



# Danbury Park Community Primary School

*Be wise, be happy, belong!*

## Newsletter

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

**24<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Reading Awards

#### Congratulations to:

**Phoebe M - Bronze    Frankie V – Topaz**

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

### Weekly News

This week has been full-on with our Ofsted inspection taking place on Tuesday and Wednesday - something we had been expecting for a few years now! Sadly, we cannot release any detailed information but we are pleased and feeling positive. We are also relieved that it has happened now rather than later in July!

As you will know our last inspection was in November 2013 and we were exempt from further inspections for many years. The framework changed after COVID and we have been waiting since then to be inspected under this rigorous and tougher regime! Schools are only notified the day before that a team are coming into the school which is why there is such a tight turn around on notifying staff and parents. I would like to thank all those parents and carers who completed the survey which was overwhelmingly positive. Your endorsement and appreciation of all that we work so hard to achieve for the children means so much.

On the two days that the inspectors were in school, the children were, as expected and as usual, fantastic. Many of them met with the inspectors to read to them, to share their views and experiences and to show them their learning. We had to cope with wet play because of the rain and again the children all settled in their classrooms playing harmoniously together whilst waiting to go into the hall for lunch. They were polite, respectful, courteous and welcoming to our visitors. You, as parents and carers, should be very proud of your children.

We are expecting to receive the draft report after half-term and then it has to be finalised. This will take some time but as soon as we can, we will share it with parents.

Despite the inspection many everyday and special events took place and Mr Wiltshire, grandfather and published author, met with Ms Middleton, LSA and published poet, to judge our poetry competition. Below are the winning poems from each of the Key Stage 2 year groups. It was a tricky task and Ms Middleton presented the prizes of poetry books (what else!) in our assembly on Friday. There were also 16 certificates of commendation because we had so many excellent entries. We will put the poems all together into an anthology for all the children to share. Well done to everyone who took up the challenge and entered the competition and thank you to Mr Wiltshire and Ms Middleton.

We hope you have a restful and enjoyable half-term break and we will see you back in school on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June.**

## Signs of Spring

Butterflies fluttering  
Lambs bleating  
Daffodils swaying  
Temperatures rising  
Ducklings hatching



Spring is coming!

Birds singing  
Bluebells flowering  
Rain showering  
Hares hopping  
Frogspawn appearing




Spring is coming!

Snowdrops blooming  
Swallows swooping  
Sun surging  
Bees buzzing  
Blossom exploding



It's Spring!

## A Little seed!

A little seed for me to sow,  
A little seed for me to grow,  
A little hole, A little pot,  
A little wish and that is that.  
A little sun, A little shower.  
A little while,  
And theres a glower! 

## The Cycle

A Seed is carried by a bird  
It drops in the grass  
A shoot arrives in Spring

### THE YOUNG TREE

It rises out of the mud  
Spreads its grand roots out  
Leaves add on

### THE GROWING TREE

Higher and higher as the years go on  
The sparrows and crows nest  
Fruit and berries are picked by dog walkers

### THE REMEMBERED TREE

Its friends have gone  
And are replaced with houses and streets  
A tiny swing is attached on its branches  
Its excruciating pain

### THE LONLEY TREE

Knowing its not long till he will go too  
But will be remembered by the bugs birds and dogs

### THE DYING TREE

The wise 100-year old oak is gone  
Replaced by plastic chairs

### NO TREE

wait!

A Seed is carried by a bird  
It drops in the grass  
A shoot arrives in Spring

### THE TREE



# Natur\*

64

In Wales, where the hills touch the sky,

Nature's antics are never shy.

Amongst the valleys, green and wide,

Daggydils dance with poise and pride.

Their golden heads, a sunny hue,

Swaying in the morning dew.

They whisper secrets to the breeze,

Tickling the grass and the ancient Celtic trees.

Beware the sheep, with a mischievous gleam,

In the Welsh fields, they reign supreme.

They munch on grass with dainty grace,

Their woolly coats a sluggy embrace.

In rugged mountains, stoic and proud,

Where mist shrouds cloak every cloud.

Legends ~~re~~ murmur in ancient stones,

Echoes of tales ~~in~~ hushed tones.

And by the shore, where waves caress,

Sands of time, endlessness.

Seagulls cry in upbeat glight,

As day turns into gentle night.



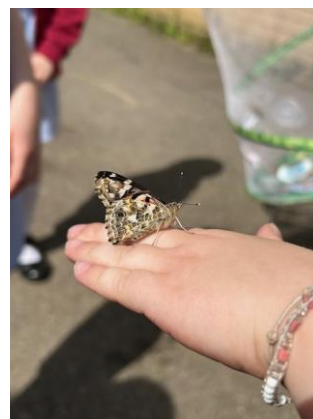
## Certificates of Commendation

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Nathan E Chemmy W Averie H	Daniel E Harriet T Amber H Florence L	Emily T George G Caleb H Amber H	Emila T Isabella F Jayden C Poppy H Claudia M

### Class Flamingo Butterfly Release

On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 38 little tiny caterpillars arrived through the post to our classroom. They each had their own little pot with special food in and a caterpillar, which we individually named! Over a period of 4 weeks we have watched them go through various stages. They got bigger, fatter and hairier over the first couple of weeks and then by day 19 they had built their cocoons and slept until they were ready to spread their wings. When the children returned to school on May 13<sup>th</sup>, some of the caterpillars had turned into butterflies and by Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>, we had 35 gorgeous, painted lady butterflies. We fed them sugary water and put some banana and oranges for them to eat.

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May it was a lovely sunny day so we invited EYFS and KS1 to come to the playground and watch us release them! We said goodbye to them and Mrs McIntosh opened the netting. One by one we saw about 15 butterflies fly off over the school! We clapped and cheered as we watched them soar above our heads. Some were a bit reluctant and stayed in the lore eating their fruit and one even flew to Florence's hand! By the end of the day they had all flown off to pastures new in Danbury.... but we will keep our eyes peeled for them.



## Helping parents to understand the changes to fines for term time holidays

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued for unauthorised holidays recorded by schools **after 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024**.

### Who may be fined?

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving 3 separate fines.

### National Threshold

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period. These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence.

For example: a 5 day holiday would meet the national threshold.

The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

### First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised term time holiday the fine amount will be: £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Increasing to £160 if paid between days 22-28.

### Second Offence (within 3 years)

The Second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be: £160 per parent (who allowed the holiday), per child, payable within 28 days.

### Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice will not be issued and local authorities will need to consider other available measures to address the absence concerns. This may mean that cases are presented before a Magistrate's Court. Prosecution can result in criminal records and fines of up to £2,500.

Cases found guilty in the Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.



# HAPPY'S CIRCUS

Even the kids will love it!



**SATURDAY  
6TH JULY**

**DANBURY  
PARK  
COMMUNITY  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL  
CM3 4AB**

**ENQUIRIES**

**DPSA2020@YAHOO.COM**

**A fun packed comedy show for all the family  
supported by amazing International Circus Artists!**

**GATES OPEN AT 12:30PM**

**SHOW 2-4PM**

**ONLY £13 PP**

**£48 FAMILY TICKET (4 PEOPLE)**

**Refreshments  
and snacks  
plus the  
Grand Raffle!**

**ORDER YOUR  
TICKETS ONLINE**



**If you have a local business and would  
like to advertise in our programme,  
please get in touch!**

[www.pta-events.co.uk/dpsa/?event=event&eventId=77622](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/dpsa/?event=event&eventId=77622)

**Please note: No parking is available on-site.**



**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

**Lunchtimes – Help Needed**

You will have seen from previous newsletters that we have had vacancies for Midday Assistants since September. We have not been able to fill these posts and this is now sadly impacting on the areas of the school that the children can use at lunchtime. Now the weather is improving, they are keen to get onto the school field, play football and to use the Daily Mile track but when we are so short of Midday Assistants to supervise these areas, we have to limit the children to using the playground and the Daily Mile track only when we have enough adults.

The senior leadership team including myself have been carrying out lunchtime duties all year but other staff need their breaks as they are teaching in class and cannot take their lunchtimes flexibly.

If you can, or you know of anyone who might be able to support as a Midday Assistant, please ask them to contact the office for more details and an application form. We want the children to be able to fully utilize our lovely surroundings safely and enjoy lunchtimes with a variety of activities.

Thank you!

## Safeguarding

**Skips Safety Net** Keeping children safe online

### A Parent's Guide to Safety and Privacy Settings



**When you give a child access to the Internet, you give them access to the adult world.**

The Internet treats everyone as adults and there are many things, they are not yet ready to know, which is why it is vital that some form of safety settings are in place. Doing something is better than doing nothing.

**What happens online has an effect to what happens offline and what happens offline has an effect to what happens online.**

**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

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

Developed in partnership with:

- Home Office
- Violence Reduction Unit
- 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.

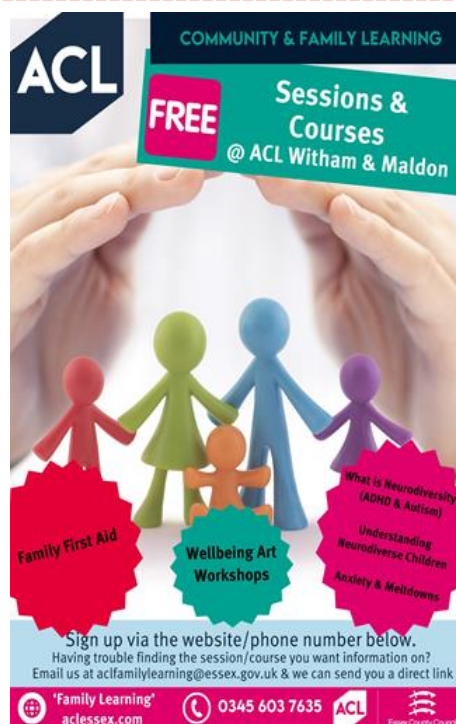
There is also lots of information on the 2 Johns' website:

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

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

**ACL** COMMUNITY & FAMILY LEARNING

**FREE Sessions & Courses @ ACL Witham & Maldon**



**Family First Aid**

**Wellbeing Art Workshops**

**What is Neurodiversity (ADHD & Autism)**

**Understanding Neurodiverse Children**

**Anxiety & Meltdowns**

Sign up via the website/phone number below.  
Having trouble finding the session/course you want information on?  
Email us at [acifamilylearning@essex.gov.uk](mailto:acifamilylearning@essex.gov.uk) & we can send you a direct link

'Family Learning' [aclessex.com](http://aclessex.com) 0345 603 7635 **ACL** Essex County Council

## 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](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.



## Notification and Reminders

**Sun Hats** – as the weather starts to improve, please provide your child with a sun hat to provide protection at break and lunchtimes from the sun.

**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.

**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

**Letters sent out this week:**



## Owl's Barn School Meals

### Week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024

**Week 1**

**Fresh bread and milk available daily**

<b>Monday</b>		<b>Non Pupil Day</b>		
<b>Tuesday</b>	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
<b>Wednesday</b>	Mild Beef Chilli with Nacho's or (V) Vegan Chilli with Nacho's	White/Wholegrain Rice Mixed Vegetables Green Salad	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b> Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Peaches and Ice Cream Pot Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Thursday</b>	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 with Custard Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Friday</b>	Omega 3 Fish Fingers or (V) Omelette	Chips Baked Beans Green Salad	<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 2024

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

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



**Dates for the Diary**  
**Week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024**  
**Year 4 Multiplication Tests**

**Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

**Non- Pupil Day**

**Tues 4<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am-11.45am  
3.30pm

Year 2 Mini-games  
High 5 Netball Match v St Pius School (home)

**Weds 5<sup>th</sup>**

Am  
Pm  
2.55pm

Class and Team Photos - **Remember to bring football shirts into school**  
Year 3 Swimming at Blackwater Leisure Centre 1/6  
Let's Present

**Thurs 6<sup>th</sup>**

7.00pm

Governors' resources meeting with site walk at 6.30pm

**Fri 7<sup>th</sup>**

2.00pm KO

Boys Football League Tournament at Boreham Primary School

**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 Summer Term 2024

Date	Time	Event
<b>May</b>		
<b>June</b>		
3 <sup>rd</sup>		INSET – School closed for staff training
		Year 4 Multiplication Assessments (2 week window)
4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am – 11.45am	Year 2 Mini-games
5 <sup>th</sup>	Am	Class and Team photos
	12.45 – 3.15pm	Year 3 Swimming 1/6
6 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Governors' Resources meeting at school with site walk at 6.30pm
7 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm KO	Mini Football Tournament v Boreham Primary and St Peter's Primary Schools at Boreham
10 <sup>th</sup>		Year 1 Phonics Screening window opens (2 weeks)
	9.15 – 3.15pm	Classes J and H to visit Barleylands Farm
11 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Meeting for parents of September entrants
12 <sup>th</sup>	12.45 – 3.15pm	Year 3 Swimming 2/6
13 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Governors' Personnel Meeting (virtual)
14 <sup>th</sup>	2.45pm	Class B Assembly
	9.15am-3.15pm	Classes G and F to visit Braintree Museum
Week beg 17 <sup>th</sup>		Year 6 School Journey to Stratford upon Avon
		Assessment Week for Years 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
17 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Year 5 to Danbury Outdoors
18 <sup>th</sup>	12.45pm	New entrants in for school lunch and to visit Classes J and H
19 <sup>th</sup>	12.45 – 3.15pm	Year 3 Swimming 3/6
21 <sup>st</sup>	12.00 – 3.30pm	Girls' Football Tournament at Heybridge Swifts
	2.45pm	Class G Assembly
24 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	EYFS Welly Walk
		Year 5 Taster Day at Sandon School
26 <sup>th</sup>	12.45 – 3.15pm	Year 3 Swimming 4/6
		Year 6 Induction Day at Sandon
28 <sup>th</sup>	9.20am	New entrants to visit and class swap to meet the next teacher
	2.30pm	Year 2 Assembly to families
<b>July</b>		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	12.45 – 3.15pm	Year 3 Swimming 5/6
5 <sup>th</sup>	2.45pm	Class H Assembly
6 <sup>th</sup>		DPSA Circus Event on School Field
8 <sup>th</sup>	1.30pm	New entrants to visit and class swap to meet the next teacher
9 <sup>th</sup>	2.45pm	Class J Assembly
10 <sup>th</sup>	12.45 – 3.15pm	Year 3 Swimming 6/6
11 <sup>th</sup>		Pupil end of year reports to go out
	7.00pm	Full governing body meeting

12 <sup>th</sup>		Sports Day Picnic Open afternoon
	Eve	DPSA Year 6 Leavers' Disco
19 <sup>th</sup>	PM	DPS Got Talent
23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.10am 10.00am	Year 6 Leavers' Presentation of gifts in front of families and whole school Year 6 Leavers' Final Assembly to families
		Break up for the Summer Holiday