



# Danbury Park Community Primary School

*Be wise, be happy, belong!*

## Newsletter

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

**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Reading Awards

#### Congratulations to:

**Claudia M – Platinum   Jacob W - Silver**

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

### Weekly News

Next week Mrs Stone, Class Jay's teacher, is returning after her maternity leave and we know she is looking forward to being back in school. Over the past few weeks, Mrs Stone has been working with Mrs Crouch to plan for the summer term ahead and she has spent time getting to know the children. Mrs Stone will be teaching on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays with Mrs Crouch returning to her Thursday and Friday pattern.

This year and next there will be a lot of changes at Danbury Park School. As you already know I will be retiring at the end of the academic year and this week Mrs Ireland, our Key Stage 2 Lead and Class Dove's teacher, announced that she will also be doing the same. Mrs Ireland has been at the school even longer than I and her expertise and patience will be missed. Additionally Mrs Higgins, the clerk to our governing body, is retiring and this week Mrs Hammond, one of our admin assistants, was successful in gaining a promotion at another school, so she will be leaving us at the end of the Easter holidays. The recruitment process is well underway for these posts and we will keep you informed of developments in due course.

We are sorry but the cost of the KS2 Tuck Shop has had to increase to 50p. This is because of rising costs but also allows for each child to have 2 pieces of fruit. We know that they enjoy the variety on offer and there is very little waste! Please remember that only fruit and vegetables should be brought into school for KS2 snacks with a treat of a cereal bar on Fridays. The children should not be bringing in bags of crisps, chocolate or sweets.

We have also noticed this week that some children are bringing into school hard boiled throat and cough lozenges. The children are not allowed to have these in school as they present a potential choking hazard and could also be overused causing upset stomachs. We encourage the children to sip water throughout the day and if your child is in distress, we would contact you.

Please be reminded to park considerately. We have had another complaint today from a frustrated neighbour regarding the parking at morning drop off and afternoon pick up, which she described as an accident waiting to happen!



**Essex**  
**Year of...**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Spring into action this Easter with the **Essex Year Of Numbers Easter Egg Hunt!**

We're excited to announce a new opportunity for your child to practise their maths skills this Easter. The **Essex Year of Numbers** initiative is hosting an Easter Maths Competition!

Each day from March 25th to April 5th, we'll add a new maths puzzle to the **Essex Year Of...** app to help your child have fun with maths over the Easter holidays.

Although we've got the Year 6 SATs in mind, everyone in your family can come together to challenge themselves and each other and every correct answer enters your child in a daily prize draw.

Participating in this competition is a great opportunity to support your child's learning and celebrate their achievements together.

To join the Easter Maths Competition, scan the QR codes below to download the **Essex Year Of...** app and look for the **Easter Egg Hunt** in the **Numbers** section. The **Essex Year Of...** app also hosts free maths and reading content for the whole family, so everyone's invited!



Join us for an egg-ceptional Easter adventure in the Year of Numbers!

Essex Year of Numbers Team

## Mathletics Challenge

The Mathletics Challenge is back and the children have been clocking up the minutes each week to earn a reward for the winning class over the term.

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

**Class Dove**

and the pupil was:

**Theo F** in Class Dove

**Well done and keep up the good work!**

## Safeguarding

**Skips Safety Net** Keeping children safe online

### A Parent's Guide to Cyberbullying

Many young people who are victims of cyberbullying suffer in silence.

They feel they can't turn to parents or a trusted adult for support as they fear they may get in trouble or have their devices taken away from them. It can carry on all day, all evening and all weekend for the world to see, causing a lot of emotional stress to the victim and their family.

It can very quickly lead to the victim feeling trapped, scared and vulnerable to grooming and blackmail.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipssed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with

Home Office  
West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit  
West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner

**Skips** [www.skipssafetynet.org](http://www.skipssafetynet.org)

SKIPS Educational works in partnerships with multi-agency safeguarding partners and supporting organisations across the UK in a collective effort to keep children safe online. The organisation has provided schools with some useful information for parents including the poster opposite.

By actively engaging parents and carers in discussions about cyberbullying, it crucially reinforces positive behaviours both in and out of school amongst children and helps prevent them being dragged into situation either intentionally or inadvertently.

There is also lots of information on the 2 Johns' website:

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

**Let's work together to keep the children safe!**

## Talented and Thoughtful Children



Albert M in Class Hummingbird passed his Karate grading assessment last weekend and got his red stripe belt

His family are very proud of him.

Well done Albert!

## Danbury Park School Vacancies

### Get Active Co-ordinator

We are looking for an enthusiastic and caring person to join our friendly, supportive midday team working 12.00pm to 1.30pm term-time only as soon as possible. We have an all-weather track around our field and the older children enjoy the challenge of trying to walk a mile every day.

We are looking for the right person to help organise the Daily Mile and encourage the children to take part. This involves being creative and setting inter-class competitions as well as adding extra challenges. We can be flexible as to days. For more information, please contact the school office.

### Midday Assistant

We are looking for a midday assistant to join our team working at lunchtimes on Wednesdays, Thursday and Fridays. For more information, please contact the school office.

***The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects the staff to share this commitment. All appointments are subject to an enhanced DBS check, medical clearance and satisfactory references.***

## 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.

**In the Autumn Term we received answerphone messages and e-mails informing us that children are ill. A pattern is emerging and this often seems to happen on the day(s) before an unauthorised holiday. If we have reason to suspect that you have taken your child(ren) out of school on a holiday or excursion, the absence will be unauthorised and we will write to you. If you can prove that you travelled on the days in your original application for leave of absence or explain why school could not contact you on your home phone line or why we got the international dialing tone, then we will reconsider the classification of the absence. Please be advised that this may still lead to a fixed penalty notice or prosecution as explained above.**



## 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.

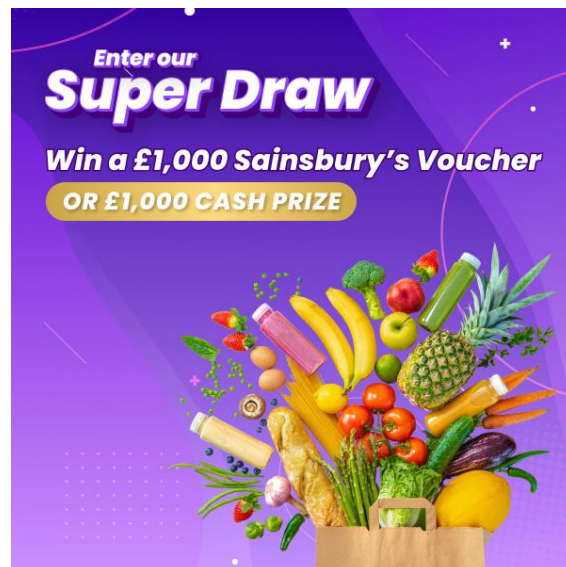
Over the past four years we have raised £4 000 which we have spent on special projects like the EYFS outdoor classroom and the KS2 garden, which we could not otherwise afford. Every little contribution helps!

**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.



**ACL FAMILY LEARNING**

**FREE! ONLINE COURSES**

- Go To Sleep!
- Setting Boundaries
- Raising Girls
- First Aid Workshop
- Managing Big Emotions
- Getting Teens To Talk
- Mindfulness & relaxation
- Anxiety Coping Techniques for Teens

**SCAN ME**

call our friendly team on **03330 321 017**

Search 'Family Learning' at **aclessex.com**

Queries **aclfamylearnin**  
**g@essex.gov.uk**

**FIND OUT MORE**

**ACL**   
Essex County Council

## Notification and Reminders

**New Phone System** – the new VOIP phones are now up and running using our number of 01245 224994 but please listen carefully to the options for reporting an absence or wanting to speak with the office. Please be aware that when we dial out, this may come up as a different number but will start 01245 981xxx.

**PE** – We still hold outdoor PE lessons even in the winter months and when it is colder. Our school uniform does specify that the children need a track suit and that this should be navy blue. It does not have to have the school logo so parents can obtain affordable versions from the local supermarkets. The DPSA also have their pre-loved option. We have noticed many children wearing their school maroon sweatshirts for PE and this is not good when the children start to build up a sweat or get damp in light drizzle and then their clothes smell. It would also be useful if children had a pair of socks for PE in their bags. We are aware that many children have coughs at the moment but we would still encourage them to participate in PE lessons and we will keep a careful watch over them. We all need to be as active as possible to stay fit and healthy!

**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.

**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

### **ParentMail Letters sent out this week:**





## Owl's Barn School Meals

### Week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Week 2**

**Fresh bread and milk available daily**

<b>Monday</b>	Homemade Cheese Pasta Bake or (V)Quorn Dippers	Garlic Bread Sweetcorn Cucumber	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b>  Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Chocolate Crispy Cake  Fresh Fruit  Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Tuesday</b>	Homemade Beef Bolognese or (V)Vegan Mince Bolognese	White/Wholegrain Pasta Peas , Cauliflower Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese Baked Beans Tuna Mayo	Tutti Frutti Flapjack  Fresh Fruit  Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>All Day Breakfast;</b> Chipolata sausage, Bacon and Egg or (V)Vegan Sausage, Egg	Hash Brown Baked Beans Green Salad	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b>  Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Ice Cream Roll  Fresh Fruit  Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Thursday</b>	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	Apple Crumble and Custard  Fresh Fruit  Fruit Yoghurt

### SCHOOL DINNERS

#### COSTS FOR SPRING TERM 2024

**2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term: 26<sup>th</sup> February - 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024 = 24 days at £2.70 = £64.80**

**Due to financial year end please be reminded to pay for all dinners up to the end of March.  
Please pay for the summer term dinners after the Easter holidays. Thank you.**



**Dates for the Diary**  
**Week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Mon 25<sup>th</sup>**

3.25pm Year 6 Bake Sale at the school gates

**Tues 26<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am EYFS Egg Rolling

3.00pm Girls' Football Match v Gt Leighs Primary School (away)

**Weds 27<sup>th</sup>**

9.15am KS2 Spring Assembly to parents of children in Years 3 & 4 (watched by Classes J & H)

2.30pm KS2 Spring Assembly to parents of children in Years 5 & 6 (watched by Classes G & F)

2.55pm Let's Present

3.30pm DPSA Easter Egg Hunt in the playground (Multi-sports in hall)

**Thurs 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Fri 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Good Friday - Easter Holiday starts**

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

Yours sincerely,

Carol Gooding,  
Headteacher

# Danbury Park Community Primary School

## Dates for Spring Term 2024

Date	Time	Event
<b>March</b>		
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Am & Pm	Maldon Tag Rugby Tournament – postponed to 19 <sup>th</sup> April
26 <sup>th</sup>	Am	EYFS Egg Rolling in the country park
27 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am 2.30pm	<b><u>KS2 Spring Assembly to parents</u></b> Watched by Year 3 & 4 parents with classes J & H Watched by Year 5 & 6 parents with classes F & G
28 <sup>th</sup>		Last day of Spring Term

Dates for the Summer Term will follow shortly.

