



Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong!

Newsletter

Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

14th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading Awards

Congratulations to:

Florence L-L – **Diamond**

Rupert S - **Ruby**
Freddie T – **Diamond**

Henry W - **Diamond**

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

Weekly News

Last Friday the boys' football team went to Boreham Primary School for a mini league tournament with Boreham School and St Peter's. We had all experienced such bad luck with the weather and needed to postpone so many matches that we decided to finish the season together. We had a great afternoon of football and all three teams were of a similar high standard so the matches were exciting and closely fought. In the end we beat St Peter's 5-4 but Boreham beat us 3-2. Well done to the team!

On Monday we had a special assembly with Ewen and his colleagues from CS4UK to share with us their endeavours to support environmental issues and care for our planet. They launched a new line of toilet paper which is made from recycled cardboard. They were accompanied by their mascot Sustainable Bear who taught the children a song with actions about the importance of recycling. Members of the School Council helped with the assembly and all the children participated with enthusiasm.



There have been several off-site visits this week with Classes Jay and Hummingbird going to Barleylands, Class Eider to London Zoo and Classes Goldfinch and Flamingo to Braintree Museum. These visits are invaluable for bringing learning alive and allowing the children to experience what they have been learning about in the classroom first hand. Thank you to all those families who continue to support these trips as without this, they would not be able to go ahead. Reports from the children will follow in the newsletters over the coming weeks.

Future Summer Events

Eddie the Penguin – Year 2

The Year 2 children are busy working on their annual musical production which this year is again, by popular demand from the children themselves, *Eddie the Penguin*. We are inviting families of children in Year 2 to join us on Friday 28th June at 2.40pm for a special performance. The rest of the school will have the opportunity to see the play in the morning so that we do not have to restrict the number of family members attending.

Eddie the Penguin is a firm Year 2 favourite and the story fits so well with our work on *Our World, Our Future*.

We hope families will be able to join us.

Sports Day – Friday 12th July

This year Sports Day will take place on Friday 12th July. There is **NO** parent parking available unless you hold and can display a blue badge. We are following the same format as in previous years combining our Sports Day and Open Afternoon. To save busy parents having to take two days off work, we are combining the two events on the same day with the traditional picnic lunch in the middle. The timetable for the day is:

9.10am	Front gates will be opened to visitors
9.15am	KS2 opening ceremony on the playground Sporting events for Key Stage 2 (Classes E, D, C, B & A) NB EYFS and KS1 children stay in their classes
10.30am	KS1 and Early Years opening ceremony on the playground Sporting events for Key Stage 1 and Early Years (Classes J, H, G & F) NB KS2 children stay in their classes except Year 6 helpers
11.30am	Whole school come together for running events on the field
12.00pm	Awarding of cups and trophies followed by picnic lunch on the field
1.20pm	Children return to class to change out of PE kits and for registration
1.45pm	Open afternoon in classes with an opportunity to look at your child's work and then visit their new class for next year
3.25pm	End

If you would like to bring a picnic lunch to share with your child you are welcome. We are offering the opportunity to order a lunch from the school kitchen and a letter will be sent home shortly with details. Please note that you **must pre-book** your picnic lunch using the slip and that no other lunches will be provided by the school kitchen that day. Universal free school meals will be available in the form of the packed lunch for all the infant children and those junior children entitled to a free school meal, but you **must let us know that your child will require a lunch for that Friday in advance**. You must complete the slip, enclose any money and order a picnic lunch even if your child has school dinners every day. Replies must be received by **12 noon on Monday 1st July** as late requests will not be possible. Please note that payments for adults must be cash only for this event and sent into the school office with the order form

In the event of bad weather, we will make a decision as early as possible on the day as to whether events can go ahead and let you know by Parentmail. Regardless, we will still hold the lunch for families and we will picnic in the school building if needs be.

Mathletics Challenge

The Mathletics Challenge is underway and the children have been clocking up the minutes each week to earn a reward for the winning class over the term. Please encourage your child to spend just a little time each day as this really helps consolidate their Maths learning in class.

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

Class Cuckoo

and the pupil was:

Charlie H in Class Cuckoo

Well done and keep up the good work!

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 19th 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

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

Developed in partnership with:

- Home Office
- Violence Reduction Unit
- Police and Crime Commissioner

Skips 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!

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 & we can send you a direct link

'Family Learning' 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

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 17th June 2024

Week 3

Fresh bread and milk available daily

Monday	Homemade Tomato Pasta Bake or (V) Cheddar Whirl	Garlic Bread Sweetcorn Cucumber	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Jam Tart with Custard Fresh Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt
Tuesday	Homemade Minced Bolognaise or (V) Vegan Minced Bolognaise	White /Wholegrain Pasta Carrots, Peas Mixed Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo	Tutti Fruity Flapjack Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Wednesday	Local Butcher's Pork Sausage or (V) Vegan Sausage	Creamy Mash Potato Baked Beans Peas, Green Salad	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Shortbread Biscuit Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Thursday	Cheese and Tomato Pizza or (V) Vegetable Nuggets	Crispy Diced Potato Sweetcorn Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo	Jelly and Fruit Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
Friday	Omega 3 Fish Fingers or (V) Cheese and Tomato Quiche	Chips Peas Cucumber	Key Stage 2 only Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Iced Cup Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

SCHOOL DINNERS

COSTS FOR SUMMER TERM 2024

2nd Half Term: 4th June – 23rd 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 17th June 2024

Year 1 Phonics Screening
Year 4 Multiplication Tests
Year 6 School Journey

Mon 17th

All day

Year 5 to visit Danbury Outdoors

Tues 18th

12.45pm

Stuart Bird visiting Class Budgerigar to talk about local history and issues
New entrants (and parents) for September joining school for lunch

Weds 19th

Pm

2.55pm

Year 3 Swimming at Blackwater Leisure Centre 3/6
Let's Present

Thurs 20th

Fri 21st

Pm

2.45pm

Girls' Football Tournament at Heybridge Swifts
Class Goldfinch Assembly to families and the whole school

Eve

DPSA Quiz Night

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
June		
Week beg 17 th		Year 6 School Journey to Stratford upon Avon
		Assessment Week for Years 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
17 th	All day	Year 5 to Danbury Outdoors
18 th	12.45pm	New entrants in for school lunch and to visit Classes J and H
19 th	12.45 – 3.15pm	Year 3 Swimming 3/6
21 st	12.00 – 3.30pm	Girls' Football Tournament at Heybridge Swifts
	2.45pm	Class G Assembly
24 th	9.15am	EYFS Welly Walk
		Year 5 Taster Day at Sandon School
26 th	12.45 – 3.15pm	Year 3 Swimming 4/6
		Year 6 Induction Day at Sandon
28 th	9.20am	New entrants to visit and class swap to meet the next teacher
	2.30pm	Year 2 Assembly to families
July		
3 rd	12.45 – 3.15pm	Year 3 Swimming 5/6
5 th	2.45pm	Class H Assembly
6 th		DPSA Circus Event on School Field
8 th	1.30pm	New entrants to visit and class swap to meet the next teacher
9 th	2.45pm	Class J Assembly
10 th	12.45 – 3.15pm	Year 3 Swimming 6/6
11 th		Pupil end of year reports to go out
	7.00pm	Full governing body meeting
12 th		Sports Day Picnic Open afternoon
	Eve	DPSA Year 6 Leavers' Disco
19 th	PM	DPS Got Talent
23 rd	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