

## **DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER**

## Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2021

## Dear Parents,

It has been a fantastic first couple of weeks back since Easter, and we have been really happy with the children's enthusiasm for learning. There has been a really nice feeling of positivity across the school, and it feels like we really are back up and running again now! It has of course helped that the weather has picked up over the past week or so, which has brought many opportunities for engaging outdoor learning opportunities and fun in our open spaces at break and lunchtimes.

Our interventions schedule is now in full flow, which is enabling us to help any children for whom gaps in their learning have emerged across this unusual school year. I wanted to go on record as thanking Mrs Bailey (who has coordinated the interventions) and our fantastic LSAs, who have expertly put these plans into motion. In general, our assessments have demonstrated that the majority of children have not fallen too far behind where we would normally expect them to be at this point in the academic year, and this is testament to all of the hard work of both parents and teachers in helping the children through our remote learning provision last term. Well done to all!

It has been an extremely exciting time for our Ducklings class recently, as they are collectively caring for a batch of chicken eggs! This has tied into their learning about spring, and is a lovely way to introduce them to concepts such as nurture and growth. We are all hopeful that the eggs will hatch over the next couple of weeks or so — watch this space! Miss Matthews has also been coordinating the construction of a new stage\_in our Ducklings outdoor area. The base has already been built, and we are looking forward to completing the project over the next month or so. We are excited to see it being used as the set for fledgling dramatic displays for many years to come!

I'd like to take the opportunity to draw your attention to the 'Debden Inspires' event that is taking place in our village on the bank holiday weekend of May 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup>. This event is being led by some of the members of our FODs, who have been working tirelessly to get the event up and running. Debden Inspires is an opportunity to take an inspiring walk around Debden, following a trail map which leads to displays of people who are an inspiration to us. The school is putting forward some of the children's displays for the event, and there are also displays from Debden parents and villagers, which will be placed all across our lovely picturesque village. There will be a refreshments tent based outside the school, where trail maps and activity sheets can be purchased for £5.00 per household, between 10am and 3pm.

A reminder to all parents that we are currently seeking a new parent governor to join our local governing body. You would be joining a warm and close-knit bunch of governors, who are highly committed to ensuring that our school continues to thrive and develop. If you would like more information about this, please approach either Mrs Sarah Belchambers (one of our other parent governors) or myself at the school gates. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs Lin Stephenson, the Chair of Governors, at <a href="mailto:lstephenson@debden.essex.sch.uk">lstephenson@debden.essex.sch.uk</a>.

Finally, we have had some queries come through about the procedures for <u>PE</u> days since Easter. These have not changed, and as before, children should continue to come to school wearing their PE kits on the days that their class have PE. A reminder that the PE days for each of our classes are still as follows:

**Ducklings:** Tuesday

Minnows: Monday and Thursday

Frogs: Tuesday and Friday

Kingfishers: Monday and Thursday

It has lovely to see the children enjoying PE sessions in the sun over the last week, and hopefully the

lovely weather persists!

Wishing you and your family a pleasant weekend.

Kind Regards

Mr Hawley



