



Great Denham Primary School

Inspiring excellence; everyone, everyday

EXCELLENCE RESPECT COURAGE DETERMINATION FRIENDSHIP EQUALITY

Newsletter 12 – Autumn Term

27th November 2020

A message from the head.....

The children are very excited today to be 'breaking the rules!' It is lovely to have some fun and laughter!

This week our new sports captains and sports leaders were selected and had their first training session with Kelly Rolfe from the Sports Partnership. Congratulations to Courtney, Ayan, Eivissa, Harrison, Ellie, Lemar, Wanny and Daniel we are very proud of you all!



This week children in Year 2 carried out their phonics screening assessment which normally would take place in June in Year 1. Due to the lockdown year 2 children all had to complete it by the beginning of December. We will be in touch regarding how well your child has done before the end of term.

At the end of this term we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Gourlay, Deputy Head as she heads for pastures new. Please join me in wishing her all the best in her new adventures. Mrs Gourlay has been at Great Denham Primary since it opened in 2012 and I would like to thank her for the amazing contribution she has made to our school.

Hope you have a lovely weekend.
Denise Burgess

Follow the school on Twitter  @GreatDenhamPS



Please join me in welcoming Izabelle who joined us this week in Year 1 and Adele & Kyra who joined Year 2.



Christmas Raffle

Even though we can't host our usual festive events this year the Friends of Great Denham are still here to bring some sparkle! Our Christmas raffle will be hosted online with tickets at just £1 each. Take part by following the link or scanning the QR code for a chance to win some lovely prize!



<https://raffall.com/149101/enter-raffle-to-win-friends-of-great-denham-prizes-hosted-by-kirsty-lister>

This week's letters home – look for them on our school website under parents/letters home/2020-21
Spring term - Clubs info sheet
Christmas lunch order form
Hilltop (Jan 21) forms
Y2 SATs information
Y6 Stunning Start Visitor
Y6 Stunning Start More info
Y3/4/5 – iPad Leasing Scheme
SRE Policy

REMINDERS

Reception Applications – September 2021

If you have a child in Nursery and would like your child to stay at Great Denham in September 2021 please do not forget to apply for a school place at <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/>. The deadline for applications to be received by Bedford Borough Council is **15th January 2021**.

As we are not able to carry out tours of the school for prospective parents at the moment our amazing head boys and girls have made a virtual tour - take a look at it here <https://youtu.be/SMRbSkR4LqY>

Christmas in a box

The last day for making donations is Friday 4th December.

YEAR 2 UPDATE

Year 2 have been working so hard over the past few weeks trying to help Spiderman capture evil Lady Whirlwind. Finally this week we received the news we have all been waiting for.....

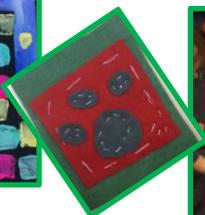
Spiderman has put her in jail! Now we must decide whether to let her out or keep her in. Debates have been happening and arguments are being made both for and against!

The children have also been enjoying creating their own cityscapes using paint and repeated patterns. The work turned out great and looks very effective.

Lastly you may have heard that the children are busy creating capes for their real life heroes. We have just finished our sewing and oh boy do they look great!



We can't wait to start assembling it all together.



Sports Update

Year 6 Family Sports Captains

We want to say a huge thank you to all of the fabulous year 6 children who applied to be a sports captain for their family. All the applicants impressed us with their persuasion, creativity and desire to become a captain for their family. We had 35 children who applied and found it incredibly hard to choose just 8!

Congratulations to :

Aqua - Courtney and Ayan

Ignis - Eivissa and Harrison

Terra- Ellie and Lemar

Ventus - Wanny and Daniel

We look forward seeing and hearing more from our captains next week- they are making a Fitness video for the children to follow in classes

Year 5 & 6 Sports leadership training

30 children were selected to participate in sports leadership training this week. They learnt about what qualities make a good leader, planned activities for others and the year 6 children even had a go at leading their activities within their bubbles. All of the leaders showed our values and did themselves proud.

Watch out for more sports competitions in the new year!

Next week

Thursday 3rd December – Year 1 & 2 Orienteering

DIARY DATES

- **Fri 4th Dec** – last date for Christmas in a box donations
- **Fri 4th Dec** – Y3/4/5 – Deadline to register for iPad Leasing Scheme
- **Mon 7th Dec** – Y4/5 Bikeability
- **Wed 9th Dec** – Christmas “Classroom parties & lunch”
- **Thu 10th Dec** – Y3/4/5/6 Extra-Curricular Clubs end
- **Fri 11th Dec** – Santa Dash (PE kit & Christmas Jumpers)
- **Fri 11th Dec – 10am** – BC/ASC bookings open for the spring term
- **Mon 14th Dec – 10am** – Friday PM Clubs bookings open for the spring term
- **Mon 14th Dec 3.15-3.45pm** – Jigsaw demo (PSHE curriculum)
- **Tue 15th Dec 8.30-9.00am & 3.15-3.45pm** – Jigsaw demo (PSHE curriculum)
- **Fri 18th Dec** – Christmas Jumper day
- **Fri 18th Dec** – Last day of Autumn term

On the last day of term the school will close at 12.30pm.

Collection times as follows

Terra Ventus 12.30-12.45pm

Ignis Aqua 12.45-1.00pm

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR STAFF

There is no expectation for parents to give gifts to teachers or staff. However, if you would like to, each class will have a box outside their door for gifts so they can be quarantined.



Stars of the week



Little Stars: Emilis

Stars of the Week:

Cassiopeia – Kaleb, Tucana – Amelia, Orion – Taha, Aquila – Oliver, Pavo – Summer, Cygnus – Ellie, Volans – Tahlia, Delphinus – Asher, Serpens – Maryam, Andromeda – Riley, Pegasus – Hugo, Perseus – Hollie, Auriga – Isabella, Vela – Grace, Lyra – Barbare, Lacerta – William, Circinus – Kamil, Phoenix – Kaif.

Values:

Cassiopeia – Soraya, Tucana – James, Orion – Luca, Aquila – Elsie, Pavo – Isla, Cygnus – Layla, Volans – Danielle, Delphinus – Maddy, Serpens – Aqeel, Andromeda – Ashmeera, Pegasus – Ruqayyah, Perseus – Tiana, Auriga – Mohammed, Vela – Jack, Lyra – Chloe, Lacerta – Caleb, Circinus – Elias, Phoenix – Zayaan.

Sports Stars of the Week:

Reception – Jack, Dean & Parker
Year 1 – Victoria, Chloe & Layla
Year 2 – Maxi, Matilda & Levelle
Year 3 – Robert & Oscar
Year 4 – Alice & Grace
Year 5 – Ava & Bella
Year 6 – Mahmood, William & Olly



Maths & English prize winners

Yesterday we re-launched our cash prizes for children in Years 1 - 6 for showing excellence in English and Maths. Teachers nominated children from their classes for the prize and all names went into a hat. During celebration assembly Mrs Swanepoel then randomly picked a name from the hat! A huge congratulations to Cansu (Year 6) who won the £15 English prize for this month and Nesonna (Year 1) who won the £15 maths prize!



Also a huge thank you to Mr Ross Turner who sponsored this month's prize!

If any parents would like to sponsor a month in the school year (£30) we offer in return free advertising for any businesses in our newsletter for the month. If you would like to get involved please email enquiries@gdps.uk and mark for the attention of Mrs Swanepoel.



The costume wardrobe continues to grow !!