



DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 5th September 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome back everyone! We hope that you have had a restful and enjoyable summer break, and that your child has had a positive start to the year.

A particularly warm welcome to all the new families joining us at Debden—it's a pleasure to see so many new faces this September. We hope that both you and your children are beginning to feel at home and confident as you settle into our school community.

This week, we held our welcome back assembly, where we revisited our school vision: *Nurture, Progress, Excel*. Together with the children, we explored what each of these values means and how they can be reflected in their daily actions and attitudes. I've had the opportunity to visit every classroom several times this week, and I've been truly impressed by the way our pupils have embraced these principles. Their enthusiasm, commitment to learning, and kindness towards one another have been outstanding—setting a promising tone for the year ahead.

Staffing Welcomes

A formal welcome to **Ms Julia Bacon**, our new Deputy Headteacher and full-time teacher in Kingfishers.

Class Structure 2024-25 – For reference, here is our current class/ teaching team structure:

Class Name	Year Group/s	Teaching Staff	PPA Teacher	Main LSA/s
Ducklings	Reception	Mrs Lawrence (Mon-Wed) Mrs Auty (Wed-Fri)	Job-share	Mrs Cameron Mrs Day
Minnows	Year 1	Mrs Hatch: Mon-Wed Mrs Hopkinson: Wed-Fri	Job-share	Mrs Cox Mrs Barca
Dragonflies	Year 2	Miss Douglas	Mrs Auty	Ms Alina Mrs Cornwell
Frogs	Years 3-4	Mrs Barden	HLTA	Mrs Dixon Mrs Gardener
Newts	Years 4-5	Miss Rowe	Mrs Bailey	Mrs Adams Mrs Clark
Kingfishers	Year 5-6	Mrs Bacon	Miss Rowe	Mrs Raven

Class Newsletters and Meet the Teacher sessions

You should have received a class newsletter over the past few days, which shares important information about your child's learning this term – including details such as the topics they will be studying, the days that they will have PE, and any upcoming events and activities. There will also be 'Meet the Teacher' sessions next week, which will be an opportunity for parents and carers to get to know their child's class teacher, learn about the classroom routines, curriculum plans, and expectations for the year ahead.

If you are still unsure about anything, please don't hesitate to contact us through the admin team via phone or email, or by catching your child's class teacher at the end of the school day.

Attendance:

We have been given new guidance from Essex County Council regarding attendance and unauthorised absences. Please find attached an information leaflet regarding this. Please note we will no longer need a holiday form completed for medical/dental appointments or any exams taken outside of school (e.g. - music/ballet) but we may ask for proof of these appointments. Please email the office with any known dates so that it can be noted. The new form for *Application for leave of absence during term time* will be uploaded on the school website and will be available in the school office if necessary.

Parking:

We have received correspondence from people who live in the village regarding parking at drop off and collection times. Please be considerate and avoid blocking driveways or parking on junctions.

Key Dates for this Term

Tuesday 9th September – Ducklings in full days from now

Friday 12th September- Forest School starts (Ducklings)

Monday 15th September – Greek Day (Newts)

Monday 15th September – International Day of Democracy (in class activities)

Thursday 18th September- Sustainability Day

Thursday 18th September- Church Mice commences (in school).

Monday 22nd September- Stone Age Day (Frogs)

w/b Monday 22nd September – Reception Baseline Week

Friday 26th September – European Day of Languages

Thursday 2nd October- National Poetry Day (in school activities)

Friday 3rd October – Harvest Service – 9.20am Debden Church

From Monday 6th October – Start of Black History Month

Tuesday 21st October and Thursday 23rd October – Parent Consultations

Thursday 23rd October- Children individual photos

Friday 24th October – Final Day of Autumn Half Term 1

Monday 3rd November – First Day of Autumn Half Term 2

We will communicate further information with you about all activities and events as and when they are confirmed.

Thank you all for your ongoing support for our school. Here's to another brilliant year ahead!

Kind Regards,

Sarah Bailey

Headteacher