

DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 20th September 2019

Dear Parents,

It is astonishing to consider that we are already two-and-a-half weeks into the Autumn term - time flies when you are having fun!

Over the past couple of weeks, the school has really sprung back to life, and the children have really impressed us with some of their incredible learning. It has been particularly pleasing to speak to children on the playground about the aspects of their learning that they are particularly enjoying this year - the Victorians and 'Local Heroes' has seemed to come up a lot! We really are extremely fortunate to have such dedicated and enthusiastic learners at the school. Forest School is back up and running and Ducklings are enjoying these sessions immensely.



In collective worship, we have been focusing on the theme of 'compassion' over the opening weeks of the academic year. The children have treated the topic with real maturity, particularly in Thursday's assembly, which for the first time was led by two of our Year 6 students! They asked some really thought-provoking and interesting questions such as 'what would the world be like without compassion?' and 'does everybody deserve compassion?', which the children answered both enthusiastically and articulately.

A huge thank you to Mrs Dixon (and her poor husband!) for spending their entire weekend building our new greenhouse in the courtyard at the centre of the school. We received the funding for this through a local grant, which Mrs Dixon was integral to acquiring - what a superstar! We are looking to develop the garden into a really awe-inspiring centrepiece to our school, an eye-catching place where the children can grow flowers and vegetables. It is visible from most places in our school, so we believe that it is worth investing in! We would like to take this opportunity to invite any donations of flowerpots or plant boxes that you are able to offer. Please contact myself, Mrs Dixon, or the office team if you think that you may be able to help.



We launched our 'reading grid' challenges this week. As we shared in the achievement assembly, regular reading has been shown to significantly improve life opportunities and quality. In addition to this, strong reading skills also underpin children's learning and understanding in every subject that they learn here at school. Please do help the children to get involved with the challenge at home - we will begin giving out reading challenge awards next week!

On a final note, may I remind all families to ensure that children come to school wearing the correct uniform, and PE kits on the days that they are needed. Details of our uniform can be found on the school website under 'School Info.'

I hope that you are able to make the most of the glorious weather that is forecast this weekend. We look forward to hearing what the children have been up to on Monday.

Kind Regards

Matt Hawley

Head of School

STARS of the WEEK

Ducklings



Minnows



Frogs



Kingfishers



Reminders:

FODS Cake Sales

Kingfishers cake sale is after school today. The next cake sale will be on Friday 4 October, when it will be Frog Class' turn. Please leave your donations in the corridor. Cakes will cost 50p each. If your child travels home on the bus and you would like them to buy a cake, please send them in with their money in a named envelope.

Swimming (Frogs)

Swimming for Frogs started on Tuesday 17th September. Please ensure your child has their full swimming kit with them every Tuesday (costume, 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.

Friday 11 October - 9.30 am Harvest Service

Tuesday 22 October - 3.30 pm –5.30 pm Parent Consultations

Wednesday 23 October - 5.00 pm – 7.00 pm Parent Consultations

Friday 25 October -Break up for half term

Monday 4 November – Back to School

Monday 11 November – Remembrance Service

Friday 6 December – Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 10 December – KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal – 1.30 pm

Wednesday 11 December – KS1 Nativity – 1.30 pm

Thursday 12 December – KS1 Nativity – 1.30 pm

Friday 13 December – Flu immunisations

Wednesday 18 December – Christmas lunch

Thursday 19 December – Carol Service 9.30 am

Thursday 19 December – Break up

Debden Church Calendar of Services and Events for September & October 2019

Services:

September 22 9.15am Choral Matins Home Team

September 29 9.15am Holy Communion joint service with Wimbish John Saxon

October 6 9.15am Holy Communion John Saxon

October 13 9.15am Harvest Festival John Saxon

October 20 9.15am Holy Communion John Saxon

October 27 9.15am Choral Matins Andy Colebrooke

Dates for Your Diary

October 12 6pm-10pm Harvest Supper

A short service (said) of Morning Prayer is usually held every Friday at 9.00am in the Chiswell Chapel in the Church.