Newsletter

ASPIRE – ACHIEVE - VALUE

25 May 2018

I have thoroughly enjoyed this week. I have been lucky enough to pop into classes and see the fantastic learning that has been happening. I have also had the pleasure of teaching in Kingfishers. I hope this glorious weather continues for our half-term. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

Celebration of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex' Wedding

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended and supplied cakes! We had a fantastic time playing party games, enjoying a cuppa and a cake. Thank you FODs who supplied teas and coffees and helped organise the cakes too.

Kwik Cricket Tournament

On Wednesday 23 May, some KS2 children went to a Kwik cricket tournament at Saffron Walden Cricket Club. Both teams had two games against Clavering and Newport. Sadly, they lost all their games but the boys lost the game against Clavering by only three runs. We had a great day.

Reported Felix

Bikeability

On the 21 and 22 May, some children took part in a Bikeability course. On the first day we learnt how to do the ABC check and the M check, we also learnt how to put our bikes onto the road and what side to stand. On the second day, we went out into the village and learnt about arm signals; also how to do right-angled corners and T-junctions. Everyone achieved their level 2 award.

Reported by Luke

Movie Night

What a treat is was to watch "Paddington 2". Thank you FODS for organising such great events for us.

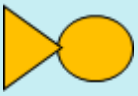
FODs Events

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.

Debden Christian Values:

Honesty, Respect and Kindness



Headteacher Awards:

Sophia

Emma

Logan B

Cameron

Aurora

Well done to all these children!

Pen licenses 

Esme

Luca

Well done to both of you!

Ducklings Cake Sale

The next class cake stall will be at 3pm on Friday, 8 June when it will be Ducklings' turn to provide the cakes.

Minnows Class assembly

Thank you Minnows who led our last class assembly. It was amazing to find out how much learning you had been doing as well as seeing some fantastic art work!

Fire-break

"The Firebreak programme aims to promote a culture of safety and team work and citizenship by teaching a range of vital life skills whilst undertaking the various disciplines of the Fire Service. The course provides a learning environment that combines practical skills and scenario based training, with classroom centered theory/discussion workshops".

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 today at 1pm.

Staffing update.

As many of you know, today is Mr Shelton's last day with us. We would like to wish him luck in his future endeavours and thank him for his work.

I am looking forward to after half-term, when I will be teaching Frogs class Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. (Mrs Hood will be teaching Monday and Tuesday)

Mrs Magness also left last week after 22 years service to the school. Mrs Magness had a lovely last day, as she enjoyed the tea party and Dragonflies forest school! We would like to thank her for her hard work and commitment to the children at Debden - both in class and leading the hockey. She will be missed.

Reminder:

Could I please remind you that reply slips for trips must be sent back promptly as children without slips will be unable to attend. 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 ourselves next academic year. Thank you to those parents who attended the catering meeting last week. If anyone else does have any questions, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

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".

Music lessons

If your child is interested in learning an instrument, please let the office know. Lessons are full for drums, saxophone, flute and clarinet but we do run a waiting list. Guitar lessons are full during school time, however, there is one slot available for a lesson after school.

Ducklings *Emma & Aurora* 	**Stars of the Week**	**Minnows** *Luke* 
Dragonflies *Jude & Charlie A* 	**Frogs** *Rufus & Alice* 	**Kingfishers** *Josh C & Emile* 

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

Psst: Don't forget; we return on MONDAY 4 June

Important Dates for your diary

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

28 May–1 June		**HALF TERM**
4 June		Return to school
6 June	9am	Open morning for prospective parents.
8 June	3pm	Ducklings Cake sale
11 June		Phonics screening week - Year 1
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

May 27	9.30 am	Trinity Sunday Choral Matins	Home team
June 1	9.30 am	Morning Prayer (said)	John Saxon
June 3	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Jeremy Collingwood
June 10	9.30 am	Family Service	Home team
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

Events

June 25	10.00 am	Church mice