



DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 24th November, 2022

Dear Parents,

We hope that you are well. Despite the somewhat cold and dreary weather, the children of Debden have continued to light up the school with their positive energy and attitude to learning.

Anti-Bullying Week: Last week, we marked anti-bullying week with a plethora of activities taking place across the school. Each day was themed, with children learning about ideas such as 'What is Bullying?' 'Celebrating Differences', 'Being a Bystander', 'Seeking Help', and 'Staying Safe Online.' The children learnt a great deal about how to identify bullying, what they can do prevent bullying and strategies for dealing with incidents of bullying. We were really impressed with their maturity and their attitude when dealing with this topic. A big thank you to Ms Weetch for organising the week!

Children in Need Ramble: A big thank you to everyone who donated during our Children in Need Ramble event – we managed to raise £178.50! The children donned their spotty clothes, embraced the cold weather, and braved the muddy, rain-soaked fields of Debden alongside staff and parents. I was particularly pleased to see our older children helping the Reception and Year 1 children across the more difficult parts of the trail. Well done to Mrs Bailey and Mrs Cox, who (in the absence of Mrs Dixon) took on the roles of 'Ramble Supreme Leaders' with aplomb!

Parent Whatsapp Groups: There have been a few things taking place on the parent social media groups that have been brought to our attention recently. Firstly, I should say that I think that these groups have the power to be a real force for good: for one, they can keep parents informed of developments/ events in the school, as it can be difficult to keep up with everything!) However, we do increasingly hear about more negative school-matters that are being shared in these groups. Aside from this being inappropriate, often things being shared are either exaggerated, misinterpreted, or in some cases completely fabricated - I have spent numerous hours recently investigating incidents that parents have heard about on these groups, that in reality have not even happened! By the time we set the record straight, misconceptions have often been broadcast far and wide. If you are genuinely concerned about something that is going on in school, please contact us. We are the ones who can remedy any potential issues and will be more than happy to meet with you. I am also happy to show you around the school during the school day, so that you can see what a happy, vibrant and purposeful environment it is. Please just make an appointment with the office if you'd like to take me up on this.

Christmas is just around the corner, and thus we have a number of upcoming events and dates for your diary:

Wednesday 30th November – Scootability – Reception and Year 1

Wednesday 30th November – 2.20pm - Phonics Workshop – Miss Weetch

Thursday 1st December – 2.30pm – Reception Phonics Workshop

Saturday 3rd December – Spirit of Christmas Concert – School Choir

Sunday 11th December – FODs Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th December – 1.30pm – KS1 Nativity

Thursday 15th December – Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Dinner, Santa Dash, Elfridges

Wednesday 21st December – 9.15am – Christmas Service

Wednesday 21st December – Last day of term

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards

Mr Hawley

Head of School