



Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong!

Newsletter

Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

22nd September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading Awards

Congratulations to

Ralph R – **Bronze** Ivy P - **Topaz** Jacob F – **Diamond** George G - **Ruby**

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

Weekly News

As you will know from the letter sent out last week, at the end of the academic year, due to work commitments, Mr Nick Moore stood down as a parent governor. Mr Moore was an active member of the governing body, being hugely supportive of the work of the Resources committee and we are grateful for his commitment. This leaves a vacancy for one parent governor and means that we are required to hold an election for the vacant position.

Parent governors play an important role as members of the governing body, which is responsible for directing the conduct of the school and for promoting high standards of educational achievement. An information leaflet containing more detail about the role and responsibilities is available from the school office or from the school website and training is available for all governors. This is a very rewarding role and if you would like to discuss it in more detail, please contact the school office and we can put you in touch with one of our current governors who will be happy to speak with you. The closing date for nominations is **9.00am Friday 29th September 2023**. We hope you will consider standing!

Last year a selected group of parents and children were asked to participate in a survey for Sport England's Active Lives Children and Young People survey. As a thank you we were given 28 credits equating to £280 to purchase sporting equipment for the school. We ordered multi-use markers, bean bags, 2 ten pin bowling sets for our Year 6 children to use with the younger children when on Play Leader training and mini green tennis balls. We would like to thank parents who took the time to complete the survey as this has supplemented and added to our resources to help keep the children fit and healthy.



Premier Sport has asked me to remind parents that children attending football clubs before and after school need to wear shin pads otherwise they cannot play. The children are also not permitted to wear metal studs.

Talented and Thoughtful Children

Freya H in Class E told us all about a special event last weekend:

I had a good show at the Royal Albert Hall. Sometimes we were on stage and sometimes off. We were mainly in the choir doing lots of songs. I only stayed for the first half otherwise I would have got back at 11.30pm and I would have been so tired.

Ivy in Class B also took part in the show at the Royal Albert Hall on the evening of Sunday 17th September 2023 through her theatre group, *Theatretrain Maldon*. She thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



Well done Freya and Ivy.

Before and After School Clubs

	Before School	After School
Monday		Premier Sports High 5 Netball – Yrs 3, 4, 5 & 6
Tuesday		Premier Sports High 5 Netball – Yrs 3, 4, 5 & 6 Premier Sports Football – Yrs 2, 3 & 4
Wednesday		Premier Sports Multiskills – Yrs R, 1,2 & 3
Thursday	Premier Sports Girls Football – Yrs 4, 5 & 6	Premier Sports Boys' Football - Yr 5 & 6 Premier Sports Multiskills - Yrs R, 1,2 & 3
Friday		Tag Rugby – KS2

Food in School

We would like to remind parents that we are a nut-free school. We have staff and children with potentially fatal allergies so the children must not bring in any food containing **NUTS**.

EYFS and KS1 children do not bring in any tuck for break times as they are provided with free fruit from the government. The children in KS2 may bring in a piece of fruit or vegetables from Mondays through to Thursday. On Fridays we invite the children to bring in a treat in the form of crackers or a cereal bar. However, we do not allow crisps or chocolate and sweets. We have the KS2 tuck shop that runs every day and sells a variety of fruit and vegetables.



2023 Harvest Collection

This harvest we are again pleased to be able to support local people by collecting tinned, dried food and provisions for the Chelmsford foodbank. The foodbank provides short term emergency food to people in crisis. Food is given as an intervention strategy which allows care professionals, such as Housing Support Officers, CAB advisers, Social Services, doctors etc, time to put longer term measures in place. Details of the special Harvest project is available at <https://youtu.be/45hET2z2S04>

At the foodbank centre people also have access to information about other services and support organisations. All food given out by the foodbank is donated by generous members of the public. Everyday people experience crisis in our community for a variety of reasons from redundancy to ill health to an unexpected bill on a low income. Some simply struggle to make ends meet.

Harvest Shopping List

Small jars coffee Tea bags—40 and 80s UHT fruit juice UHT milk Fruit squash Biscuit packets and crisps Savoury biscuits and cereal bars Jams, spreads and preserves Breakfast cereal	Rice—dry Instant mashed potato Cup soups Pasta sauce Tins of meat meals—eg chicken/ beef in sauce/ curry Tinned spaghetti Tinned fish Tinned potatoes Tinned tomatoes Pulses Tinned vegetables Tinned soup	Milk—non dairy Powdered custard Tinned fruit Sponge puddings Tinned custard Toilet rolls Washing up liquid Laundry pods/tabs (only) Male and female toiletries We have sufficient pasta and baked beans
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We want to help our local foodbank feed people in need. Please join with us by donating food so that those less fortunate don't go hungry.

N.B Please make sure all food is packaged, in date and undamaged. Thank you!

All donations of food can be brought into school between **Monday 25th Sept and Friday 6th October 2023**.

If you have a car and are able to volunteer to deliver the food to Chelmsford, please let the office know.

Thank you

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. The government is also asking parents to send their children into school with mild illnesses and we would, of course, contact you should their condition deteriorate.

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.

Secondary School Places for September 2024

The application period for Year 7 entry in September 2024 opens this week and parents of Year 6 children who live in Essex can apply for a secondary school place on the Essex Education Portal on their website. Parents have until **31st October** to submit an application.

Parents who live in other Local Authority areas such as Southend or Thurrock must apply to their own Local Authority, but they can name Essex schools on the application.

Parents of children with an EHCP should not apply (except for grammar schools); their transfers will be arranged by the SEND Ops Team.

For parents who cannot apply online or who prefer to apply on paper, ECC have a paper application form that can be printed from the ECC website: [Admissions booklets, policies and forms: Application forms | Essex County Council](#) or they can request from ECC that one to be posted to them.

Full information about applying is on the ECC website: [Secondary school places | Essex County Council](#)

Safeguarding

At Danbury Park School we take e-safety seriously. At the beginning of every school year, as part of our computing curriculum, our pupils are taught about E-safety. This is then re-visited every term to reinforce the message of personal safety. The elements of computing are embedded across all subjects in the curriculum and our pupils regularly use the internet as part of their learning. In school, we use a filtering system to prevent children accessing inappropriate sites.

Over the past years we have also organised parent information workshops to help families keep abreast of the new technology with the aim of helping keep the children safe at home.

Our top tips are:

- 🔒 Set up your computer in a shared area at home so that you can see the sites your children are accessing;
- 🔒 Set your security levels so that you can limit access to sites and time spent on electronic devices;
- 🔒 Talk to your child about what they are doing online;
- 🔒 Talk to your child about keeping their personal information private.

There are some excellent resources available and we would like to suggest the following sites which provide more detailed information:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/parentsguide/>
http://old.kidsmart.org.uk/downloads/cn_parentleafletV2.pdf

We would also recommend that parents sign up for the free services of the 2 Johns. For those new to the school the 2 Johns are ex-police officers with a wealth of experience who offer information and training to schools, children, staff and parents. They last visited us in the Summer term and held workshops for children, staff, governors and parents. In the meantime, please check out their pages and follow them on *facebook*, as they issue timely alerts about new trends:

<https://esafetytraining.org/>

Let's work together to keep the children safe!

Child and Family Counselling Services

Parents are now able to access direct support for their child by referring them into the safe hands of our Child and Family Counselling Services (CFCS). We have a team of highly experienced Counsellors, Specialist Child and Adolescent Counsellors and Play Therapists available within the counselling team who work in our specially adapted therapy rooms.

We offer support to children, young people and parents through talking, play and art therapy.

CFCS provides therapy to children, young people and families. We support many different issues such as:

- Self-harm
- Identity
- Anxiety
- Bullying
- Bereavement
- Parental separation and family issues or conflict.

The pathway is overseen by our Head of Child and Family Counselling Services, who is supported by a team that are both passionate about and dedicated to the wellbeing of children and young people. The team has achieved very positive and reparative outcomes for children and families.

What can you expect?

After an initial contact, we will arrange an assessment to explore the issues your child may be experiencing and will then identify which model best supports the difficulty your child may be facing.

Who do you contact?

If you are worried about your child and would like to talk to us further, please either email Catherine cmunns@bccs.org.uk or call on 07792 732206 and we will be pleased to help.

Take a moment to read about the experience a parent shared with us:

I had contacted a number of professional services to assist me in helping my daughter. At the suggestion of my daughter's school a referral was made to BCCS and it was then that I met one of their counsellors. After months of unanswered questions and "hitting brick walls" I finally had answers, structure and a profound understanding of how a small little girl's mind works. For me, there has been nothing so worrying as watching your child struggle and the BCCS counsellor's help has enabled me to help her for which I will be forever grateful.



www.bccs.org.uk



headoffice@bccs.org.uk

BCCS, 133 High Street, Billericay, Essex, CM12 9AB
Brentwood Catholic Children's Society - Registered Charity Number: 1000661



Notification and Reminders

School Gateway – Thank you to all the parents who have now joined the new online payment system. Please ensure that you download the app as per the letter sent out at the end of last term. Payments for school dinners and trips need to be made via this app. Please note that we are now well on our way to being a cashless school as part of *Our World, Our Future* project. By having the online system, staff need to make fewer journeys by car to the bank, thus reducing emissions and we are using less paper.

Measles – The Primary Health Care Trust has asked us to remind parents about the measles vaccine, which is available through GP surgeries. They are anxious to vaccinate all children to prevent an outbreak of a potentially dangerous disease.

Ink Pens – We have now moved away from using fountain pens in the classroom and will going forward encourage the children to use Berol Writing Pens. These will be provided by the school.

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>

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

Please apply on the link above

Letters sent out this week:

-  Parent Governor Election letter
-  Class E – Stone Age Workshop Experience
-  Class H & J – The Gruffalo's Child at Chelmsford Theatre



Owl's Barn School Meals

Week beginning 25th September 2023

Week 1

Fresh bread and milk available daily

Monday	Homemade Pepperoni Pizza or (V) 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 Sausage or (V) Vegan Sausage	Creamy Mashed Potatoes Mixed Vegetable Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese Baked Beans Tuna Mayo	Oaty Cookie and Fruit Fresh Fruit Fresh Yoghurt
Wednesday	Homemade Chicken Korma with Naan Bread or (V) Sweet Potato and Lentil Korma With Naan Bread	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 Fruit Yoghurt
Thursday	Chicken Nuggets or (V) Macaroni Cheese	Crispy Potatoe Wedges Sweetcorn Carrot Sticks Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese Baked Beans Tuna Mayo	Apple Crumble and Custard Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Friday	Omega 3 Fish fingers or (V) Omelette	Chips 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 2023

1st Half Term: 6th September – 23rd October 2023 = 32 days at £2.70 = £86.40

2nd Half Term: 30th October – 20th December 2023 = 38 days at £2.70 = £102.60

Total for Autumn Term = £189.00

Please note that all school meals should be paid for in advance via School Gateway.

Dates for the Diary
Week beginning 25th September 2023

Mon 25th

All day	Year 6 to visit the Imperial War Museum, London
Am	Year 5 Road safety and pedestrian training

Tues 26th

All day	Class Cuckoo to visit Colchester Castle
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Weds 27th

9.15am	Welcome to Year 2 Meeting for Parents
2.45pm	EYFS Reading Parent Meeting
2.55pm	Let's Present in classes

Thurs 28th

7.00pm	Governors Curriculum Committee meeting
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Fri 29th

9.15am	Welcome to Year 1 Meeting for Parents
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Yours sincerely,

Carol Gooding,
Headteacher

Danbury Park Community Primary School

Dates for Autumn Term 2023

Date	Time	Event
September		
25 th	All day	Year 6 to visit the Imperial War Museum, London
	Am	Year 5 road safety and pedestrian training
26 th	All day	Class Cuckoo to visit Colchester Castle
	7.00pm	Governors' Curriculum and Pupil Related Committee meeting
27 th	9.15am	Welcome to Year 2 meeting for parents
	2.45pm	EYFS Reading meeting for parents
29 th	9.15am	Welcome to Year 1 meeting for parents
October		
2 nd	All day	Class Dove to visit West Stowe
		Year 6 Bikeability
3 rd		Year 6 Bikeability
4 th		Individual School Photos
5 th	All day	Class B to Audley End
		Year 6 Bikeability
	6.30pm 7.00pm	Governors' Pay Committee meeting Governors' Personnel Committee meeting
6 th		Year 6 Bikeability
	9.00am	Deadline for bringing in Harvest donations
	5.30pm 7.15pm	DPSA School Disco KS1 DPSA School Disco KS2
9 th		Year 6 Bikeability
10 th		Year 6 Bikeability
11 th	2.45pm	Harvest Assembly to parents of children in J & H (watched by classes A & B)
12 th	2.45pm	Harvest Assembly to parents of children in G & F (watched by classes E, D & C)
	Tbc	DPSA AGM
	3.40 – 6.10pm	Parent Consultations – all classes
18 th	Am	Exotic Pets visitors - Classes J and H
19 th	3.40 – 6.10pm	Parent Consultations – all classes
20 th		School closed for staff training
23rd – 27th		Half-term break
November		
2 nd	7.00pm	Governors' Resources Committee meeting with site walk at 6.30pm
3 rd		Flu Immunisation
	2.45pm	Class Budgerigar Assembly
8 th	9.30 & 10.30am	Prospective parent tours
10 th	2.45pm	Year 6 Remembrance Assembly to parents and school
14 th	1.45pm	Tour for prospective parents
17 th		Children in Need
	2.45pm	Class Cuckoo Assembly
21 st	2.45pm	Class Eider Assembly
22 nd	9.30am	Tour for prospective parents

24 th	2.45pm	Class Dove Assembly
Week beg 27 th Nov		Whole School Assessment Week
December		
3 rd	12.00 – 2.00pm	DPSA Christmas Fayre -tbc
12 th	9.30am & 2.15pm tbc	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Play
13 th	9.30am & 1.45pm tbc	KS2 Christmas Play
14 th	12.00pm	Christmas Dinner
20 th	Pm	Christmas Parties
		End of Term

To be arranged/confirmed

- Welcome to Year 3 meeting for parents
- EYFS Stay and Play
- Pre-School Liaison Activity morning