



DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 25th February, 2022

Dear Parents,

A warm welcome back to school after the half term break. We hope that you and your families managed to enjoy the time together – despite the stormy weather!

The school has grown in numbers again at the start of this term, and we will imminently reach 130 children on roll. The school has not had this many children since back in 2014 (in 2019 we had 82 children at one point) and it is lovely to see the playground full at breaktimes and the hall close to capacity during worship, lunchtimes and assemblies. To all of our new families: welcome, and to everybody else in our community, thank you for helping to spread the good word about our lovely school!

Below are some important news items and notices regarding upcoming events:

-World Book Day: We are excited to be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March. The children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. Throughout the day the children will be taking part in lots of book-related activities including teacher's childhood favourites and a 'House Team' read, to name a few.

FODS will be running a 'Book Swap' in the library throughout the day. The children are invited to bring in a pre-loved book they are happy to part with and swap for a new book- a great way to share much loved stories and recycle some classics. We ask that children also bring a £1 donation to put towards our exciting library refurbishment we are planning for the Summer term. All money donated will go to revamping, re-stocking and freshening up our school library.

On another exciting note, Mrs Andrew will be cooking a delicious 'Book' themed lunch. Please see menu attached. We are looking forward to a very exciting 'World Book Day'. Miss Matthews.

-Staffing: Unfortunately, Mr Waite has been suffering with a range of health and personal issues, and over the half term it was agreed that it would not be fair for him not to continue working in his role as the Dragonflies teacher. Whilst the process for a high-quality teacher for the class is ongoing, I will be the main teacher responsible for planning for the class across the week, and will be teaching the class directly for at least 3 days each week (more when I can). If any parent has any questions about any aspect of these arrangements, please do feel free to contact me (either via the school admin email account, or in person whenever you see me).

-Covid Guidance Changes: As you may have seen in the news, the guidance has once again changed regarding Covid procedures and isolation rules. If your child tests positive in the near future, please consult the letter that we sent out a letter from Clare Kershaw (Head of Education for Essex).

Thank you for your continuing support of our school.

Kind Regards

Mr Hawley