

Newsletter

ASPIRE – ACHIEVE – VALUE

15 June 2018

What an exciting time has been had by all. Last week was science week, which all the children were involved in! Then this week a couple of classes have had the opportunity to enrich their learning outside of the classroom by going on an educational visit to The Olympic Park.

I know that other classes are planning visits as well, if they have not already been, so keep your eyes peeled for further details!

Science Week

Science week was extremely successful. It was fantastic to see the children; enjoying their practical science activities, working well together in their vertical house groups and taking some of their learning home! We had a range of science activities "Flying letters", "The Rainbow Fish", "Hole in my bucket" and "Gliders". Thank you, Miss Harding (science subject leader) for organising our week!

An enrichment day was organised for science week on Thursday and kindly paid for by FODS with all their amazing fundraising. - thank you very much!



Year 6 Science Trip to Great Chesterford

As part of science week, the year 6s were given the opportunity of working with their counterparts at Great Chesterford. We hope to roll this out with other curriculum weeks, so that other year groups have an opportunity.

Book Fair

The Book Fair will be at school for the week commencing 18 June. Travelling Books will be bringing a great selection of their very best books to inspire and entertain young readers. The fair will be open at the end of each day in the hall and the children will visit during the school day as well. You should have already received a leaflet with further information and a pre-order slip. Please remember that we are a cashless school and therefore only able to accept payment by cheque (made payable to Debden C of E Primary Academy, so please don't forget your cheque book when attending the Fair.

Frogs/Dragonflies trip

Frogs and Dragonflies had a wonderful trip when we attended The Olympic Park to link with our topics. Whilst there we viewed the Velodrome, viewed the London Aquatics Centre, viewed the Olympic rings as well as participated in conservation and biodiversity – including completing a Biodiversity Treasure trail, we discovered wetland habitats and ponds through a supervised pond dipping session and took part in seasonal conservation activities.

'Yesterday, we went to London to explore the Olympic Park. I thought it was amazing. First, we went on a big, blue bus. Inside the bus was a toilet. It took a long time, but I played Top Trumps with George. Next, we were

**Debden Christian
Values:**

*Honesty, Respect and
Kindness*



Headteacher Awards:

**Well done to all these
children!**

Amelia S

Laurel

Peter

Chloe

Hayden

Ellie K

Ben

Amelia W

Shiny Pencil licence

Ollie C

in London - when the bus stopped we got off. We went with our grownups. We walked to someone called Gerald at the Last Drop Café. After that, Dragonflies class went to pond dipping and Frogs class went to the velodrome. Sadly, they didn't have time to go in but at pond dipping we caught loads of creatures. Then we had some lunch. Finally, we walked to the velodrome. We got to go in – we saw them practising, then we went to the coach. When we got back to school it was home time and everybody went home.'

Reported by Ollie – Year 2



Spotlight on Mrs Fradd

I am now coming to the end of my second enjoyable year as Deputy Headteacher at Debden. I currently teach a mixed year 5/6 class and am responsible for leading Maths, RE, Academically More Able and Assessment with Mrs Gurney. I am also a staff governor.

Maths news!

Practical problem-solving has been developing in all areas of the school to complement the teaching of mastery in mathematics. This gives children opportunities to engage in collaborative learning opportunities, develop their reasoning and improve their use of mathematical vocabulary.

In every area of mathematics which is taught, whether it be the four operations, fractions, ratio or shape will include fun, real-life problem-solving activities within the unit to consolidate and stretch your child's learning. Indeed, it has been exciting to see children engage in these outside of the classroom, such as in the hall for Minnows, in creating an enormous pictogram to sort data, or even at other schools, such as the EES Maths Competition for KS2, in which the Kingfishers' team won the regional heat. As the warm weather continues, I hope to see more children partaking in practical maths activities in our beautiful grounds.

Mrs Fradd

FODs Events

Curry and Quiz Night - Thursday July 21st

Sharpen your pencils and join the FODS quiz night at Yuva on Thursday June 21st, from 7:30pm with quiz starting at 8pm. Tickets are £15 and include a delicious meal. Get together with friends or join a table on the night. Tickets are available from the School Office. Cash or cheques payable to Friends of Debden School.

Summer Raffle

We will be holding our Summer Raffle at Sports Day this year alongside a BBQ. We are collecting raffle prizes. If you have, or you know of any businesses that have anything suitable to donate, please can you give it to the School Office or let FODS know.

Cake Sale

Ducklings' cake sale, raised a brilliant £49.50 last Friday. That was the last cake sale of the term.

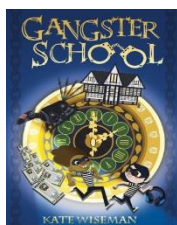
Author visit - KS2 (Juniors)

We are delighted to tell you that local author, **Kate Wiseman**, will be visiting our school on **Tuesday 19th June 2018**.

Kate, who is the author of the **Gangster School** series of children's books, will be reading from her books and talking to the children about being a children's author, as well as answering any questions the children might have. **Gangster School** has been shortlisted for several writing awards, including the Montegrappa Scholastic Prize for New Children's Writing and the Greenhouse Funny Prize.

There will also be an opportunity for the children to pre-order copies of **Gangster School 1** and have them signed by Kate on the day. If you would like your child to receive a copy, please return the order form below and make payment to the school, no later than Friday 15th June.

Meeting an author can be an incredibly motivating and memorable experience for children, and can also help to support their development as readers and writers. We hope that the children will take a lot away from the visit, as well as simply enjoying hearing Kate reading her from her books on the day.



Fire-break

Three of our year 6s were given the opportunity to take part in this fantastic programme; Isaac, Michael and Josh C. I was exceptionally proud to attend the awards ceremony before half term.



Staffing update:

I am very sad to let you know that Miss Harding will be leaving us at the end of this year. As some of you know, she planned to leave us at Christmas, but her circumstances changed. Miss Harding plans to travel and she already has some plans in place! We would love to keep in touch and hear about her many adventures. We wish her the best of luck and future happiness. I am sure you will join me in thanking Miss Harding for her hard work and commitment to the school and children.

I would like to welcome Mrs Sarah Bailey to our team. She is relocating and currently lives and works in Devon. She will teach a class as well as be our SENCo. Mrs Burson, who has been aiding me this year (as I took on

SENCo), will continue with her role to support Mrs Bailey. Mrs Bailey will be visiting us in the next few weeks - further details will follow.

Parentmail

We have had a few issues this last couple of weeks, with parentmails not being delivered. We hope that this has now been resolved. Please check your junk email as a couple of parents found their emails had been delivered there.

Reminder:

Could I please remind you that reply slips for trips must be sent back within the time limit stated as children without slips will be unable to attend the events we have sent them to you for? Thank you.

Catering

Debden is cooking home cooked food from September! I am thrilled to be able to let you know that we will be cooking for ourselves next academic year. Thank you to those parents who attended the catering meeting a couple of weeks ago. If anyone else does have any questions, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs Olivia House has been appointed catering manager. She will visit us in the next few weeks.







Swimming

Swimming started for Years 1 and 3 on Tuesday, 20 February 2018.

Please ensure that your child has their swimming kit in school every Tuesday – this should include a swimming costume, towel and a red swimming hat. Please write your child's first name on their hat in black marker pen. This is so swimming teachers can identify children in the water for their own safety. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please note that the school does not stock swimming hats. These can be purchased from any sports/online shop.

The cost for swimming is £52.50 for one and a half terms. Please make cheques payable to "Debden C of E Primary Academy".

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| Ducklings <i>Romily & Charlie</i>  |  <u>Stars of the Week</u> | Minnows <i>Ellie and all children that have completed their phonics screening</i>  |
| Dragonflies <i>Laurel & Riley</i>  | Frogs <i>Jack & Liam</i>  | Kingfishers <i>Taye & Corey</i>  |

REMINDERS!

Water Bottles

Children are encouraged to drink water at all times. To help prevent the spread of germs, we do not supply drinking cups and, therefore, every child should have a named water bottle in school. Please note we do not allow juice or flavored waters to be brought in to school.

Healthy snacks

We like to encourage all children to bring in a snack for break time. It is a long time between breakfast and lunch, so a snack and a drink of water will make a big difference to children's concentration levels and ability to learn. As a healthy school, our guidelines for the type of snack to bring in must be fruit or vegetable in the form in which it grew (i.e., nothing added, stretchy or made in to a bar!). Key stage 1 children have a snack provided within school and do not need to bring anything else in with them.

Nut free school

We have children within the school who have an allergic reaction to nuts. It is critical, therefore, that children should not bring nuts, or anything which contains nuts, in their snacks or lunch boxes. Thank you for your support.

School Lunch

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible for a FREE school meal each day. If you would like your child to have a school dinner they can just request it when the dinner register is called each morning. If you do not wish your child to have a school meal, then please provide them with a packed lunch in the usual way.

If you have children in Years 3,4,5 or 6 school meals now cost £2.30 per day; £11.50 for one week.

Lunch can be paid for weekly or termly; and must be ordered and paid for each Monday. Please make cheques payable to "Debden C of E Primary Academy".

Universal Free School Meals

Whilst your child is entitled to free school meals in Key Stage 1, we still need to collect data from these parents in order to assess whether or not your child is eligible to the educational funding in school that accompanies this entitlement. If you feel your child may be eligible, having read the criteria, please could you fill in the data collection form which is available from the school office.

You can register your child for Free School Meals if you get any of these benefits:

- Income Support
 - Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
 - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
 - Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
 - The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
 - Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
 - You will not normally be eligible if you receive any amount of Working Tax Credit
- Please provide this information when requested as schools use this money to help support your children within the school environment to achieve their full potential in education.

How to apply

- Go online to www.essex.gov.uk/educationawards

Or

- Apply over the telephone or request an application form by calling **0845 603 2200**

Collecting Children

Please make sure that we are informed if there is any change to the collection arrangements for your child. If anyone other than a parent is picking up your child at the end of the day, please notify the office (and the class teacher if possible)

We will also assume all children registered for the bus will be taking the bus each afternoon unless we hear to the contrary.

For safeguarding reasons, it is very important that we know exactly how children will be travelling home each day.

Absence

If your child is absent from school, you must call the school office by **9am** on the first day and **each day** after that your child is absent.

Application for leave of absence for term time holidays

We discourage parents from taking pupils out of school during term time. Should you need to, requests should be made via a leave of absence form, which is available from the school office. All holiday leave will be unauthorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. All requests for leave will be acknowledged.

Health and Safety Notice regarding the wearing of earrings during PE and swimming

As a reminder, Essex guidelines are that the Primary Code states that all jewellery is to be removed for PE lessons and taping over earrings is not allowed. This means that if pupils cannot take their earrings out they will have to sit out of PE until a time that the jewellery can be removed. Schools must comply with this guidance. This also applies to after school clubs and sporting events. Please also remember that all hair should be tied up on PE days.

Best wishes.

Louise Gurney
Head Teacher

Important Dates for your diary

Please note - these may be subject to change if unavoidable circumstances come up.

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| 21 June | 7.30pm | FODs Quiz Yuva |
| 22 June | 9am | Ducklings Class Worship - parents welcome. |
| 4 July | | Sports Day/Summer Raffle and BBQ Picnic lunch at 12.00; afternoon races start at 1pm. |
| 6 July | 2-3pm | Open afternoon |
| 10 July | | Dress rehearsal - KS2 performance |
| 11 July | 1pm | KS2 performance |
| 12 July | 6pm | KS2 performance |
| 20 July | 9.30am | End of term service - parents welcome. |
| 20 July | 2pm | Balloon release and awards - parents welcome. |
| 20 July | | BREAK UP |

Debden Church Calendar of Services and Events

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|---------|---------|-----------------------|--------------|
| June 22 | 9.00 am | Morning Prayer (said) | John Saxon |
| June 24 | 9.30 am | Matins | Home team |
| June 29 | 9.00 am | Morning Prayer (said) | John Saxon |
| July 1 | 9.30 am | Holy Communion | Chris Bishop |
| July 6 | 9.30 am | Morning Prayer (said) | John Saxon |
| July 8 | 9.30 am | Family Service | John Saxon |
| July 13 | 9.30 am | Morning Prayer (said) | John Saxon |

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| July 15 | 9.30 am | Holy Communion | Jeremy Collingwood |
| July 20 | 9.30 am | Morning Prayer (said) | John Saxon |

Events

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| June 25 | 10.00 am | Church mice |
| July 7 | 12.30 pm | Rectory Garden Summer Concert (12.30 – 4.00 pm) |
| July 15 | 10.00 am | Church mice |