



DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 13 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Ordinarily, I look forward to using this bi-weekly newsletter communication to share some of the fantastic things that have been going on across the school. However, in the current global context, it is only appropriate that this edition is used as a further medium for keeping you updated of our plans regarding coronavirus.

As the circumstances continually change, it is extremely difficult to predict exactly when and how this virus will impact us. Until the government guidelines tell us otherwise, our school will remain open, and committed towards our school vision, promoting the values of 'Nurture, Progress, Excel' along the way.

In line with the current guidelines, we are acting vigilantly and swiftly in response to any of our children or staff that are feeling unwell. As of yesterday, the government has advised us that anyone who has a new cough or a temperature of above 37.8°C should stay at home for 7 days. As a result, we ask you to keep your child at home should they display any of these symptoms, however mild. Should we notice any of these symptoms amongst the children or the staff team, we shall be taking the same precautions.

In addition to this, we are also continuing to promote good hygiene around the school. For example, children are encouraged to wash their hands thoroughly and regularly (they have been shown tutorials on how to do this), we are providing hand sanitiser for visitors/ staff who enter and exit the building, and children are only permitted to drink from their own water bottle (i.e. we have removed our own stash of plastic cups).

At times like these, there are always various rumours going around, some of which amount to scaremongering, and which can be extremely unsettling for young children. Our approach, therefore, has been to carefully and gently discuss the topic with children as and when it has been needed, addressing any misconceptions that they may have. We hope that this has helped to allay any unnecessary fears.

We will continue to follow government guidelines closely and will continue to update you of any changes. Should you wish to check these updates yourself, they can be found by going to www.gov.uk and following the red COVID-19 link at the top of the page.

In the event of national school closures, we are taking the necessary steps to ensure that children are provided with English, maths and topic learning resources from home – we will provide more details on this if and when we are asked to close.

Above all, we hope that you can rest assured that the school will always act to ensure the wellbeing of its children, staff and parent community. Should you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for all of your continued support.

Matt Hawley

Head of School

Time/Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School 7.30am-8.30am	Breakfast Club Mr O'Sullivan & Team	Breakfast Club Mr O'Sullivan & Team	Breakfast Club Mr O'Sullivan & Team	Breakfast Club Mr O'Sullivan & Team	Breakfast Club Mr O'Sullivan & Team
Lunchtime 12.30pm-1pm	Library Parent Volunteer Board Games Mrs Murrell	Library Parent Volunteer Sports Club Mr O'Sullivan & Team	K\$2 Choir Parent Volunteer Science Club Mrs Bailey	Sports Club Mr O'Sullivan & Team	K\$1 Choir Ms Weetch
After School 3pm-5pm	Running Mr O'Sullivan & Team	Football Mr O'Sullivan & Team	Dodgeball Mr O'Sullivan & Team	Zumba Mr O'Sullivan & Team	Tag Rugby Mr O'Sullivan & Team

STARS of the WEEK	
<p>Ducklings</p>  <p>Anabelle & Daniel</p>	<p>Minnows</p>  <p>Elora, Ted & Finnley</p>
<p>Frogs</p>  <p>Charlie & Lily</p>	<p>Kingfishers</p>  <p>Bongi & Jude</p>

FODS News

Get ready to party at the School Disco on Wednesday 18th March, 3-4:30pm. Top Dog disco will be spinning the wheels of steel, organising games and encouraging the children to show off their best moves. Prizes! Prizes! Prizes! There is one disco for all year groups and this is probably the last school disco for the Year 6 children. Children will be given a drink and a packet of crisps and there will be a few sweets given as prizes. Please send in a change of clothes and the children will be able to get changed in their classroom at the end of the school day.

To secure your tickets, please send cash or cheque payable to "FRIENDS OF DEBDEN SCHOOL" to the School Office and complete the form sent earlier in the week (there are spares in the school office).

Tickets are £4 but sibling discount applies as follows.

1 ticket	£4
2 tickets	£7.50
3 tickets	£10

The next FODS cake sale will be Friday 27 March, when it is Year 3's turn to provide the cakes. Please note that the cake sales are being done in year groups now, not in classes. Please leave your donations (home-made or bought) in the corridor. Cakes will cost 50p each. If your child travels home on the bus and they would like to buy a cake, please send them in with their 50p in a named envelope and staff will let them visit the cake sale before the end of the day. The dates for all other year group cake sales can be found below.

Swimming (Minnows)

Minnows have started swimming now and will continue until 7 July. Please ensure your child has their full swimming kit with them every Tuesday (costume, named swimming hat, goggles and towel).

Parking outside School

Please may we remind parents that parking outside the school is not allowed, particularly during pick up and drop off time. We have had reports of parents parking alongside the side gate, which makes crossing the road significantly more hazardous when the children are coming out of school.

Music Lessons

If your child is interested in music lessons, please contact the school office. Instruments available for tuition are guitar, drums, piano, flute, clarinet and saxophone.

Dates for your Diary - please note, these may be subject to change if unavoidable circumstances happen.

Monday 16 – Friday 20 March – Science Week

Wednesday 18 March – FODS Disco

Friday 27 March – Minnow's STEM afternoon

Friday 27 March – Year 3 cake sale

Friday 3 April – Easter Service 9.30 am

Friday 3 April – Break up

Monday 20 April – Back to school

Friday 24 April – Year 2 cake sale

Thursday 7 May – Year 1 cake sale

Friday 8 May – Bank holiday

Week Commencing 11 May – Year 6 SATS week

Friday 22 May – Break up

Friday 22 May – Duckling cake sale

Tuesday 2 June – Non pupil day

Wednesday 3 June – Back to school

Friday 10 July – Reports out

Sunday 12 July – Year 6 to Kingswood

Friday 17 July – Open afternoon

Wednesday 22 July – Leavers Service 9.30 am

Wednesday 22 July – Break up for the Summer