



# Danbury Park Community Primary School

*Be wise, be happy, belong !*

## Newsletter

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

**21<sup>st</sup> July 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Reading Awards

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

Hema M - **Platinum**

Sophie T – **Platinum**

Oliver C – **Year 4 Reading Challenge**

Alex B – **Topaz**

Lily W - **Ruby**

Henry W - **Ruby**

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

### End of Year Round-up

What a busy year it has been! Thankfully the pandemic came to an end and schools could finally return to normal, so we were able to invite families in for class assemblies, special presentations and all those events that make life in primary school special. Today we say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils and they have had a fantastic year. The children always complete an end of year survey and then talk about their experience at Danbury Park with our governors. We know that they have enjoyed their formative years with us and will leave with lots of fond memories. We wish them all the very best at their new schools and hope they will come back to visit at our Christmas and Summer Fayres and to support younger siblings.



We also say goodbye to several members of staff:

- 👤 Karen Lees, who has been teaching Class Eider since Christmas; Katishe Macey, our SENDCO, and Lucy Winstanley and Susie Caulfield, two of our LSAs, but we will still see them around as parents; Nick Moore, one of our parent governors, who is sadly stepping down due to his heavy work commitments at the moment and we would like to thank him for all his support particularly with building and premises issues. Without him the Outdoor Gym may never have happened! We would also like to say a big thank you to three stalwarts of the DPSA who are moving on or stepping back: Jo Emmerson, Louise Hensman and Eve Rush; they have done a great job over the years motivating and organising so many fundraising events.

We hope that you all have a good summer break and look forward to seeing you in September.

## Sports Day

This week we were able to complete our Sports Day activities after the wash-out on Friday. There were lots of personal bests achieved as well as team support and camaraderie.



The results were:

### Key Stage 2

Year 3 – **AIR**

Highest scoring boy – Jensen

Highest scoring girl – Zoe

Year 4 – **FIRE**

Highest scoring boy – Sam

Highest scoring girl – Katie

Year 5 – **FIRE**

Highest scoring boy – Archie

Highest scoring girl – Teigi

Year 6 – **WATER**

Highest scoring boy – Oscar

Highest scoring girl – Evie

Year 6 1<sup>st</sup> Evie and Josh

2<sup>nd</sup> Elena and Harvey

3<sup>rd</sup> Charlotte and Toby

Year 5 1<sup>st</sup> Isla and Archie

2<sup>nd</sup> Lexie and Charlie

3<sup>rd</sup> Teigi and Jacob

Year 4 1<sup>st</sup> Katie and Sam

2<sup>nd</sup> Rachel and Jenson

3<sup>rd</sup> Ella and Ibraheem

Year 3 1<sup>st</sup> Zoe and Jensen

2<sup>nd</sup> Chloe and Lorenzo

3<sup>rd</sup> Rosie and Harry

**KS2 OVERALL WINNER – FIRE**

### EYFS & KS1

#### Flat Races

Year 2 1<sup>st</sup> Annabelle and Eddie 2<sup>nd</sup> Scarlett and Zach

3<sup>rd</sup> Grace and Beau

Year 1 1<sup>st</sup> Ailesa and George 2<sup>nd</sup> Alice and Artie

3<sup>rd</sup> Grace and Reggie

EYFS 1<sup>st</sup> George and Isla

2<sup>nd</sup> Amelia and Bobby

3<sup>rd</sup> Ben and Sophie



**EYFS and Key Stage 1 Overall Winner: WATER (Blue Team)**

## End of Year Results

We end the year with another excellent set of academic results of which we are very proud:

**Early Years Foundation Stage:** 80% pupils achieved a good level of development.

**Year 1 Phonics:** 100% pupils achieved the expected standard.

**Year 2 Phonics:** 50% i.e.1 out of 2 pupils achieved the expected standard.

### End of Key Stage 1 (Year 2)

Subject	Working Below the Towards Expected Standard	Working Towards the Expected Standard	Working at or above Expected Standard	Working at greater depth of the Expected Standard
Reading	3%	8%	89%	31%
Writing	3%	20%	78%	17%
Maths	3%	20%	78%	36%
Science		17%	83%	
R,W & M			69%	17%

### End of Key Stage 2 (Year 6)

#### Tests

Subject	Other	<100	≥100	≥110	Average Standardised Score	National % pupils achieving ≥100
Reading	3%	21%	76%	37%	106	73%
GPS	3%	21%	77%	40%	106	72%
Maths	3%	21%	76%	29%	105	73%

#### Teacher Assessments

Subject	Foundations/ Early Stages	Has Not Met the Expected Standard	Working Towards the Expected Standard	Working at Expected Standard or above	Working at Greater Depth of the Expected Standard	National % pupils achieving expected standard
Writing	3		37%	63%	34%	71%
Science		16%		84%		80%

	School	National
Reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics	61%	59%

As you will see, we haven't yet received all of the comparative data but where we have, I am sure you will agree that the children this year performed well in the statutory assessments compared to schools nationally.

Well done to the children and all the staff who work so hard to provide so many wonderful opportunities for the children to succeed.

## End of Year Reminders

### School Dinners

Last week the governing body met and sadly we had to take the decision to raise the cost of a school dinner to £2.70 with effect from September. With the recent increased staffing costs and the escalating cost of ingredients, the school has been subsidising school meals now for the past few months and with the pressure on our budget this cannot be sustained. We, therefore, have no alternative than to pass these costs onto parents.

All children in EYFS and KS1 continue to be entitled to Universal Free School Meals and the government is raising the contribution that the school receives. If your child is moving into Year 3, please remember that you will need to start paying for meals from September. These should be paid for in advance.

If you think that you qualify for free school meals, then please let us know and we will advise you on the action you need to take.

We feel that our school meals are nutritious and provide good value for money, so we will not compromise on quality or from using fresh ingredients. The children tell us that they enjoy their hot meals and the high numbers of children eating them each day with very little waste, is testament to this.

### Ear Piercing

Essex County Council insist that earrings must be removed for PE lessons, so if you are considering having your child's ears pierced, please arrange for this to be done at the beginning of the school holidays to allow time to heal and for time for the children to practise taking them in and out. Staff are not allowed to remove or put in earrings so children need to be able to do this themselves or not wear earrings to school on the days we have PE or after-school sports clubs. We suggest that you put a small box in their PE bag to keep the earrings safe. Please note that pupils are not allowed to wear tape over their earrings.

### After School Clubs

Parents should now be able to book places with Premier Sports for after school clubs starting in September. Please note that the Tuesday Football Club for younger children will now be run by Premier Sport and not Chelmsford City. Sadly, next year Art Club will no longer be taking place as Nikki is very busy with her studio. We would like to thank her for all her support and enthusiasm over the many years she has run her club.

### Clothing

Over the weekend as you wash and put away the school uniform and during the holidays buy new, please check that name labels are clearly visible and intact. We try very hard to re-unite lost property with their owners and this is much easier for everyone if we can read the names.

## Hanging Basket Competition

Earlier this year each class planted up a hanging basket to display outside their classroom and they have been looking after them carefully through hot, dry spells and windy days.

The winner this year for the variety they have nurtured is Class Cuckoo. Well done!





Dear Parents/carers,

At time of writing, I have just returned from a hastily re-arranged sports day for KS1. It is hugely frustrating that the English summer did not bless us with some basic dry weather on the day the event was originally planned. Nevertheless, the smiles on the pupils' faces show just how resilient they are to whatever life throws their way. What a pleasure it was to see the participation and enthusiasm across the whole school for the traditional end of term event.

This period of the year is always a bitter-sweet milestone. It is very sad to say goodbye to our year 6 cohort, but having had the opportunity to speak to them, it is fantastic to hear their positive experiences of their time at Danbury Park. This is a direct reflection of everything the staff have put into supporting the pupils, along with the level of pupil engagement, over the preceding 7 years.

For those parents that are new to Danbury Park, and are reading this newsletter for the first time, then welcome! I hope to get to know many of you in the months ahead, and there are plenty of opportunities to get involved in the school that I can assure you are rewarding!

A termly update from each of the Committees is presented below:

**Curriculum and Pupil Related – Chair, Mrs. Katherine Moulding**

Pupil progress was reviewed and the following was noted:

- 🦉 Good progress was made in Early Years and KS1.
- 🦉 Interventions were put in place and reviewed for Year 2
- 🦉 Year 3 targets were met
- 🦉 Year 6 completed the SATS and the reading paper was noted as challenging.
- 🦉 The governors noted the success of the residential visit for year 6, while recognising the challenges of hosting in future years.
- 🦉 Frequency of monitoring visits have increased and governor engagement with pupils and classes is strengthening.



**Resources Committee – Chair, Mr. George Fraser**

- 🦉 Over the course of this term, the committee reviewed the overall fabric of the outside of the school, including the bungalow used by Woodlands and the outdoor facilities. It was pleasing to see the general good condition of many of the outside facilities. The bungalow will need some remedial action over the summer holidays and use of the school during the period of interruption was agreed.
- 🦉 On finance matters, the electronic payments system Pay360, has been withdrawn by its provider and the school has moved to Parentpay - the same system used by a number of other schools in the area.
- 🦉 The Committee focused on the current budgetary constraints on the school system to ensure best value for pupils. It was necessary to increase the cost of school meal pricing at the start of the September term by 20p to allow the catering department to break even. Whilst any price rise is regrettable, balance was sought between the need for a suitable quality of meal vs pricing. Pricing and costs will be reviewed on a termly basis.



**Personnel – Chair, Mrs. Debbie Le Monde**

Personnel matters were discussed and the following highlights were noted:

- 🦉 The school is fully staffed, except for MDAs.
- 🦉 Turnover in the SENDCo position was noted, and the appointment of a successor was discussed.
- 🦉 A Staff wellbeing survey was conducted and is under review.



That leaves me simply to offer my heartfelt thanks to all of the staff for everything they have done over the course of the last year. On behalf of the governing body, I wish all pupils, parents, staff and their families a fantastic summer break and I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Paul Sutton, Chair of Governors

### Danbury Park's Got Talent

On Wednesday afternoon the school was entertained by some very talented children. The winners as selected by the adult judges were:

**Infants - Nora in Class J**

**Juniors - Indigo and Amber in Class Dove**

The children all got to vote as well and the also selected **Nora** as the winner but also **Oscar in Class Budgerigar** with his magic tricks. The children were presented with a pencil case and some special crayons.

Well done!

### Talented and Thoughtful Children



Over this weekend Sophia W took part in three performances of *The Magic Lamp* at The Chelmsford Theatre as part of The Weston School of Dance, playing a sapphire in Aladdin's cave!

Congratulations to Fred in class C who passed his grade 1 acoustic guitar exam last week with a merit.

Caleb Hartwell (D) recently entered an Essex Library Writing competition. He came 1st place in Danbury and 3rd place in Essex. He was awarded his certificate and a poetry book as a prize.

His poem was entitled 'Locked In' and received the following comments from Syd Moore, the author in residence:  
"This poem had me worrying about the poor child locked in the cellar. I hope they get out soon!  
Caleb did well to interpret the theme and produce a poem (and picture that complemented it). Not everyone is brave enough to strive for poetry and Caleb should feel very proud of himself for such a fantastic effort. A very strong piece."



## Good News

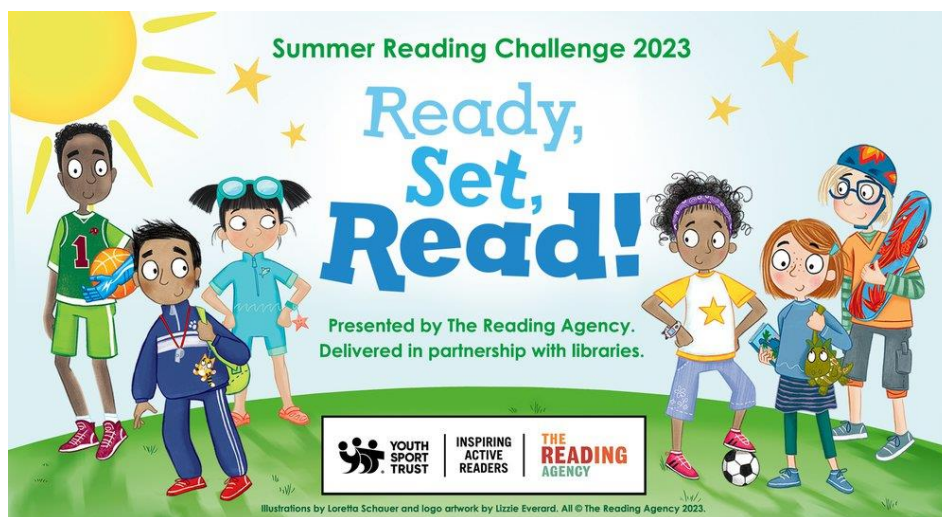
We end the year with some excellent news. In recognition of the school's commitment to physical activity and sports, we have received the School Games Gold Award. This year we have participated in more inter school events than ever, including the girls' and boys' football league and the high 5 netball tournament and league, the Year 4 tennis tournament, the Year 1 Teddy Lympics, the Year 2 Mini-games, the Year 4 Superstar, the District Athletics as well as the Maldon Rugby Club Schools tournament.

We came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Girls' Football League and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Tennis Tournament which are great achievements. We would like to thank all those parents who supported us.



## Ready, Set, Read! Join the team this summer.

The Summer Reading Challenge is back in libraries this summer and on Monday, Vanessa, our local librarian, joined our assembly to explain how it works to the children. This year's challenge is **Ready, Set, Read!** Themed around the power of play, sport and games, children will help a fictional superstar team (and their marvellous mascots!) weave their way through a summer obstacle course.



Developed in collaboration with the [Youth Sport Trust](#), the 2023 Summer Reading Challenge will celebrate play and participation, encouraging children to get involved in games and sports in any way that best suits them.

The Summer Reading Challenge is produced by [The Reading Agency](#) and delivered in partnership with libraries. The challenge, aimed at children aged 4 - 11 years, is to read six or more library books over the summer.

So please encourage your child to participate and keep reading throughout the summer!

## Safeguarding

Please see below a message from the Essex Safeguarding Children Board regarding their Online Safety campaign which reinforces the importance of talking about safe internet use with children.

### ***Find out more about spotting the signs of exploitation, checking device security settings and how to report concerns***

The summer holidays are fast approaching and while more time may be spent outside away from screens, it's important to remember that the risk of online harm and child exploitation doesn't disappear.

Parents and carers should remain aware of their child's internet use over the summer - as much as any other time of year. Child exploitation and grooming often starts with contact on social media. Any child is at risk and it's important to remember that both boys and girls can be groomed. This is why it's vital that everyone knows how to spot the signs and knows what to do if they suspect abuse.

Children may see friends less over the holidays due to other family commitments and if they're feeling isolated, they may turn increasingly to their devices. This could increase the risk of online harms such as grooming, accessing inappropriate gaming and chat forums, as well as affecting their emotional wellbeing.

From the 10-16 July the Essex Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB) and partners are encouraging people across Essex to take part in sharing messages about online safety across social media. The week of activity will cover topics including youth involved sexual images, online gaming and online safety for pre-schoolers. There will be information on how to support young people to have healthy relationships in a digital world and the importance of supporting them to understand the dangers that technology can present with relationships.

The [ESCB website](#) has resources for parents, carers and professionals including podcasts, videos, how to report concerns and information about spotting the signs of exploitation.

It is important to remember that exploitation is not the child's fault and they are never to blame. By creating a supportive environment, where online safety is discussed in the same way as road safety or stranger danger, children may feel able to speak more openly about any concerns they may have.

David Archibald, ESCB Independent Chair/Facilitator on behalf of the Statutory Partners said: "I would encourage all parents and carers, no matter how tech savvy they think they are, to double check that their children's devices have the correct parental controls and to have a discussion with their children about the importance of safe internet use – take an interest in what games they are playing and try to understand their online world.

"Online exploitation is a horrific crime and can have a significant impact on the lives of the individuals, families and communities involved. Together we can support children and parents to be aware of the dangers and know there is someone to talk to if they're concerned."

Concerns about child exploitation can be reported anonymously via Crimestoppers 0800 555111. There is also a dedicated Essex Police Child Exploitation hotline - for parents, carers and members of the public to seek advice around concerns they may have about their own or other children with regards to criminal and sexual exploitation: 01245 452058.

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.**

## 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](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.



- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Please help give our fundraising a boost
- Win up to £25,000 every week
- Support our school, and win!

**PLAY NOW:**  
Scan the QR code or visit  
[www.yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk)  
And search for: Danbury Park Communi



Supporters must be 18 years of age or older. See website for terms & conditions. Entry by 29th July 2023.

# Free School Uniform

Are you in need of school uniform for your 4-16 year old but struggling with the cost of living at present? Then why not come along to our event, where you can pick up some FREE pre-loved school uniform, provided by charity **Essex Free School Uniform**. Open to everybody- do not need to be in receipt of benefits.

**Date:** Thursday 10th August 2023 **Time:** 10.30am-12.30pm  
**Location:** Youth Hall, Christ Church Chelmsford, New London Road, CM2 0AW (Free on-site parking)

## Items available

### Free pre-loved school uniform aged 4-16 years

- > Polo Shirts and Cotton Shirts
- > Jumpers, cardigans & blazers
- > Trousers, shorts and skirts
- > Pinafore Dress/ Summer Dress
- > Coats / hoodies
- > PE Kit- T Shirt, shorts, joggers
- > Shoes
- > Bags (book, PE, etc)

**All items subject to availability.**



## What do I need to do?

You must **PRE-ORDER** any uniform needed via email by Sunday 30th July 2023:

**[uniform@dnanetworks.org](mailto:uniform@dnanetworks.org)**

In your email, please include

- > Your name, number, postcode
- > Child's surname, age, sex
- > Name of child's school
- > Items needed and in what size/ colour

**You must then attend the event to collect your order.**

Commissioned by



## 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:**

 ParentPay

## Thank You

A big thank you to the Year 6 parents and children for their thoughtful gift of a new football strip!

### **Football Kit donated by the Parents and Children in Year 6**



Let's hope it brings us success in next year's league!



## Owl's Barn School Meals

Week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

### Week 1

Fresh bread and milk available daily

<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 Fresh Yoghurt
<b>Thursday</b>	Chicken Nuggets or (V) Macaroni Cheese	Crispy Potatoes 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  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 SUMMER TERM 2023

**2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term: 6<sup>th</sup> June – 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023** = 34 days at £2.50 = £85.00  
Please be reminded to only pay for dinners up to the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023.

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

**Dates for the Diary**  
**Week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

<b>Mon 4<sup>th</sup></b>	School closed for staff training
<b>Tues 5<sup>th</sup></b>	School closed for staff training
<b>Weds 6<sup>th</sup> 8.45am</b>	School gates open. Remember 8.55am school gates close! EYFS Group 1 children in Class Jay start
<b>Thurs 7<sup>th</sup></b>	EYFS children in Class Hummingbird start
<b>Fri 8<sup>th</sup></b>	EYFS Group 2 children in Class Jay start

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

Yours sincerely,

Carol Gooding,  
Headteacher