



Danbury Park Community Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs C Gooding BA (Hons), PGCE, MA (Ed), NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Miss D Johnston BA

18.04.24

Dear Parents,



Learning in Goldfinch Class Summer Term 2024

Welcome back after the Easter holiday. I hope you all managed to have a restful break. Whilst writing this it is hard to believe we are now in the final term of the school year. I am incredibly proud of my class. They have returned to school as enthusiastic as ever to learn and are already enjoying our new topic!

Year One Phonic Screening Checks

Year Ones will have their Phonics Screening check in June.

Mini-Games

Each year the children in **Year Two** take part in a Mini-Games run by the School Sports Partnership at Melbourne Athletic Stadium. The children compete in a range of sporting activities from throwing to jumping. They gain points for each event and, at the end, the winning school is the school with the highest average score. This will take place after the half-term holiday. A separate letter will be sent home nearer the time.

During this term, our topic is 'Where am I?' and we will be learning about our local area and contrasting localities like the Arctic and the Antarctic, Australia and Deserts and how they compare to our locality. The question we will be looking to answer is, 'To survive here - what would you need?' The children have recorded their thoughts on this already and we shall be revisiting the question throughout the topic to see if their opinions have changed!

If you have any postcards, photographs, artefacts, souvenirs or books related to the locations we will be studying please send them in with your child's name on so we can return them.

In English, we shall look at stories that are adventure stories, stories from different cultures and stories set in the UK. The poetry we study will focus on riddles, calligrams and acrostic poems. This term, the children will be introduced to non-chronological reports. Later in the term, the children will have the opportunity to write an explanation text which will link to our class sustainability project which is on bees!



Reading

I would also like to encourage all children to continue to read to someone at home, every night for about 10 minutes, as this is invaluable and vital to your child's learning. If you could initial their home-school link book or write a comment to show your child has read this will help us to praise your child in school. Each time you record that your child has read to an adult at home, your child's diary is stamped. If your child reads 3 or more times a week they receive a 'Star Reader' reading stamp in their diary. The stamps are awarded on Fridays. At the end of the term, those children that have received a 'Star Reader' stamp every week will receive a special reading certificate to acknowledge and celebrate their hard work.

For those children in Year Two, it is important to discuss the text with your child when hearing them read. This will help develop their comprehension skills which we shall continue to work on in class during guided and individual reading sessions.

The children are given dedicated time to change their books on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Maths

Maths this term will focus on multiplication and division, fractions, statistics, time, position and direction and measurement. The children will further develop their understanding of number and explore different ways to represent the numbers that they are working with and how numbers are used in other areas of mathematics.

History

Our history learning will focus on the village of Danbury and how it has changed and developed.

Geography

The children will initially be looking at maps, atlases and globes. We shall then make maps of our local area and identify the physical and human features of this location and compare these to the other locations studied.

Science

We shall be learning investigating living things, including plants, and their habitats. The children will understand different ways animals have adapted to live in their habitats and show food chains. The children will also learn about plants by observing and investigating how seeds and bulbs grow. They will explore and answer the question, 'What do seeds need to grow?' They are very excited to have 4 new members of our class, some VERY HUNGRY caterpillars! We will be observing them and recording how they change in a diary. Once they are butterflies we will set them free in our wildlife garden. The children are keeping a very close eye on them.



Design Technology

The children will use their scientific knowledge to help them to design and make an animal habitat. This will include moving parts using levers and sliders. We shall also be designing and making animal puppets.

Art

We will be experimenting with a variety of media: pencils, crayons, pastels, charcoal and chalk. The children enjoy doing this! We will be doing some sketching of animals, silhouettes, looking at colour, shade and tone. We will be printing using different materials to create patterns too. The children will also explore 3-D art to make clay models.

Computing

We will be creating media through digital writing for Year Ones and digital music for Year Two. After half term, the children will continue to develop their skills in programming through animation and quizzes.

RE

This term the children will learn about Judaism. In the first half of the term the theme is, 'The special relationship Jews have with God.' The key question they will be looking to answer is, 'Who is God to the Jews?' After half term, the theme will be Shabbat and the key question will be, 'Is Shabbat important to Jewish children?'

These lessons take place on Thursday afternoons with Ms Middleton.

PSHE

We will be looking at the following headings over this term.

Health and Wellbeing

Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing

Why sleep is important; medicines and keeping healthy; keeping teeth healthy; managing feelings and asking for help.

Growing and Changing

Growing older; Moving Class or year.

Keeping Safe

Safety in different environments; risk and safety at home; emergencies.

Music

Mrs Long teaches Music every Thursday morning.

French

This is taught on a Thursday morning.

Class Routines

Our PE days are **Mondays and Thursdays**, so children will need to bring their shorts, jogging trousers, PE sweatshirt, a t-shirt and trainers on these days. PE kits should be in a drawstring bag. Please remember earrings must be removed for PE lessons and that long hair needs to be tied back every day please. Children may need some of their outdoor PE kit for their Thursday lessons. **Please ensure your child has a spare pair of socks kept in their PE bag and that all PE kit is clearly named. It is helpful if the children have a spare bag, which they can put their PE shoes into after each lesson.**

Can I also remind you that their book bag and PE kit needs to be in school every day.

The children have the opportunity and are encouraged to have a drink of water in class after each playtime. Please check that your child's water bottle is clearly named.

Let's Presents take place on Wednesday afternoons. Your child's allocated dates for this term were given in a separate letter.

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Let's

All children have their spellings tested on **Fridays**. Spelling books are sent home on Fridays and need to be returned to school on a Monday morning. Common exception words are tested before the end of each half term but these will not be tested on the same day as the weekly spelling test. Year Twos are now tested on their 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables every Friday.

This term, once every three weeks, the following tasks/challenges will be set:

- A **Mathletics challenge** will be set for both Year Ones and Twos, this will focus on consolidating and extending your child's current learning.
- A spelling task for **Year Twos** on **Spelling Shed** whilst **Year Ones** have a Phonics challenge on **Bug Club**.
- **Maths game** - the **Year 1** children take home a maths game which will reinforce different areas of the maths curriculum. The children in **Year Two** have been given login details so they can access **Times Table Rock Stars**. They have been set to encourage your child to learn the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times-tables.

Please look out for details in your child's reading diary. If you are unable to access the internet at home please let me know as soon as possible. Thank you.

Mathletics Challenge Y1 & Y2
Phonics challenge on Bug Club Y1 only <i>Spelling Shed activity Y2 only</i>
Maths Game (Year Ones) <i>Times Tables Rock Stars complete activities. (Year Twos)</i>

If you have any concerns, queries or information to share, please leave a message at the school office and I will contact you as soon as possible to arrange a mutually convenient appointment.

Alternatively, you can use our Class G e-mail, classg@danburypark.essex.sch.uk, which I check every day, or include a note in your child's reading diary as these are checked daily by staff.

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 4 th June	Year 2 Mini Games
Wednesday 5 th June	Class photos
Friday 21 st June 2:45	Class Goldfinch Assembly
Friday 28 th June	Year Two Assembly

Thank you for your continued support.

D Johnston

Miss D Johnston

Class teacher