupil.

As the Year 6 pupils have now all moved into Class Avocet, we are working out the winning class based on the average number of hours per pupil.

The pupil who made the most use of the programme was:

Jasmine B in Class Eider

Well done and keep up the good work!

Safeguarding and Personal Safety

As the weather starts to turn warmer, please remember that the children will be outside at break and lunchtimes so we would advise applying high factor sun protection in the morning before school. If children do bring in any creams to re-apply later in the day, they should be able to do this themselves and they must not share this with any other child.

We have shade under the trees and we do encourage the children when it is very warm to sit and rest out of the sun. It is helpful if the children have a cap or hat to wear but we ask that these are either the school uniform caps or non-offensive. Please note that the school uniform policy is for the children to wear shoes all year round as sandals and open toe footwear can be unsafe when they are running around.

The children are very good at bringing in water bottles each day and these are easily topped up with help from staff during the day whenever the children need more water.

Online Safety

Remember that there are so many resources on the 2 Johns' website to help parents with online safety: https://esafetytraining.org/

but please also follow them on Twitter and facebook as they often send out timely reports about current new trends and issues.

Let's work together to keep the children safe!

Attendance

Part of our safeguarding duties and procedures is ensuring that when children are absent from school, we know where they are and that they are safe. Please remember to inform school by **9.20am each day** if your child is absent from school and to follow this up with a written letter of explanation on their return. If we do not know where your child is, we are required to use the emergency contact numbers you have given to school. So, it is vitally important that if you change your phone numbers, or your family and friends do, that you inform us.

The government, local authority and school take attendance seriously and school is required to follow up on irregular attendance and prolonged absences and also for unauthorised absences, so please do not be offended when we ask for proof of doctors' and dentists' appointment or ask for details of holiday bookings or delayed flights or sickness on return after school holidays.

Important information - Term time holidays

Improving school attendance is a key priority for all schools across Essex. Where families choose to take a family holiday during term time, this can detrimentally impact a pupil's progress and can prevent them from fulfilling their true academic potential. Our school attendance policy, available via our school website, clearly sets out the process that parents should follow if they wish to apply for leave during term time. Please note that applications should only be made, if you feel that there are exceptional circumstances which mean that the leave cannot be taken during the school holidays.

We would ask all parents to note that, where families choose to go on holiday during term time and the absences are coded as unauthorised, Essex County Council may not issue penalty notices and may instead proceed to prosecution and place the case directly before the Magistrates for their consideration in court. If found guilty by the Magistrates, parents could face a fine of up to £2,500 and/or 3 months imprisonment.

Parking and Road Safety

Danbury Outdoors are now getting very busy and there will be more and more coaches arriving and departing at the beginning and end of the school days. Please make sure that you do not park along the road down from Well Lane or along the road from the Danbury Outdoors exit barrier. Having to locate the owners of cars, where they are causing obstructions, causes delays and some of the visiting schools and establishments have long journeys home ahead of them. Danbury Outdoors allows parents of the children at our school to use the carpark and we would not want them to restrict this.

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

Please keep the roadway down into the car park free so that traffic can move off and onto Well Lane without causing a blockage on Main Road which then compromise the safety of the zebra crossing.

Please park with care and consideration for our neighbours.



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.



Midday Assistant Vacancies

We are still urgently seeking 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.

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 sent out this week:

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SCHOOL DINNERS COSTS FOR SUMMER TERM 2023

2nd Half Term: 6th June – 21st July 2023 = 34 days at £2.50 = £85.00

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



Owl's Barn School Meals

Week beginning 19th June 2023

Week 3

Fresh bread and milk available daily

Monday	Homemade Tomato Pasta Bake or (V) Cheddar Whirl	Homemade Bread Sweetcorn Cucumber	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Chocolate Sponge and Chocolate Custard Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Tuesday	Minced Beef Wrap or (V) Vegan Mince Wrap	White/Wholegrain Rice Peas Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese Baked Beans Tuna Mayo	Tutti Fruti Flapjack Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Wednesday	Roast Chicken with Yorkshire Pudding, Gravy Or (V) Quorn Piece in Gravy	Roast Potatoes Carrots Green Beans	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	100% Organic Fruit Ice Lolly Fresh Fruit Fresh Yoghurt
Thursday	Homemade Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce or (V) Vegan Meatballs in Tomato Sauce	White/Wholegrain Pasta Sweetcorn Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese Baked Beans Tuna Mayo	Shortbread Biscuit Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Friday	Omega 3 Fish Fingers or (V) Cheese and Tomato Quiche	Chips Baked Beans Cucumber	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Iced Finger Bun Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

Dates for the Diary Week beginning 19th June 2023

School Assessment Week

Mon 19th

4.00pm CSSP District Sports - Field Events

Tues 20th

2.45pm Year 2 to perform Eddie the Penguin to the school

Weds 21st

Classes F and G to visit Castle Hedingham

Pm Year 3 Swimming Lessons 3/6

2.50pm Let's Present

Thurs 22nd

Classes J and H to visit Holland-on-Sea

Fri 23rd

10.30am Class Goldfinch virtual author visit

2.45pm Class Goldfinch Assembly to parents and the rest of the school

Full term dates for the academic years 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 are available on the school website.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Gooding, Headteacher

Dates for Summer Term 2023

Date	Time	Event		
June				
Week beg 19 th		Assessment Week for Years 1, 3, 4 & 5		
19 th	4.00 -	Coop District Sports Field Events		
19	5.30pm	Cssp District Sports – Field Events		
21 st All day		Classes F & G to Hedingham Castle		
	12.45 –	Year 3 Swimming 3/6		
	3.15pm			
22 nd		Classes Jay and Hummingbird to visit Holland-on-Sea		
23 rd	2.45pm	Class G Assembly		
Week beg 26 th		Year 6 School Journey		
26 th	1.00 -	Cssp District Sports Track Events		
	3.30pm			
27 th	All day	Year 5 to Danbury Outdoors		
	2.45pm	Year 2 Assembly		
28 th	12.45 –	Year 3 Swimming 4/6		
	3.15pm			
	12.45 -	New entrants and parents to join school for lunch and afternoon activities		
	2.15pm			
July				
3 rd		Sandon School Induction		
4 th	9.20 -	New entrants' induction session		
	10.20pm	All classes to meet their teachers for next year		
	2.45pm	Class E Assembly		
5 th	12.45 –	Year 3 Swimming 5/6		
	3.15pm			
6 th	7.00pm	Full governing body meeting		
7 th	2.45pm	Class H Assembly		
11 th		Year 6 SATS results due out		
	2.45pm	Class J Assembly		
12 th	9.20 -	New entrants' induction session		
	10.20pm	All classes to meet their teachers for next year		
	12.45 –	Year 3 Swimming 6/6		
	3.15pm			
		Pupil Reports to go out to parents		
13 th		Year 5 Taster Day at Sandon School		
14 th		Sports Day		
		Picnic		
		Open afternoon		
		Pupil end of year reports to go out		
	Eve	DPSA Year 6 Silent Disco		
19 th	3.30pm	Staff and governor end of year afternoon tea		
		DPS Got Talent		
21 st	9.10am	Year 6 Assembly for parents		
	10.00am	Rest of school to join assembly		
		Break up for the Summer Holiday		

