



# Debden CE Primary Academy

21/09/2018

We have come to the end of our second full week at Debden Primary Academy, and what a couple of weeks they have been! From moon rocks to animal encounters, Greek myths to learning all about me! What a fantastic start we have all had to the term! Read on to find out more...

Class News!

## Minnow Animal Encounter

Minnows had a visit from Ventura Wildlife this week in order to enhance our topic of 'Why can't a Meerkat live in the North Pole?'. We were fortunate enough to be able to meet seven different animals. These were a Lesser Tenrec from Madagascar, a Blue Tongued Skink from Indonesia, a Skunk from North America, a Tortoise from Europe, a hissing cockroach from Madagascar, a Rosie Boa from the Joshua Tree National Park in America and a Meerkat from Africa. We got to stroke and handle some of these.

Here is what some of Minnows had to say about the visit;

"On Tuesday we were visited by Ventura Wildlife Rangers. My favourite part was holding the giant hissing cockroach. My favourite animal was the Blue Tongued Skink. I found out that a Meerkat has special fur to keep it cold in the day and hot at night." **George**

"My favourite part was when I was shown the snake. The snake was called Rosie. My best animal was the Meerkat." **Keira**



## **Kingfisher Class News**

### **Meteorites land at Debden School**

Pupils from Kingfisher's Class got their hands on rare samples of moon rocks and meteorites last week during a series of science lessons which were truly out of this world.

Students were encouraged to reach for the stars and learn more about the Universe around us during a week-long interactive experience of astronomy.

Youngsters were given the unique opportunity to actually touch a piece of space rock not of this Earth as they were allowed to handle some genuine meteorites.

The lunar samples were collected in the late 1960s and early 1970s during some of NASA's first manned space missions to the Moon. During these missions, a staggering 382kg of material was brought back to Earth – mostly for use by scientists, but small quantities are used to develop educational packs.

These rare samples were provided free of charge by the UK's Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC), which provides educational packs in a bid to inspire young people to get involved in science and complement classroom studies.



## **SDP**

Thank you to all the parents who gave us their feedback in relation to what we do well and what we need to improve in the short and medium term. I hope you will have noticed that we are already listening to your feedback - e.g. I have organised for the girls to practice football in preparation for their tournament. I will look in more detail at your feedback and write to you to explain what our responses will be over the next few days.

### **Breakfast Club**

Running out of time in the morning? Feel like you're chasing your tail? No time for a cuppa? Please sign up for our amazing breakfast club!

(Neil O'Sullivan has let me know that due to lack of interest, this club may have to be shut down - so if you want this great service to continue - please utilise this service!)

### **After-school club news**

Neil, who runs our breakfast club, is looking into a joint venture with Wimbish School. They are completing their surveys in the next few days. Neil will continue to keep us informed.

### **Music Lessons**

Music lessons have resumed this term with Alan, James and Stuart. If your child is interested in music lessons, please contact the school office. Instruments available for tuition are guitar, drums, piano, flute, clarinet and saxophone.

### **Message from Mrs Fradd**

Are any on our children related to anyone commemorated on the memorial at the village hall? If so, please let the school office know.

### **Cake Sales**

FODS wonderful cake sales are returning. The first class to provide cakes will be Kingfishers on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September. Please leave your donations in the corridor. Cakes will cost 50p each. If your child travels home on the bus and you would like them to buy a cake, please send them in with their money in a named envelope.

### **Vacancy**

KITCHEN ASSISTANT

Required for immediate start

Monday-Friday: 2 hours per day plus 1 hour per week H&S testing (11 hours per week)

Band 1, Scale Point 7-10 (£16,495 - £16,863 pro rata)



Each half term, a child will be chosen from each class to be awarded one of our special Debden Stars for being an exceptional Debden role model, going over and above with regard to their work and learning or showing exemplary behaviour.



# STARS of the WEEK

## Ducklings



*All of Duckling Class  
&  
Lacey*

## Minnows



*Robin  
&  
Libby*

## Frogs



*Demi  
&  
James*

## Kingfishers



*Lawrence  
&  
Edward*

Thank you parents for attending our celebration assembly at 2.40pm on Friday afternoons. If you have not been already - I hope to see you there soon!

Our house captains have also been voted in; they will be leading some of the enrichment days/weeks as well as being responsible for their house table at lunchtime.

School councillors have been voted in. School council is run by Mrs Dixon; they meet fortnightly and have been very active in the past! Keep your eyes out for school council news.

### **Uniform:**

Thank you very much to you all for making sure your child is in the correct school uniform. I am so proud to see how smart we all look - including in PE!

Kind regards  
Louise Gurney  
Head teacher

### **Dates for your Diary - please note, these may be subject to change if unavoidable circumstances happen.**

Wednesday 10 October - E-safety day - more details to follow.

Friday 19 October – INSET

Monday 22 October - Friday 26 October – Half Term

Thursday 1 November - 9am - 10.15am Open morning for prospective parents of any age - please let your friends know!

Wednesday 7 November - Parent evening - 3.15 - 5.35pm

Thursday 8 November Parent evening 5pm - 7pm

Friday 16 November - Kingfisher STEM from 1.15pm

Friday 23 November - Kingfisher class assembly 2.30pm

Friday 30 November - Flu immunisations

Friday 7 December - Christmas enrichment art day  
Monday 10 December - Maths workshops for parents - 9.00 - 10.30am  
Tuesday 11 December - 9.30am KS1 Dress Rehearsal  
Wednesday 12 December - 2pm KS1 Performance  
Thursday 13 December - 2pm KS1 Performance  
Friday 14 December - Autumn summary reports out  
Wednesday 19 December 9.30 - Christmas Service  
Thursday 20 - 2 January Christmas Holiday

Thursday 3 January - INSET  
Friday 4 January - Children back  
Friday 25 January - Minnows STEM afternoon from 1.15pm - then celebration assembly  
Monday 28 January - GPS workshops for parents - details to follow.  
Friday 1 February - Frogs class assembly - parents invited - 2.30pm .  
Monday 18 - Friday 22 February - Half Term  
Friday 15 March - Full Spring reports out.  
Wednesday 27 March - Parent evening 3.15 - 5.35  
Thursday 28 march - Parent evening 5-7.  
Monday 8 April - 22 April - Easter Holiday

Tuesday 23 April - INSET  
May 2019 - KS1 "Test" period  
W/C 15 May - KS2 Test week  
Thursday 23 May - reading/phonic workshop for parents 9.00 - 10.15 - details to follow.  
Friday 24 May - Frogs STEM - then celebration assembly.  
Monday 27 May - Friday 31 May - Half-term.  
W/C Monday 3 June - science week  
W/C Monday 10 June - Year 1 Phonics screen week.  
Friday 14 June - Ducklings STEM - then celebration assembly.  
Friday 5 July - Ducklings class assembly - parents invited - 2.40pm.  
Friday 5 July - Summer summary reports out  
Tuesday 9 July - Sports Day - picnic lunch from 12pm and races at 1pm.  
Tuesday 16 July - 9.30 - Dress Rehearsal  
Wednesday 17 July - 2pm - KS2 performance  
Thursday 18 July - 6pm - performance.  
Wednesday 24 July - 9.30 - Leavers service & 2pm - Balloon release

### **Debden Church dates**

|                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| September 23 9.30am          | Choral Matins John Saxon         |
| September 28 9.00am          | Morning Prayer (said) John Saxon |
| <b>Events:</b>               |                                  |
| September 18 20.00pm         | Team Council (New Room)          |
| September 24 10.00am         | Church Mice                      |
| <b>Dates for Your Diary:</b> |                                  |
| October 13 6.00pm            | Harvest Supper                   |
| October 14 9.30am            | Harvest Festival                 |
| November 11 10.50am          | Remembrance Service              |
| December 1 12.00am           | Christmas Fair                   |
| December 9                   | Christingle                      |
| December 16 6.30pm           | Carol Service                    |
| December 24 5.00pm           | Nativity Service                 |
| December 24 11.00pm          | Midnight Mass Wimbish            |
| December 25 9.30am           | Christmas Service                |

