

DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 11th September 2026

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to all our children, families and staff as we begin another exciting school year. We hope you had a restful summer break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the year ahead. We would also like to extend a special welcome to the new children and families who have joined our school community. We are delighted to have you with us and look forward to getting to know you over the coming months.

Since returning to school this term, we have been placing a renewed emphasis on high expectations across all areas of school life. We believe that children achieve their best when they are encouraged to aim high, work hard and take pride in themselves and their school. High expectations are not just about learning in the classroom; they are reflected in how we behave, how we treat others, how we present ourselves and the choices we make every day.

As a school, our vision is for everyone to **"live life in all its fullness."** We want every child to flourish academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually, developing the confidence, character and resilience they need to succeed both now and in the future. By embracing high expectations and supporting one another, we can create a culture where every child feels valued, challenged and inspired to be the very best version of themselves.

Staffing Updates

We are delighted to welcome several new members of staff to our school community this term. A warm welcome goes to Mrs Ahmed, Miss Byam and Mrs Hodgson, who have joined our team this year.

Class Structure 2025-6 – 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 Caparelli (Mon-Wed) Mrs Auty (Wed-Fri)	Job-share	Mrs Cameron
Minnows	Year 1	Mrs Hatch: Mon-Wed Mrs Hopkinson: Wed-Fri	Job-share	Mrs Cox Mrs Day
Dragonflies	Year 2	Miss Douglas	Mrs Bailey	Mrs Adams Mrs Hodgson Mrs Ahmed
Frogs	Years 3-4	Mrs Barden	HLTA	Mrs Dixon Miss Gardener Miss Byam
Newts	Years 4-5	Miss Rowe	Mrs Bailey	Mrs Adams Mrs Clark
Kingfishers	Year 5-6	Mrs Bacon	Miss Rowe	Mrs Blackaby Miss Byam

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. Thank you to everyone who came along to the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions this week - 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.

Exciting Improvements Around School

Over the summer holidays, we started to make a number of improvements across the school, and we are thrilled with the impact they are already having on our learning environment. Our Early Years environment has been transformed with new furniture, generously funded by FODS. We are incredibly grateful for their continued support. We would also like to thank Howdens for donating a wonderful new kitchen area, and Mrs Hodgson and Mrs Bower for giving up their time to repaint the classroom. The space now looks brighter, more welcoming and better equipped to support our youngest learners. We are just waiting for the final pieces of furniture to arrive before sharing some photographs.

A huge thank you also goes to Mrs Trigg and her team from Saffron Walden Building Society, who volunteered their time to redecorate Minnows classroom. Their hard work has given the room a fresh new look and created an even more inviting learning environment for the children.

These improvements are just the beginning. We have invested in new classroom tables and chairs, which are starting to arrive, and we look forward to sharing photographs as the classrooms take shape. Our library is also looking fantastic. A few finishing touches are still being added before we officially unveil this exciting new space. Over the course of the year, we hope to continue improving other areas of the school and are incredibly thankful to the volunteers who generously give their time and skills to support us.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to all of our families and children who have supported fundraising efforts. These contributions are helping us make meaningful improvements across the school. We would particularly like to recognise Charlie Trigg in Dragonflies, who raised money by donating hair to the Little Princess Trust, and Isaac Barker in Frogs, who organised a sponsored read for children to take part in. Their enthusiasm and commitment, alongside the support of our wider community, are helping us create an even better environment for all of our children.

Key Dates for this Term

Thursday 17th September- KS2 Respect assembly

Friday 25^h September – European Day of Languages

Thursday 1st October- UK National Poetry Day

Thursday 1st October- Uttlesford food bank assembly

Friday 9th October – Harvest Service – 9.20am

From Monday 5th October – Start of Black History Month

Tuesday 20th October and Thursday 22nd October – Parent Consultations

Friday 23rd October – Final Day of Autumn Half Term 1

Monday 2nd November – First Day of Autumn Half Term 2

Wednesday 4th November – Open Morning for Prospective Parents

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

Kind Regards,

Sarah Bailey

Headteacher

OPEN EVENING 2026



Thursday 24th September 4.15pm-8.00pm

During your visit to the College, you will have the opportunity to:

- attend a presentation delivered by the Principal, Helena Marsh (presentation times 4.30, 5.30, 6.30, 7.30)
- participate in a guided tour of the College site
- meet with teachers and students
- experience a range of learning activities
- speak with a member of the Senior Leadership Team

Presentation tickets will be issued on arrival (there is no need to pre book)
Refreshments will be available to purchase

01223 891233
www.lvc.org
Cambridge Road
Linton, CB21 4JB

