

# DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2022

Dear Parents,

The end of the half term is now upon us. Well done to all of the children for their progress and endeavour throughout the first 7 weeks. Also, a special congratulations to all of the children who were new to our school in September – you have settled in really well to life at Debden and you should be really proud of yourselves!

There has been a lot going on across the school over the past couple of weeks. Below is a summary of some highlights, along with details of upcoming events.

**Cross Country:** The children of Debden performed exceptionally well in the local schools' cross-country event this past Wednesday. In events such as these, Debden often finds itself competing against larger schools that have a wider pool of students to select from. However this year, the improvements in the physical fitness of our children was clear to see and our children produced Debden's best performance in memory! We were particularly impressed with their enthusiasm to compete, their resilience to keep going and their encouragement for one another. Of the 48 children who attended the event, 26 finished in the top 20 in their respective races, which I think is an amazing achievement!

Children could qualify for the area competition, through their team of 6 being in the top 3 local teams, or they could qualify individually by finishing in the top 10 of their event (shown in brackets). Making it through to the next stage were:

-Year 3 Boys team: Sammy (5<sup>th</sup>), Spencer, Tyler, Oliver, Edward, Isaac

-Year 4 Boys team: Dawson, Fynn, Rocco, Rayson, Ethan, Rafe

-Year 5 Boys team: Jonah (5<sup>th</sup>), Charlie (8<sup>th</sup>), Monty, Ryan, Oliver, Ted

-Year 5 Girl: Romily (3<sup>rd</sup>) individual qualification

Well done to all of the children who took part!

**Black History Month:** Throughout October, we have been running a number of events, activities and lessons for the children aimed at recognising the contributions made to society by people of African and Caribbean heritage. Mrs Hatch also launched a competition to produce a home-learning project on a Black History significant individual of the child's choice. A big well done to the following children, who were our competition winners! Lacey P, Amy B, Lucy I, Fynn J, James S, Penny H and Lucy H.

**FODs Thanks:** A big thanks to the FODs for putting on the movie night this past Thursday. Events like this are not only great for the children, but also help to raise vital funds for our school. I am also attaching a picture of our school library, which is looking great! This is thanks to the time and investment of the FODs – particular thanks to Mrs Samson and Mrs Wilson for this.



**Teacher-Parent Consultations:** A reminder that these will be taking place on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> (5-7pm) and Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November (3-5pm). These sessions provide a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, attainment, Following the parent survey last academic year, this year's parent consultations will be returning to being held in-person.

**A reminder of these upcoming dates for your diary**

- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Last day of half term 1
- Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October – First day of half term 2
- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November – 5.00pm – 7.00pm – Parent Consultations (in person this year).
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – 9.30am – Open Morning – if you know of parents who are looking for a school for their child for next academic year, please spread the word!
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – 3.00pm – 5.00pm – Parent Consultations (cont.)
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Day – Year 5 and 6 children will be heavily involved in the local village service and children in other year groups will be paying their respects in school.

Once again, thank you for your support of our school. We hope that you have a lovely half term, and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Kind Regards

Mr Hawley

Head of School