



Great Denham Primary School

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EXCELLENCE RESPECT COURAGE DETERMINATION FRIENDSHIP EQUALITY

Newsletter 4 – Spring Term

28th January 2022

A message from the head.....

Dear Parents,

The last 3 weeks has been extremely challenging as a school with Covid cases being high in some year groups and amongst our staff team. Thank you for your patience as we have dealt with considerable staff shortages. We have put additional measures in place this week such as cancelling face to face assemblies and avoiding indoor mixing between year groups as well as the cancellation temporarily of some clubs such as choir and Glee club where singing is involved. However, this week it appears the number of cases has started to slow down so fingers crossed as we enter February things will get a bit easier and we can ease restrictions.

There are lots of exciting things going on in school still thanks to our amazing teachers and several year groups have trips to look forward in the coming weeks.

Have a lovely weekend

Denise Burgess



Online Safety

National Online Safety this week:

What parents need to know about YouTube(see attached poster)

If you haven't signed up already please take advantages of this brilliant resource by following the link below:

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com>

Safety Squad

As part of our work at improving online safety awareness as a school we have elected children from each class to take on the role of a member of our safety squad. We are looking for 2 parents to join this group and take an active role in helping promote online safety across the school. The group will meet termly in school time for one hour, three times a year. If you are interested please email ruth.preece@gpds.uk for further information!

This week's letters home

Year 1 – Snozone Trip

Year 5 – Space Centre Trip

Reception – Steam Railway Trip

Year 5 & 6 Kurling Competition (Selected pupils)

All years - Parents' Evening Spring term

Friday 11th February

On Friday 11th we will be holding a '#gobright' non uniform day to raise money for the charity Muscular Dystrophy UK. This is a charity close to our school's heart and the one that myself and Mrs Swanepoel are running the long awaited London Marathon for this October. The Friday also celebrates the end of Children's Mental Health Awareness Week so we are inviting the children to come to school in non-uniform and wear something bright and bring a small donation for the charity.

Parents' Evening 2022

Please see below dates and times for this terms parents' evening:

Tuesday 8th February 3:30pm – 5:30pm

Tucana Only (Mrs Rose)

Wednesday 9th February – 4:00pm – 7:00pm

All years (including Tucana)

Thursday 10th February – 3:30pm – 5:30pm

All years (excluding Tucana)

Bookings will open on Monday 31st January at midday and close at 10am on the day of the parents' evening.



YEAR GROUP UP DATE



Year 1

Year 1 came back to school very excited to start their new project 'Am I too small to make a difference?' The children were sent a video from a boy called Tom from the story 'The Great Explorer'.

He was worried about his Dad who is an Arctic explorer and has gone missing on an expedition. We had an 'explorer day' imagining what challenges Tom's Dad might face in the Arctic. We created a campfire, built shelters and learnt some first aid skills. Year 1 showed fantastic team work!!

Tom wanted help on what to pack for his adventure to find his Dad in the Arctic. We discussed the objects Tom might need to take and labelled them to help him understand why we chose them. We looked at the artist Frederic Edwin Church to inspire our Northern lights artwork.



SPORTS UPDATE

Next week events:

Tuesday 1st February

Year 5 & 6

Boys basketball matches

AWAY at Bromham Primary

Thursday 3rd February

Year 5 & 6

Mixed Kurling competition

At John Bunyan Sports

centre

Thursday 3rd February

Year 3 & 4

Boys basketball match

AWAY at Westfield Primary

Our sports team

We are very proud of our PE, school sports and physical activity team (PESSPA) at Great Denham Primary. The team is growing in confidence and strength and consists of; our year 6 family sports captains, year 5 and 6 sports leaders and our year 1-6 class sports ambassadors. The team have been busy monitoring our physical activity levels, making exciting suggestions for improvements and leading lunchtime clubs. We have seen an enormous improvement in our children's physical participation levels on a day to day basis and this is largely due to this team and their inspirational ideas. Thank you team!

We will feature this fabulous team over the next few weeks. This week meet our Year 6 family sports captains...



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JOIN IN THE FUN AT OUR
February 2022 Camp

NEW FOR 2022
horse & wilderness day



| | | | | | |
|--------|--|--------|--|----------|--|
| Tennis | | Dance | | Go Karts | |
| Nerf | | Baking | | & More | |

Feb 14th - 18th
 Templefield Lower School
 Loughton Manor
 Milton Keynes
 Horse and Wilderness

Feb 21st - 25th
 Banbury Cherry Fields
 Willen Primary School
 Great Linford Primary School
 Tickford Park Primary School



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