

# Newsletter

ASPIRE – ACHIEVE – VALUE

28 March 2018

**As we come to the end of another busy term, I would like to say thank you to all the staff for their continued commitment, to parents for their support and lastly, but most importantly, the children for their hard work and enthusiasm! I hope you have a lovely rest and break. I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 16 April.**

## Church Service

What a fantastic way to end our Spring term with such a lovely church service. A particularly big thank you to Kingfishers class for their wonderful acting. Thank you also to all the parents who joined us despite the inclement weather.

## FODS Easter Egg Competition

Well done to the following children who won the FODS Easter Egg competition. Thank you for organising such egg-cellent fun activities!

Kingfishers	Maddy Watson and Emile Capel Dunn
Frogs	Jack Johnson and Alice Mandl
Dragonflies	Honor Capel Dunn and Casey Mulvaney
Minnows	Ellie Kingsbury and Evan Grandfield
Ducklings	Kiera Palmer and Oliver Belchambers



## Sports relief week

A huge thank you to Mrs Murrell and Mrs Dixon who organised such an exciting week for us! We raised over £500 which is amazing! - thank you for all your support. A special thank you should go to the army who provided an obstacle course for the children to enjoy.

## FODS Disco

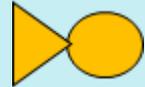
A huge thank you to members of FODS who work tirelessly to create exciting and fun extracurricular opportunities for our children! This half-term, they organised a disco where your children practiced their moves!

## KS1 Dance Festival

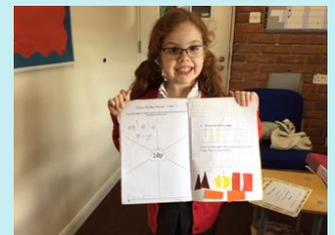
I was extremely proud of the KS1 children who went to the dance festival at Rickling school last week which was attended by a range of our local schools. Well done to Mrs Hood and Miss Harding for organising this.

**Debden Christian  
Values:**

*Honesty, Respect and  
Kindness*



**Curtis  
For showing kindness  
by setting up a game  
for Ducklings at  
lunchtime.**



**Bea**



**Luke & Amelia**

## **Minnows STEM afternoon**

Mrs Hood took the mantle of organising the STEM afternoon for Minnows class. It was great to see such fantastic learning; perseverance, determination, resilience and group work in action!



## **Hockey Tournament & Success**

### **A report from Mrs Magness**

As reported in a previous newsletter, Debden Hockey were runners up in the USSP local schools hockey tournament and went through to the next level tournament. I can now report that the 'Essex Games Level 3 Tournament' has taken place and Debden Hockey once again played magnificently and were runners up!

This is a massive achievement for Debden Hockey. The tournament drew on school's from much further afield, larger & private too. Myself and Mrs Cox cannot express enough how proud we are of the children....they were a credit to the school on and off the pitch. Thank you Debden Hockey.

Our thanks go to Mrs Magness and Mrs Cox who turn out tirelessly in all weathers to coach the children and to accompany them to all the matches and tournaments, their hard work has certainly paid off!



## **New Website Address**

We have a shiny new website. The address is [www.debdenprimary.co.uk](http://www.debdenprimary.co.uk). Please take a look.

## **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!

### **Dragonflies Cake Sale**

The next class cake stall will be at 3pm on Friday, 27 April when it will be Frogs turn to provide the cakes.

### **New Menu**

Please find below the link to the new school meals menu which will commence after the Easter Break.  
<https://www.cambridgeshireccs.co.uk/m/5aafc842cb959/file/CCS%20Summer%20Menu%20Production%20Choice.pdf>

### **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><b>Ted Belchambers</b></p>	 <p><b><u>Stars of the Week</u></b></p>	<p><b>Minnows</b></p>  <p><b>Luke McGuire</b></p>
<p><b>Dragonflies</b></p>  <p><b>Lacey Bayliss</b></p>	<p><b>Frogs</b></p>  <p><b>Lawrence Owen</b></p>	<p><b>Kingfishers</b></p>  <p><b>Aiden McNaughton</b></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**

Ps - don't forget we return on Monday 16 April. (Tomorrow, Thursday 29 March is an INSET day)

### **Important Dates for your diary**

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

28 March	9.30	Church Service – parents welcome
<b>29 March</b>		<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>30 March–13 April</b>		<b>Easter Holiday</b>
23 April		Clubs start
27 April	3pm	Dragonflies Cake sale
<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

March 30	9.00am	Morning Prayer (said)	John Saxon
March 30	10.00am	<b>Good Friday</b>	Walk of Witness
April 1	9.30am	<b>Easter Day</b>	Jeremy Collingwood
		Holy Communion	
April 6	9.00am	Morning Prayer (said)	John Saxon
April 8	9.30am	Family Service	John Saxon
April 13	9.00am	Morning Prayer (said)	John Saxon
April 15	9.30am	Holy Communion	Jeremy Collingwood
April 20	9.00am	Morning Prayer (said)	John Saxon
April 22	9.30am	Choral Matins	Home Team
April 27	9.00am	Morning Prayer (said)	John Saxon
April 29	9.30am	Holy Communion	Jeremy Collingwood

### Events

April 22	18.00pm	Church Annual Meeting
April 29	16.00pm	Team Service at Wimbish