

# Newsletter

ASPIRE – ACHIEVE – VALUE

27 April 2018

What a difference a week makes! What lovely sunshine we had to come back to and what misty murky days we have had this week! I love it when I get to spend time in classes and this week I have had the joy of teaching in Frogs as well as Minnows class. I was very impressed by the great learning behaviour I have seen in both classes. Well done!

## Chess/Chequers board

A huge thank you to Mrs Samson and Mrs Grandfield for coming over to school over the Easter holiday to paint the chess/chequers board on. Many happy hours - so far - have been spent by the children playing chequers (we do not have big chess pieces yet!)



## Three Ts cricket

We went to Newport School and we played three ts cricket. It was very fun. First, Mrs Dunlop showed us how to play; you have one person who bats 3 balls and the fielders chase the balls. We won two games. When it was finished, we went on the coach and went back to school and it was home time.

Reported by Phoebe, assisted by Honor

## Before-school care.

The new breakfast club opened on 19 March. Each morning it runs from 7.30-8.30am and each session costs £5.25.

They will be adding in some new exciting activities. If you are interested in booking or require any other information then please email: [neilosullivan@sports@gmail.com](mailto:neilosullivan@sports@gmail.com) with your child/children's details and days you'd like to book.

We are in discussion about after school care - please watch this space!

**Debden Christian  
Values:**

*Honesty, Respect and  
Kindness*



**Rose**

**For showing kindness  
by giving up her place  
in the line to be a  
good friend to  
someone who was  
upset.**

**Elias**

**For showing respect  
& kindness by  
spotting a swimming  
bag to make sure it  
wasn't left behind.**

**Bobbie**

**For showing kindness  
to another child by  
helping them with  
their maths work.**

**Pen licenses**



**Emile & Ollie  
(Kingfishers)**

## **Facebook**

Our Facebook page is up and running! Please search for “Debden Primary Academy” and like our page for updates and news!

## **Website**

Even if you have checked out our new website ([www.debdenprimary.co.uk](http://www.debdenprimary.co.uk)) please take another look as it has been updated with lots of exciting news and events.

## **Celebration of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle’s Wedding**

We would like to join in with the celebration of the happy couple! So on Friday 18 May we are going to dedicate a day to cross curricular learning based on British Values/The Royal Wedding ending with a picnic with cakes (outside, depending on weather) which parents are invited to from 2pm. Children can wear their own red, white or blue clothes. We would really appreciate donations of cakes for your class - so please get baking (or buying!!)

## **Update on all-weather surface**

Due to the exceptionally wet weather and snow we had last term, this has been postponed to the summer. I am delighted that the children will have an extension of their playground in the autumn term, once the weather turns again.

## **Garden**



Mrs Dixon has been very busy planning to spend the money that was raised from the Tesco blue token scheme. We already have 5 fruit trees that have started our garden off! We are looking to get some raised beds that we will plant flowers as well as vegetables in!

## **Mr Shelton**

Mr Shelton will be leaving us at May half-term. I am sure you will join me in wishing him well in his future endeavours.

## **Minnows Cake Sale**

The next class cake stall will be at 3pm on Friday, 11 May when it will be Minnows’ turn to provide the cakes.

## **Car Seats**

You may have noticed in the news that there are new regulations regarding car seats and booster cushions. Due to this new legislation, we will require you to provide an appropriate seat for your child if they are transported in a staff car for any reason eg sporting tournament. Thank you for your support.

## **Headteacher Awards:**



Ellie & George



Ollie & Tristan



Demi

## 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.

<p><b>Ducklings</b></p> <p><i>Jamie &amp; Eleanor</i></p> 	 <p><b><u>Stars of the Week</u></b></p>	<p><b>Minnows</b></p> <p><i>Joseph, Cameron &amp; Ava</i></p> 
<p><b>Dragonflies</b></p> <p><i>Piers &amp; Rose</i></p> 	<p><b>Frogs</b></p> <p><i>Sophia &amp; Thomas</i></p> 	<p><b>Kingfishers</b></p> <p><i>Duncan &amp; Faye</i></p> 

## **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](http://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.*

27 April	3pm	Dragonflies Cake sale
4 May	9 am	Minnows Class Worship – Parents welcome
<b>7 May</b>		<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>
11 May	1.30pm	STEM afternoon - Ducklings. Parents welcome.
11 May	3pm	Minnows Cake sale
May		KS1 Test period
18 May	9am	Minnows class assembly (parents welcome)
14-18 May		SATs week - Year 6
<b>28 May–1 June</b>		<b>HALF TERM</b>
8 June	3pm	Ducklings Cake sale
11 June		Phonics screening week - Year 1
22 June	9am	Ducklings Class Worship - parents welcome.
29 June		Summer Fayre
4 July		Sports Day 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.
<b>20 July</b>		<b>BREAK UP</b>

### **Debden Church Calendar of Services and Events**

April 29	9.30am	Holy Communion	Jeremy Collingwood
May 4	9.00 am	Morning Prayer	John Saxon
May 6	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Chris Bishop
May 10	8.00 am	Ascension Day	At Wimbish
May 11	9.00 am	Morning Prayer	John Saxon
May 13	9.30 am	Family Service	John Saxon

**Events**

April 29

4 pm

Team Service at Wimbish

May 6

2.30 – 4.40 pm

Plant & Book Sale