



Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong!

Newsletter

Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

28th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading Awards

Congratulations to:

Charlie H – **Bronze** Emily T - **Bronze** Eliza S - **Diamond** Rosie M - **Diamond**
Beau C - **Emerald** Jessica S - **Emerald** Rian S - **Emerald** Zach P - **Emerald**

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

Weekly News

On Tuesday the girls' football team played their first match of the season against Great Leighs Primary School and they were the first to wear the new football strip presented to us in the Summer by the Year 6 leavers.

It was a good match and our girls played very well especially considering that this is the first time they have played together as a team. Frankie did an excellent job as goal keeper. Sadly, we lost 6-0 but we enjoyed the experience. We would like to say a big thank you to Mr Barnard who helped with tactics and lots of encouragement. Well done girls!



We would also like to share a big thank you from the children of Year 6 for everyone's support with the coin challenge and cake sale, both were a great success as they raise funds for their leaving gift.

We hope that you all enjoy a peaceful and restful break over the next two weeks and look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday 15th April.

Book Fortnight in Class Goldfinch



In *Class Goldfinch*, we read the book 'Katie in London' by James Mayhew. We began learning about London in our *Geography* lessons. This book was a great help to us. It is about an adventure that two children have in London as they visit different London landmarks accompanied by a bronze lion from Trafalgar Square! Our learning for the two weeks was based on this book. We chose different landmarks featured in the book and researched facts about them which we then presented in fact files. After reading the story, we wrote postcards, (as if we were the characters) and recounted some of the events from the adventure. Our stories featured characters with different names and different London landmarks but we kept the bronze lion character.

Using a paint program, we painted different London landmarks. We also designed models of some of these landmarks which we then made in a DT day.



We enjoyed reading with our parents on the Tuesday morning. The hall had just enough space for all of the visitors that came to share a book with us. The 30 minutes went really quickly and we didn't want it to end.

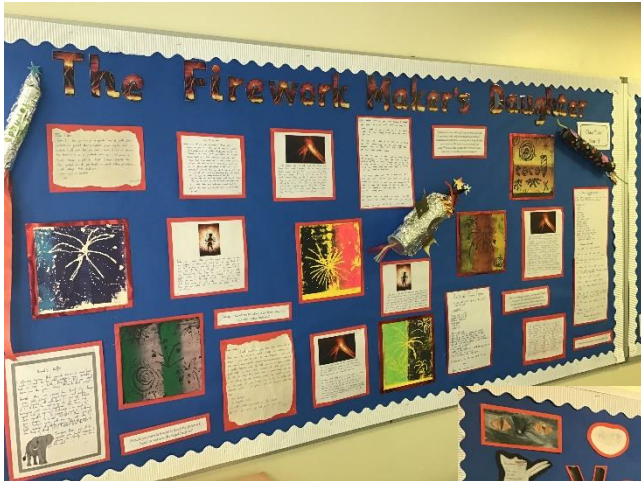
Thank you to everyone that came in to read with us. Our *Class Governor* joined us for this session too. She enjoyed listening to the stories and non-fiction books we read to her and she read to us too!

During the second week, on Tuesday, we had paired reading with children from *Class Dove*, it was great fun and we really enjoyed sharing books with the junior children so much so we have asked if we can do this again with them in the *Summer term*!

Class Goldfinch

Book Fortnight Display

We have changed the displays throughout the school to reflect the work that the classes have completed during Book Fortnight. The junior children also referred to these in their fantastic assemblies on Wednesday. They did a great job of persuading the audience to read some of these books and they are all definitely on my list.



London Landmarks Making Day in Class Goldfinch

On Monday 18th March, Class Goldfinch were architects and builders as we had a London landmark making day. This is because we have been learning about London in our history and geography lessons. In our DT and art lessons we studied architecture and how the structures were made and the materials used. Finally, we had to design a London landmark which featured one moving part.

We were lucky to have so many parents come in to help us make them. We spent the morning using our designs to help us construct the structures.

Then, in the afternoon, we painted them and added any final parts and made any repairs. We are really proud of our work and Miss Johnston has put them on display in our classroom. Our next task is to evaluate our models and compare them to our designs. It was the best day ever!

Thank you to all of the adults that came in to help us.



GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER Spring Term 2024



Dear Parents/carers,

As we reach the Easter milestone of the academic year, in what seems like a number of false starts for Spring weather actually breaking out, it is an appropriate time to reflect on all the hard work that has gone into the last term, while looking forward to a well-earned break.

I would like to offer my gratitude to all the staff and pupils for their unwavering dedication and hard work throughout the spring term. It has been an extraordinary journey filled with learning and growth. Our Danbury Park staff have gone above and beyond to create engaging lessons, nurture creativity, and provide a safe and supportive environment for our pupils to thrive.

This would still not be possible without support of the parents/guardians – it is an absolute pleasure to see school events that encourage this type of interaction and it re-enforces the importance of viewing our children’s education as a partnership. I would also like to thank the DPSA for their tireless dedication to fund-raising for the school. Despite the weather, what a great Easter hunt – now bring on the Clowns!

You will know from my previous communications that the school is about to go through a period of change, following the decision of Mrs Gooding to announce her retirement. The recruitment process to appoint a successor is well underway. We have created a timetable that would allow an appointment for the start of the next academic year, but this depends on the right candidate being available during the first recruitment round. The Governing Body will of course prioritise the right long-term appointment over the speed of hire, but in any case we will keep you informed of key developments.

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

Curriculum and Pupil Related – Chair, Mrs. Katherine Moulding

- 🦉 The committee reviewed the Pupil progress assessments completed at the end the Autumn term for all year groups.
- 🦉 The committee received and examined detailed reports from the English and Maths leads reports - these included interventions planned for the Spring term.
- 🦉 The committee received Governor monitoring reports on Pupil Well-being, KS1, KS2, EYFS, Maths and English.
- 🦉 The committee was pleased to see the number of Class Governor contact visits that had been undertaken during the Autumn term.
- 🦉 The committee was pleased with the progress on planning for the Year 6 Residential trip and thanked the staff for their work so far to help make this an enjoyable experience for the Year 6 pupils.

Personnel – Chair, Mrs. Brenda Wray

- 🦉 Personnel Committee is pleased to note that the school is fully staffed except for one Midday assistant and one Get Active/Daily Mile assistant.
- 🦉 Recruitment for a Headteacher, KS2 Lead Teacher, Admin Assistant and Clerk for 2024/5 is in progress – see above.
- 🦉 Continuous Professional Development continues for staff which is important for advancing skills and knowledge.
- 🦉 Headteacher and Governing Body are committed to progressing the Wellbeing Action Plan for teaching and support staff.

Resources Committee – Chair, Mr. George Fraser

- 🐣 In Resources this term, I am pleased to report that an IT upgrade to the school's telephone and web infrastructure was completed ahead of schedule. This will provide for more lines into the school at peak times as well as more phones around the school.
- 🐣 We have been liaising with the county council to get a Pelican crossing (light controlled) upgrade to the current Zebra crossing on the main road in order to provide higher levels of safety to pupils at the start and end of the school day. Whilst all the issues have not been fully resolved, progress has been made, and we look forward to updating parents later on in the year.
- 🐣 The School has maintained a balanced budget for the year, no mean feat in the current financial environment. The committee is exploring, alongside the DPSA further ways to strengthen the school's finances.

On behalf of all the school governors, I hope you all have a wonderful break with friends and families and look forward to seeing you all next term.

Paul Sutton, Chair of Governors



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

Summer Term Clubs with Premier Education

Dear parent/guardian,

I hope you've had a great term! I'm delighted to announce that your clubs are **online and ready to book**. As always, we only have **limited spaces** per club, so please book early to avoid disappointment.



Clubs running next term at Danbury

Monday after school Netball – 9 spaces remaining

3:25pm – 4:25pm

Year 3 – Year 6

£2.50 a session (due to school subsidising, without this it would be £5.50 per session)

<https://family.premier-education.com/add-course/848141>

Tuesday after school Netball – 10 spaces remaining

3:25pm – 4:25pm

Year 3 – Year 6

£2.50 a session (due to school subsidising, without this it would be £5.50 per session)

<https://family.premier-education.com/add-course/848146>

Tuesday after school Football – 11 spaces remaining

3:25pm – 4:25pm

Year 2 – Year 4

£2.50 a session (due to school subsidising, without this it would be £5.50 per session)

<https://family.premier-education.com/add-course/848150>

Wednesday after school Multi-Sports – 10 spaces remaining

3:25pm – 4:25pm

Reception – Year 3

£2.50 a session (due to school subsidising, without this it would be £5.50 per session)

<https://family.premier-education.com/add-course/848154>

Thursday before school Football – 14 spaces remaining

08:00am – 08:45am

Year 3 – Year 6

£2.50 a session (due to school subsidising, without this it would be £5.50 per session)

<https://family.premier-education.com/add-course/848158>

Thursday after school Multi-sports – 5 spaces remaining

3:25pm – 4:25pm

Reception – Year 3

£2.50 a session (due to school subsidising, without this it would be £5.50 per session)

<https://family.premier-education.com/add-course/848162>

Thursday after school Football – 11 spaces remaining

3:25pm – 4:25pm

Year 5 – Year 6

£2.50 a session (due to school subsidising, without this it would be £5.50 per session)

<https://family.premier-education.com/add-course/848166>

Find your nearest holiday camp for the Easter holidays! <https://www.premier-education.com/holiday-camps/>

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Kind regards,
Premier Marketing Team
Essex, Kent & Suffolk



Premier Education

Reviews 19,870 • Excellent



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Premier Education Group PLC

Phone: 01953 499040

address: Premier Training Academy, Shropham, Norfolk, NR17 1EJ, UK

Message from Wraparound Childcare Project Team, Early Years and Childcare, Education Operations, Essex County Council

Dear Parents/ Carers

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your participation in the recent parent survey, regarding wraparound childcare available in your area. Your valuable insights are essential to our understanding of parents' requirements across the county, to enable us to plan where additional wraparound childcare places will be needed.

Essex County Council has a statutory duty under the Childcare Act 2006 to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that there is sufficient and accessible high-quality early years and childcare provision to meet local demand. This includes provision of childcare places for children aged between 0-5 years as well as wrap around provision for school aged children (5-11 or up to 19 with additional needs).

The Department for Education (DFE) have released funding to Local Authorities to support the childcare expansion reforms. Some of this funding will be used to create new wraparound places in areas where there is currently insufficient provision. The places may be within schools, or alternatively provided by childcare providers or childminders. It is intended that these new places will be rolled out from September 2024 through to March 2026. Wraparound provision is a service that parents pay for and is not free of charge. The funding available from the government is to help support with the opening of provisions but not to subsidise the cost of the care, and provision is expected to be sustainable by March 2026.

Thank you once again for taking the time to complete the survey. If you missed the initial opportunity, the survey is still open (link below) and we welcome your continued feedback on the level of need in your area. Your input is essential in shaping the future of wraparound childcare services in our community.

Link to parents' survey- <https://forms.office.com/e/xHRVcgTE4J>

Kind regards

Nicole Conlon
Caroline Brown
Susie Threadgold

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 Eider

and the pupil was:

Eva G in Class Eider.

Results of the winning class for the Spring Term will be announced after the Easter break.

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 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!

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 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.

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.

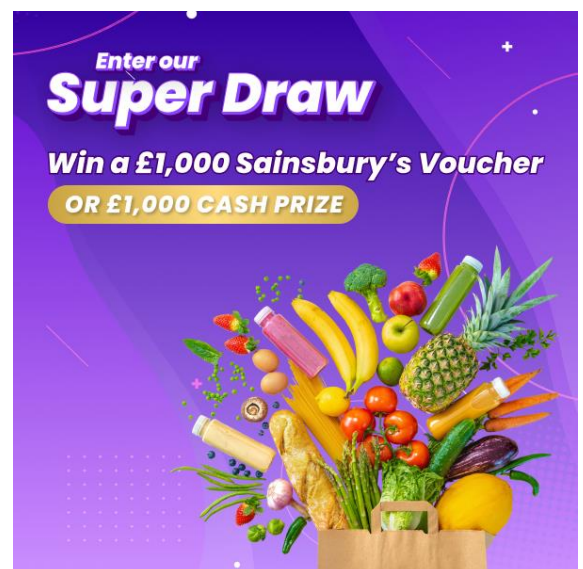
Over the past four years we have raised £4 000 which we have spent on special projects like the EYFS outdoor classroom and the KS2 garden, which we could not otherwise afford. Every little contribution helps!

Please visit the website and support us:

www.yourschoollottery.co.uk

Search for Danbury Park School

You must be 18 years of age to play and tickets cost just £1 a week.



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:

 KS2 - Maldon Rugby Club –Summer term





Owl's Barn School Meals

Week beginning 15th April 2024

Week 1

Fresh bread and milk available daily

Monday	Homemade Pepperoni Pizza or (V)Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza	White/Wholegrain Pasta Cucumber Sweetcorn	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Strawberry Delight Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Tuesday	Pulled Pork in a Bun or (V)Veggie Burger In a Bun	Couscous Homemade Coleslaw Peas	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese Baked Beans Tuna Mayo	Chocolate Muffin Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Wednesday	Mild Beef Chilli with Nacho's or (V) Vegan Mince Chilli with Nacho's	White/Wholegrain Rice Green Salad Mixed Vegetables	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 Potato Wedges Sweetcorn Cucumber	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 Baked Beans Green Salad	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Iced Sponge Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

SCHOOL DINNERS COSTS FOR SUMMER TERM 2024

1st Half Term: 15th April – 24th May 2024 = 29 days at £2.70 = £78.30

2nd Half Term: 4th June – 23rd July 2024 = 36 days at £2.70 = £97.20

Total for Summer Term = £175.50

Please do not make payment before the 15th April 2024 due to financial year end. Thank You

Dates for the Diary
Week beginning 15th April 2024

Mon 15th **School re-open for the start of the Summer Term**

Tues 16th
4.00pm **Year 5&6 High 5 Netball Tournament**

Weds 17th
2.55pm **Let's Present**

Thurs 18th
3.30pm **Boys' Football Match v St Anne's (home)**

Fri 19th **Maldon Tag Rugby Tournament**

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

Yours sincerely,

Carol Gooding,
Headteacher

Dates for the Summer Term will be published after the Easter break.