



DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 10th May 2024

Dear Parents,

I hope that you are all well. It feels as though spring is finally here, and it has been lovely to see the children able to use and explore all of our beautiful outdoor areas once again! Please see below for some key notices, reports of recent events, and information about what is coming up later this term.

Wellbeing Week

The children enjoyed a fantastic wellbeing week again this year! We had visitors from the both the Carver Barracks soldiers - running our 'Be Active' obstacle course and the professionals at CORAM SCARF - who ran wellbeing workshops in their pop-up tent for the children. They also had an opportunity to connect with new people, get creative with some environmental art pieces and learn a new skill that they haven't experienced before. Many thanks to all of the staff and volunteers who helped to make this week so special. It is hugely important to us that the children are aware of strategies to improve their mental and physical wellbeing - A reminder here of the research that backs up our approach:

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/self-help/guides-tools-and-activities/five-steps-to-mental-wellbeing/>

FODs Thanks

A big thank you to the FODs, who have funded the new goals down on the astroturf pitch. Special thanks to Mrs Samson for putting them together for us. As the weather has now improved, there are lots of football matches taking place at break and lunchtimes, and it is so nice that this area can be used properly again. Thank you to everyone who supports our school community by raising money for equipment such as this.

Smoking

We've had a few complaints over the last few days about parents smoking at the entrance to the school site at pick up and drop off time. Whilst we are aware that this is not taking place in the school grounds, we do please ask that everyone is mindful of others in the community, and that those who wish to smoke please do so away from the school entrance whilst the children are arriving and leaving.

SATS Assessments

SATs will be taking place for KS2 children next week. The children have been working hard and have made great progress - we are confident that they are all going to do brilliantly! Below is the schedule:

Date and Time	Assessment
Monday 13 th May 2024 – 9am	English spelling, punctuation and grammar (papers 1 and 2)
Tuesday 14 th May 2024 – 9am	English Reading
Wednesday 15 th May 2024 – 9am	Maths Papers 1 and 2 (break in between)
Thursday 16 th May 2024 – 9am	Maths Paper 3

The KS1 assessments will follow later in May. The KS1 assessments are now non-statutory and so the timetable for the assessments is less rigid, and we will inform you of when these assessments are taking place for your child in due course. We opt for the children to still informally sit the KS1 assessments, as they provide a solid marker for how children are progressing against national expectations.

Assessments can affect all children differently, and we try where we can to alleviate the pressure that some children may feel – all that they can do is their best! To help support the children in feeling comfortable about their SATs assessments from home, here is a link to some sound advice:

<https://www.teachertoolkit.co.uk/2018/04/24/parents-sats/>

Some Key Dates for Your Diary

- w/b Monday 13th May – KS2 SATs Week
- Friday 17th May – Year 6 to YUVA
- Wednesday 22nd May – Year 5/6 Cricket tournament (teams)
- Thursday 23rd May – Year 3/4 Cricket tournament (team)
- Friday 24th May – Scooter Training Ducklings and Minnows
- Friday 24th May – Final Day of Summer Half Term 1
- Monday 3rd June – Teacher Inset Day
- Tuesday 4th June – First Day of Summer Half Term 2
- w/b Tuesday 4th June – Science Week
- Thursday 13th June – Kingfishers Crucial Crew
- w/b Monday 17th June – Sports Week (likely Sports Day will be on the Thursday)
- Wednesday 19th June – Reception and Minnows Athletics tournament (JFAN)
- Friday 21st June - Class Photos
- Friday 21st June – DebFest (provisional)
- Wednesday 26th June – KS2 Athletics – Carver Barracks
- Friday 28th June – Move Up Day
- Monday 1st July – Ely Cathedral Trip – Newts and Kingfishers
- Tuesday 2nd July – Bag2School Collection
- Thursday 4th July – Saffron Music Concert – Dragonflies, Frogs and Newts
- Friday 5th July – Neasden Temple Trip – Dragonflies and Frogs
- Thursday 11th July – KS2 Production - Time TBC but will be during the school afternoon
- Friday 12th July – KS2 Production – 6pm
- Sunday 14th to Wednesday 17th July – Kingfishers Residential
- Friday 19th July – Leavers Assembly and last day of Summer Half Term 2

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend in the sun!

Kind Regards

Mr Hawley