

DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 9th December, 2022

Dear Parents,



The Christmas season is upon us! You may have noticed this week that the school has been transformed into a Winter Wonderland. Big thanks to Mother Nature for the frosty weather and Mother Belchambers and her band of elves for putting up all of the beautiful Christmas decorations around the school. It has made the school feel lovely and festive and is really appreciated.

Christmas Fayre/ Elfridges Sale etc: A reminder that the FODS Christmas Fayre takes place this Sunday 11th December between 2pm and 4pm. There will be lots of activities taking place here at the school, including arts and crafts, stalls and even an opportunity for the children to see Father Christmas (remember to pre-book a time slot). The Elfridges Sale will be taking place next Thursday 15th December, which is an opportunity for the children to buy gifts from the FODs Elfridges shop – gifts cost £1.50 and children should bring a bag for their items. For further details of this, and all of the FODs Christmas events, please consult the FODs Christmas newsletter.



Debden Choir at the Spirit of Christmas: A big well done to all of the 19 children of our Debden choir, who represented our school wonderfully in the Spirit of Christmas singing event at St. Mary's Church last weekend. Ms Weetch and Mrs Hare had been training the children up for the last few weeks and were really delighted with the children's performance – they held their own against much larger and more experienced choirs and showed bravery, confidence and skill in their performance. We are so proud of you! A big thanks to Ms Weetch and Mrs Hare for their work on this, and Miss Rowe for helping to support them on the day.

Hockey Heroes: This week I'd like to give a shout out to the school hockey team who have all been training hard every Friday afternoon since October to prepare for matches against other local schools next term. Many have never played hockey before, but we have been delighted to see them throw themselves in with great enthusiasm and really blossom as players. You may have spotted them at school all proudly sporting their new team hoodies, which were very kindly sponsored by Jonah's mum (thank you Julie B!) We have two great year 9 coaches, Jack and Josh, from JFAN who do a brilliant job nurturing our sporting talent. So, watch this space for match news in the new year!



Jilly Rewse-Davies

Dodgeball Finals: A team of year 5 & 6 children represented Debden at the Dodgeball Finals on Thursday having qualified following the tournament earlier in the term. There were 16 teams in the event and Debden came a very respectable 9th. Miss Hughes accompanied the children and she said that they played really fairly, always coming off the court when hit without being told. This was

noticed by other school's staff members too! The children really encouraged each other and showed great teamwork. A special mention to Imogen who was the last team member left against 3 other girls and she managed to get them all out and got our first point.

Some Exciting News: We are delighted to announce that the lovely Mrs Hatch is expecting her second baby! The baby is due in March and we are so pleased for her and her family – I am sure that you will join us in congratulating her.

In terms of maternity arrangements for the Minnows class, the wonderful Ms Weetch has kindly agreed to extend her working pattern to 4 days per week (Tuesday to Friday) for the duration of Mrs Hatch's maternity leave. We are currently on the lookout for a skilled and experienced teacher to lead the class on Mondays (and for Ms Weetch's PPA). An advertisement for this post will go out imminently.

Well done to Kingfishers, who are leading the way with attendance this term!

Class	Attendance % this academic year
Ducklings	91.00
Minnows	93.67
Dragonflies	93.86
Frogs	94.58
Kingfishers	94.99
School Total	93.84



Here is a summary of the upcoming Christmas Events:

Sunday 11th December – FODs Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th December – 1.30pm – KS1 Nativity

Thursday 15th December – Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Dinner, Santa Dash, Elfridges

Wednesday 21st December – 9.15am – Christmas Service

Wednesday 21st December – Last day of term

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards

Mr Hawley

Head of School