

DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 4 October 2019

Dear Parents,

It has been another action-packed couple of weeks here at Debden Primary Academy, with some fantastic learning taking place across the school.

Our collective worship theme over the past two weeks has been 'Creativity.' We have been encouraging children to think outside the box, take risks in their learning, and appreciate creative ideas in art, music, literature and in the bible.

In light of this, on Thursday 3rd October, we celebrated World Poetry Day. After learning about different types of poems in their classes throughout the day, each class performed poems that they had learnt to the rest of the school. The Kingfishers class learnt about Japanese 'Haiku' poems, before applying some really creative vocabulary choices to their own imaginative Haikus. The Frogs class learnt a poem about telling the truth, before reciting it as a class in assembly through expressive actions. The Minnows Class created and performed their own class poem, whilst the Ducklings showed amazing courage in performing their 'Hedgehog' poem to the whole school. Well done to all of the children - we were all so impressed by their inventiveness and ingenuity throughout the day!

Our Kingfishers Class took part in an Anglo-Saxon Day this past Monday and were fortunate enough to receive an Anglo-Saxon visitor in the school. This hands-on day allowed the children to examine what life for Anglo-Saxons was like – considering home life, religion, work and battle! Experiences such as these really help to build the children's enthusiasm for their learning, enrich our curriculum offer, and provide the children with positive, long-lasting, memories of their childhood at Debden. A big thank you to Mr Brown, the Kingfishers team, our admin staff for organising this day. Also, a huge thank you to FODS who contributed to the cost of the day, therefore reducing the cost to parents.



Chloe said 'Yesterday, we were visited by a Saxon because our topic is the Saxons. He brought in a shield, a sword and lots of other Saxon artefacts. In the afternoon, he told us the story of Beowulf, but we didn't understand the beginning because it was in old English'.

As previously communicated, we are currently looking to improve the appearance of the middle courtyard area of the school. Our hope is that it will eventually become a really beautiful reflective garden for our children to enjoy. Our dedicated, enthusiastic team of FODs have already managed to acquire us a power washer and a few plants for the area, but we are still looking for more donations to make this centrepiece of the school even more beautiful. If you have any flowers, plants, hanging baskets, or outdoor decorations that you are willing to donate, please do drop them by to the front office – we would be most appreciative!

Another big thank you this week must go to Sara Platt for coming into school and taking lots of wonderful photos to update our website and prospectus and to put on the leaflets for our open morning. On top of this, she also photographed all of the staff to update the welcome board in the Reception area.

I was extremely pleased to meet with our new student council for the first time this week. They each brought some really thoughtful ideas to try and further improve their school, and we are looking forward to implementing some of them over the course of this year. Watch this space for more announcements regarding their activity!

I hope that you have a fantastic weekend, and we look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to our Harvest Festival Service down at the church next Friday.

Matt Hawley

Head of School

STARS of the WEEK	
<p>Ducklings</p>  <p><i>Evie & Chester</i></p>	<p>Minnows</p>  <p><i>Jenson & Peyton</i></p>
<p>Frogs</p>  <p><i>Ashrita & Piers</i></p>	<p>Kingfishers</p>  <p><i>Oliver & Emelia</i></p>

Reminders:

FODS Cake Sales

Frogs cake sale is after school today. The next cake sale will be on Friday 25 October, when it will be Minnow Class' turn. 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.

FODS Events Dates

Minnows Cake Sale - Friday 25 October

Ducklings Cake Sale - Friday 15 November

Secret Life of Pets 2 Movie Night - Monday October 14th 3-5pm

Bag2School clothing collection Tuesday Nov 5th

Wreath making workshop - Thursday November 28th

Elfridges Gift Sale - Friday November 29th

Christmas Fair - Friday December 6th 3-4:30pm

Swimming (Frogs)

Swimming for Frogs started on Tuesday 17th September. Please ensure your child has their full swimming kit with them every Tuesday (costume, swimming hat, goggles and towel).

Parking outside School

Please may we remind parents that parking outside the school is not allowed, particularly during pick up and drop off time. We have had reports of parents parking alongside the side gate, which makes crossing the road significantly more hazardous when the children are coming out of school.

Music Lessons

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.

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

Friday 11 October - 9.30 am Harvest Service

Tuesday 22 October - 3.30 pm –5.30 pm Parent Consultations

Wednesday 23 October - 5.00 pm – 7.00 pm Parent Consultations

Friday 25 October -Break up for half term

Monday 4 November – Back to School

Monday 11 November – Remembrance Service

Friday 6 December – Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 10 December – KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal – 1.30 pm

Wednesday 11 December – KS1 Nativity – 1.30 pm

Thursday 12 December – KS1 Nativity – 1.30 pm

Friday 13 December – Flu immunisations

Wednesday 18 December – Christmas lunch

Thursday 19 December – Carol Service 9.30 am

Thursday 19 December – Break up

Debden Church Calendar of Services and Events for September & October 2019

Services:

October 6 9.15am Holy Communion John Saxon

October 13 9.15am Harvest Festival John Saxon

October 20 9.15am Holy Communion John Saxon

October 27 9.15am Choral Matins Andy Colebrooke

Dates for Your Diary

October 12 6pm-10pm Harvest Supper

A short service (said) of Morning Prayer is usually held every Friday at 9.00am in the Chiswell Chapel in the Church.