



# DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2021

Dear Parents,

The end of the first half term is already upon us, and what a fantastic half term it has been!

We welcomed a new class, new children and new teachers, as we continue to expand. We have had Stone Age experts, a visit from Florence Nightingale, first trips to Forest School and cake sales a-plenty. Swimming has re-started, children have participated in multi-sports and cross-country events, and have taken part in skipping challenges. The student council have been busy at work, as have the sports leaders, and our eco-heroes continue to strive to turn the school carbon neutral. Children have tried their hand at chess, sung their hearts out, and built amazing creations in construction club. In amongst all of this, they have still somehow found the time to work hard and make strong progress across their academic subjects. A big well done to all of the children and the staff and parents who have worked so hard to help them – I hope that you all have a lovely, well-earned half term break.

Below are a few notices to help you remain informed of the latest news and upcoming events at the start of next half term:

**-Return to School:** A reminder that we have a staff inset day on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November, and so school will restart for the new half term on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

**-Parents Evenings:** Another reminder that Parents Evenings are taking place over Zoom on the evenings of Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November (in the first week back). Please remember to book your timeslot! You will need to contact the office if you haven't booked yet as the online booking has now closed.

**-COVID Cases:** As we communicated yesterday, we have had two more confirmed COVID-19 student cases in the school this week. Whilst some cases are inevitable due to the high rates nationwide at the moment, we are of course keen to minimise this and prevent any potential outbreaks. Please refer to the letter that we sent yesterday for information regarding how you can help to ensure that we remain as safe as possible.

**-Cross Country Announcement:** A big well done to all of the Key Stage 2 children for their performance in the local cross-country event at Chrishall this past Wednesday. We are pleased to announce that a number of our Year 3 girls (Alice, Elora, Pheobe, Sansa, Peyton and Maddie) and Year 4 girls (Emma, Romily, Imogen, Amber, Lexie, and Laci) have reached the next round due to their collective strength representing Team Debden! Furthermore, Finn (Y3), Jonah (Y4) and Charlie (Y4) from our boys' teams have all been invited to participate in the next round of individual competition, due to their excellent performance (all of them finished in the top 10 children for their age group).

**-Magistrate Visit:** The Kingfishers Class (Year 5/6) were visited by the magistrate on Thursday, who led an interesting session with them about the Magistrate Court System in the UK. They discussed the severity of different crimes and the repercussions they can have on lives even at a young age, and differences between a magistrate court and crown court. The children conducted themselves well and participated knowledgeably in class discussions, pleasing both Miss Rowe and Miss Douglas!

We look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Kind Regards

Mr Hawley