

Debden C of E Primary Academy

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the first Headteacher's newsletter of the academic year. This bi-weekly communication is intended to provide a summary of the important notices and information relating to events at our wonderful school. Once again, we are back a little bigger (and better) than before! I'd firstly like to extend a big well done to all the children for their attitude and enthusiasm upon their return to school. The teaching team have been really impressed with how they have settled into life in their new classes - particularly the children who are new to our school community.

1.Achievement Assembly - We are hosting our first achievement assembly of the year at 2.40pm on Friday, for children in Years 1-6 (please note that Reception children will attend from next week onwards). As it is our first indoor event involving parents since the restrictions were lifted, we are putting in place the following safety precautions, to help keep everyone as safe as possible.

-For now, we ask that only one parent per family attends the assembly, until we have a clearer indication of roughly how many parents to expect each week;

-Unlike in prior years, the children will come into the hall before the parents - just after 2.30pm.

The side gate for the parents will open at 2.35pm. Please walk across the playground straight to the hall;

-There will be hand sanitiser at the door. It is still preferable that you wear a mask.

-The external doors to the hall from the playground will remain open throughout, for ventilation.

2.FODs Cake Sale - Also taking place this Friday, the FODs will be holding their first cake sale of the year. Further details regarding this were sent on Monday, but a reminder that cakes will cost 50p to purchase after the achievement assembly (children who travel home on the bus will be given an opportunity to buy a cake before they leave.) You can also donate cakes (bought or homemade) by sending your child into school with them in a named container.

3.Car Park - As a result of our recent growth, we now have more parents using the car park across the road. A few parents have been in touch to mention that, at times, cars have been positioned in a way that they occupy 2 or 3 potential spaces, meaning that others cannot park. A polite request to please park considerately!

4.Photos - Mrs Platt will be in school next Wednesday (15th September) to take individual, and sibling group photos. If you would like her to photograph your children with any younger siblings, please arrive at the school hall at 8.30am that morning.

5.House Benches - You may have noticed our nice new coloured benches in the playground. These do come at quite a cost, but we were exceptionally fortunate to have received a kind donation for them from Mrs Rust and her family. Mrs Rust's family are local to the village, and all attended the school in years gone by. After their mother died last year, they wanted to donate something lasting to the school, in return for all the happy memories it had given her and the family. These house benches, overlooking the lovely countryside, will be used by children for years to come. We are hugely grateful for this extremely kind gesture.

6.Volunteers - if you would like to volunteer to come into school and run the library during a lunchtime, please contact the school office.

Thanking you all for your ongoing support of our school. It is really appreciated.

Kind Regards

Mr Hawley

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