



DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 3rd February 2023

Dear Parents,

We are already over one month into 2023 and January has been a busy month here in the school. This week, alongside Mrs Mitchell, I held student learning interviews with representatives from each class across the school. We asked the children all about what they have been learning in their classes, trying to unpick what knowledge they could recall and asked them about life as a child here at Debden. It was a really positive experience: the children were all enthusiastic about sharing their learning experiences and some of their knowledge about their various learning units was astounding!

Here is a digest of the main events and activities that have taken place over the last couple of weeks, and those to come in the near future.

Sports: Debden is becoming quite the sporting powerhouse when it comes to the local school sports events! We have taken part in two tag rugby competitions over the past few weeks. On Wednesday 25th January, our year 5 and 6 team came in 2nd position in the local event (meaning that they have now reached the area finals). This past Wednesday, our year 3 and 4 team then won their event. Furthermore, some of our children were scouted! At the event were coaches from some local clubs, who have approached us about the possibility of some of our children joining rugby teams. Well done to all involved! Please see the flyer attached regarding the local rugby club.

Mrs Rewse-Davies has provided the following report on our hockey team, who played in their first match of the season last week: *"The whole hockey team did us proud last Friday in their first match of the season, which for many was their first ever hockey match. It was also a first because we've never played our opponents, RAB, before given we are a much smaller school. In the face of such challenges, it was brilliant to see every single one of our Debden players play their part on the pitch – and off it. They came together as a strong and supportive team, showing some wonderful resilience and sportsmanship, as well as their maturing hockey talents! And, my goodness, they ran their socks off!"*

A reminder that we are still running our Wednesday morning yoga session for KS2 with Mrs Bailey and Ms Weetch. I am also continuing to run the KS2 morning boot camp on Thursdays – all children in years 2 to 6 are welcome to come along and take part. The children who participate in these clubs have commented that it is a brilliant way to start the day!

Teacher-Parent Consultations: The next round of teacher-parent consultations will be taking place the week after the half term break (Tuesday 21st and Thursday 23rd February). These conferences are crucial for building strong relationships and communication between the two parties who are chiefly concerned with a child's academic and personal development. In addition to discussing your child's classroom learning, attitude to learning, social/emotional development and holistic progression, we will be able to share your child's current attainment level based on the end of Autumn term assessments. The meetings also allow us to collectively

devise strategies to enhance children's progress and happiness in all areas of their education. Mrs Dale and Mrs Arundell have sent out details of how to book your appointment, so please do keep your eye out for this!

Road Safety: This Friday, children from Reception and Year 5 received a talk and demonstration about road safety awareness from the Safer Essex Road Partnership team. The Reception pupils were reminded why it is important to always stay with their adults and always hold their hand when walking outside. Parents had the opportunity to look at ways of teaching their child Road Safety from a young age.

The SERP team encourage all parents to reinforce this learning with your child following Stop, Look, Listen and Think. For more information and additional free resources visit <https://saferessexroads.org/> and <https://www.think.gov.uk/>

A few more upcoming dates for your diaries

Industrial Action Days:

Wednesday 1st March

Wednesday 15th March

Thursday 16th March

As previously communicated, at present we do not anticipate that we will need to close any classes. However, this may be subject to change at late notice, and there may be some curriculum disruption on these days.

Last Day of Spring Term A: Friday 10th February

First Day of Spring Term B: Monday 20th February

Parent-Teacher Consultations: Tuesday 21st (3-5pm) and Thursday 23rd (5-7pm) February

FODS Quiz at YUVA: Thursday 23rd February

World Book Day: Thursday 2nd March. Children dress as their favourite book character.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards

Mr Hawley

Head of School