



# Great Denham Primary School

*Inspiring excellence; everyone, everyday*

EXCELLENCE . . . . RESPECT . . . . COURAGE . . . . DETERMINATION . . . . FRIENDSHIP . . . . EQUALITY

Newsletter 14 – Autumn Term

11th December 2020

## A message from the head.....

Well what an exciting week it has been! Wednesday's Christmas party day was so magical and it was lovely to feel like the world was normal again for a few hours! A huge thank you to the Friends of Great Denham, but in particular our chairs, Hel and Vicky who worked so hard to arrange such a fabulous time for the children - from arranging the disco on zoom, to making sure every single child in our school had a present as well as setting up a lovely grotto for Father Christmas himself! Also a huge thank you to Father Christmas for giving up his time at such a busy time of year for him to come and visit the Great Denham children - they loved meeting you and asking you lots of questions!

Thank you as well to our amazing kitchen team who made 474 Christmas party lunch boxes.

We are delighted to announce Miss Byrne's baby arrived this week, Mum and baby are doing very well.

Hope you have a lovely weekend.  
Denise Burgess

Follow the school on Twitter  @GreatDenhamPS

This week's letters home – look for them on our school website under

parents/letters home/2020-21

Term Dates 2021-2022

Christmas hols - Covid

December Online Safety

Newsletter (attached)

## REMINDERS

### Is your child starting Reception next year?

Tours are available to book via Eventbrite, check the school website for further details.

### Christmas Holidays – COVID reporting

Please ensure you have read the letter that was sent out yesterday containing some very important information about what to do in the holidays if your child shows COVID symptoms.

### Last day of term

School finishes at 12.30 next Friday.

### Spring term - Clubs

Breakfast & After School Club booking for the spring term opened today on SCOPAY. Any problems please contact Claire Boyce in the office [claire.boyce@gdps.uk](mailto:claire.boyce@gdps.uk)

Friday afternoon club bookings open on Monday at 10am.



# Sports Update

## Thursday 3rd December - Year 1 and 2 Outdoor adventure activities

Last week we were very lucky to have the School sports partnership team visit us again to deliver some challenging team building activities.

Children worked together in teams to find number clues in our courtyard and the answers. They also had many challenges to complete that required good communication and decision making skills; getting from one side of the hall to the other in hoops, organising themselves into a certain order and piecing together a puzzle.

Well done to Aquila, Cygnus, Pavo, Delphinus and Volans, they all showed amazing teamwork and great determination.

## Thursday 10th December - Year 5 Sports leaders competition

A huge well done to our year 5 sports leaders, who planned and delivered a fitness based competition for their peers to participate in.

Our leaders exceeded expectations and showed an enormous amount of enthusiasm, confidence and creativity. Well done to all of year 5 for participating and the sports leaders for running a very successful competition!

### Year 5 sports leaders:

Vela: Afrin, Anaya, Ava, Charlie, Evie, Niamh, Summayah  
Lyra: Aydin, George, Maddox, Summer, Zuwenia

## Friday 11th December - Whole school SANTA DASH

So today our children walked, jogged or ran their daily mile in their year groups, whilst dressed in their Christmas jumpers! We took part in the School Games Santa Dash challenge, which was a national challenge. As you can see from the photos, our children excelled in their determination to have fun and complete their mile!

A special THANK YOU to our year 5 and 6 sports leaders who marshalled the route and encouraged the children to keep going!



## DIARY DATES

- **Mon 14<sup>th</sup> Dec – 10am –** Friday PM Clubs bookings open for the spring term
- **Mon 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 3.15-3.45pm –** Jigsaw demo (PSHE curriculum)
- **Tue 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 8.30-9.00am & 3.15-3.45pm –** Jigsaw demo (PSHE curriculum)
- **Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Dec –** Christmas Jumper day
- **Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Dec –** Last day of Autumn term – close at 12.30

### Collection times as follows:

**Terra Ventus 12.30-12.45pm**

**Ignis Aqua 12.45-1.00pm**

**Reception 12.40-1.00pm**

**Nursery 12.40-1.00pm or at 11.45am if your child does not stay for lunch**

- **Tue 5<sup>th</sup> Jan –** Children return to school
- **Thu 7<sup>th</sup> Jan –** Y6 Stunning Start
- **Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Jan –** Class Y5 Swimming starts
- **Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Jan –** Bedford Borough Council deadline for applications for Reception September 2021

## Christmas in a Box



A huge THANK YOU to the staff, children & parents for their generous contributions this year. We are blown away by how much has been collected by the school, it shows how much generosity and kindness there is in the school community!

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Last Week we attached a flyer for a free course called *Understanding Children and Young People's Mental Health*. We have now been provided with a link to register directly with the provider for anyone interested in completing the course.

[https://formstack.io/TyZSZjXRWndR4L6rW7HXEpqL8\\_drGsA9XWS0F15Xgj56D1utKVODIduJM61p1nh\\_gSk\\_9E9NJxrL44O-qmqJA](https://formstack.io/TyZSZjXRWndR4L6rW7HXEpqL8_drGsA9XWS0F15Xgj56D1utKVODIduJM61p1nh_gSk_9E9NJxrL44O-qmqJA)

## YEAR 4 UPDATE

Year 4 have been getting into the festive spirit over the past week. We have both inherited some cheeky elves who have been keeping us on our toes each morning! We had a fabulous day creating Christmas crafts and I am sure that you would agree, we certainly have some talented artists in this year group!

We also received an extremely exciting letter from Cadbury's asking for us to design a new and exciting chocolate bar for them to sell. We are going to be creating a presentation to show our inventions, pitching them to the people at Cadbury's. Who knows, you could potentially be eating one of our amazing bars soon.



## FOGD RAFFLE



Even though we can't host our usual festive events this year the F.O.G.D are still here to bring some sparkle! Our Christmas raffle this year 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 prizes whilst continuing to support our fabulous school.

Raffle will be drawn at 6.00pm on Monday 15th December.



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

# Stars of the week



**Little Stars:** Leah

## Stars of the Week:

Cassiopeia – Aafia, Tucana – Indiana, Orion – Scarlett, Aquila – Lola-Rose, Pavo – Skye, Cygnus – Maxwell, Volans – Sumayyah, Delphinus – Eloise, Serpens – Lexi, Andromeda – Ramsey, Pegasus – Jude, Perseus – Zara, Auriga – Fabien, Vela – Abu Dawood, Lyra – Surel, Lacerta – Leona, Circinus – Kamil, Phoenix – Olly.

## Values:

Cassiopeia – Musa, Tucana – Teddy, Orion – Ivy, Aquila – Alaa, Pavo – Joseph, Cygnus – Izabelle, Volans – Priya, Delphinus – Cleusia, Serpens – Niamh, Andromeda – Ibrahim, Pegasus – Hassan, Perseus – Anaya, Auriga – Eden, Vela – Florence, Lyra – Hamza, Lacerta – Toyin, Circinus – Ziyad, Phoenix – Isaac.

## Sports Stars of the Week:

Reception – Emilia, Albie & Lauren

Year 1 – Freya, Sky & Isaac

Year 2 – Danielle, Alex & Sara

Year 3 – Florence & Harvey

Year 4 – Laura & Romaine

Year 5 – Ophelia & Kayla

Year 6 – Harrison, Usman & Emily



## All things Christmassy



**This week children were randomly selected to come and have a chocolate from Mrs Burgesses advent calendar!**

### 5<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas

**Hugo**



### 6<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas

**Jude**



### 7<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas

**Jordan**



### 8<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas

**Abdul Basit**



### 9<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas

**Maddy**



### 10<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas

**Oakley**





