



Great Denham Primary School

Inspiring excellence; everyone, everyday

EXCELLENCE RESPECT COURAGE DETERMINATION FRIENDSHIP EQUALITY

Newsletter 8 - Spring Term

5th March 2021

A message from the head.....

Firstly, can I say a huge well done! You have made it to the end of home schooling! I know how hard it has been both for families at home but also for our keyworker family's too, so thank you! The support the children have had at home has been nothing short of amazing and the quality of the work produced excellent. We really can't wait to welcome the children back on Monday. Today we are resending the letter that was sent out last week with the arrangements for next week - please ensure you have read them before Monday.

Please join me in wishing Mrs Mourton and her family congratulations on their new arrival - a beautiful baby girl.

Hope you have a lovely weekend.
Denise Burgess



Follow the school on Twitter  @GreatDenhamPS

Gate times from 8th March

A reminder of the gate opening/closing time from 8th March is shown below. Please note that the family start and finish times have reversed to be fair to all families within our community. If you have a problem with your child's start or finish time please email enquiries@gdps.uk.

		Start time	Finish time	Friday finish time
Aqua	Ignis	8:30-8:45am	3:00-3:15pm	1:00-1:15pm
Terra	Ventus	8:45-9:00am	3:15-3:30pm	1:15-1:30pm
Reception		8:40-9:00am	3:10-3:30pm	1:00-1:20pm
Nursery		8:40-9:00am	3:00-3:15pm	As normal

ART COMPETITION

The theme is **WILD NATURE** and children can use any medium they would like. More details in the video <https://youtu.be/oOIWaEGTd-o>

Please send your entries to your child's teacher by Friday 12th March.



This week's letters home - look for them on our school website under [parents/letters home/2020-21](#)

BBC - Flowchart & Info sheet
MENCAP Playscheme
Y5/6 Young Voices cancelled

REMINDERS

Lunches

If your child requires a school meal from 8th March until the Easter holidays, please ensure their lunches are booked on [SIMS-PAY](#) by **Saturday 6th March**.

Birthdays

Anyone who had a birthday during lockdown can wear non uniform on Monday if they wish to. For the foreseeable future we will be continuing with wearing non uniform on your birthday rather than bringing in treats - we will not be allowing treats to give out.

DIARY DATES

- **9th & 10th Mar** - Parents' Evening **CANCELLED**
- **Thu 18th Mar at 10-11am** - Virtual Coffee & Chat (Zoom) with Parent Carer Forum - a group of parents & carers of children and young people with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Disabilities
- **Fri 19th Mar** - Rec - Fab Finish (Details to follow)

Clubs for the Summer Term

Bookings for the summer term clubs will open on the following days –
Book on [SCOPAY](#). Pay on [SIMS-PAY](#).

Monday 22nd March @ 3.30pm	Breakfast Club
Tuesday 23rd March @ 3.30pm	After School Club
Wednesday 24th March @ 3.30pm	Friday Clubs
Wait for Letter	Extra-Curricular Clubs

Friday clubs

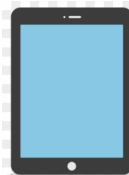
Care clubs and Homework clubs will be in Year groups. Book on [SCOPAY](#). Care clubs and Homework clubs are free of charge.

Extra-Curricular clubs

We will be offering a limited selection of Extra-Curricular clubs in Year groups. Book and pay on [SIMS-PAY](#).

Reminder to parent who have 1 to 1 iPads

Please can you ensure that you have backed up and reset your child's iPad as per the instructions sent out last week. Over the next few weeks our technicians will be gathering all the iPads to check they are correctly enrolled on the new MDM and enrolling any that are not. If your child's device has not been backed up they will lose any data on it when this happens. As per our Acceptable Use Policy, if the iPads are not enrolled on the MDM they cannot be used in school. Over the coming term we will be reviewing the apps that pupils have available to them and the access they have to download their own content but we need to get the system set up in the first instance. Year 6 iPads will be released from the MDM prior to leaving Great Denham.



If you have been loaned a school iPad for use in home learning please can it be returned with its charging cable on Monday as well.

Forest School

This week year 4 have been exploring around the local area during their Forest School lessons; several passers-by commented on how well behaved the children were. We are so proud of them.



- **Fri 19th Mar** – Vela swimming
- **w/c 22nd Mar** - Club bookings open for the Summer Term
- **Fri 26th Mar** - School closes at **1.00/1.30pm** to all children. There are no Friday Afternoon or After School Clubs on this day

EASTER HOLIDAYS

- **Mon 12th Apr** - School closed for staff training
- **Tue 13th Apr** - Children return to school
- **Thu 15th Apr 10-11am** - Virtual Coffee & Chat (Zoom) with Jo Charlton - School Nurse
- **w/c Mon 19th Apr** - Parents' Evening (Online) (**Rescheduled from March**)
- **Wed 21st Apr** - Y3 Bikeability
- **Thu 22nd Apr** - Y4 Bikeability
- **Mon 3rd May** - **SCHOOL CLOSED** Bank Holiday
- **Tue 11th May 10-10.30am** - Virtual Coffee & Chat (Zoom) with Aneta Wawrentowicz - Educational Psychologist
- **Thu 20th May** - Theme day lunch
- **Fri 21st May** - Lyra Swimming
- **Mon 24th May** - Rec - Vision Screening
- **Tue 15th Jun 10-11am** - Virtual Coffee & Chat (Zoom) with Simon Burns - Early Help
- **Wed 23rd & 30th Jun** - Y1 - Hearing tests
- **Thu 8th July 10.30-11am** - Virtual Coffee & Chat (Zoom) with Jo Morey - Completing free school meal applications
- **Mon 12th Jul** - Y6 Bikeability
- **Thu 22nd Jul** - School closes at **1.00/1.30pm** to all children. There are no Friday Afternoon or After School Clubs on this day

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Cool Milk

We have received confirmation from Cool Milk that they will resume the milk supply for all registered children from w/c 8th March.

If you would like to register your child to receive milk at school please register at <https://customers.coolmilk.com/V2/register/>

Guitar lessons

Guitar lessons will commence again week commencing Monday 8th March. If you have any queries please get in touch with Jennie directly on jm_wilson@hotmail.co.uk.



Ofsted Parent View

Parent View gives parents / carers the chance to tell OFSTED what you think about your child's school.

By sharing your views, you'll be helping your child's school to improve.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Thank you to Mrs Winton & Mrs Swanepoel for organising a fantastic World Book Day



Sports Update - Miles to Tokyo

Week 5 on our journey to Tokyo

Well done to everyone who contributed towards the **288 miles** achieved this week. As a school we have now reached 1,686 miles in total, which means we have in Russia and are now on our way to Kazakhstan!

Our top 3 classes this week are

Gold Delphinus 47 miles, **Silver** Andromeda 34 miles, **Bronze** Tucana & Serpens 23 miles

We are very excited to see how many miles we can achieve next week, when everyone is back in school. We hope to make it a new Great Denham record



Stars of the week

Little Stars: Araya & Hezekiah

Stars of the Week:

Cassiopeia – Phoebe & Noah, Tucana – Madeleine & Dahlia, Orion – Lara & Evie, Aquila – Ben & Oliver, Pavo – Robert & Megan, Cygnus – Kai & Nesonna, Volans – Anayah & Luke, Delphinus – Valentina & Ophelia, Serpens – Oskar & Lexi, Andromeda – Tyler & Nodari, Pegasus – Finley & Hugo, Perseus – Zachary & Saheim, Auriga – Alexa & Anayah, Vela – Nardo & Lena, Lyra – Kayla & Aydin, Lacerta – Teigan & Caleb, Circinus – Katherine & Cansu, Phoenix – Rosie & Julian.

Values:

Cassiopeia – Harry & Lilah, Tucana – Evie & Amber, Orion – Alayna & Alexander, Aquila – Ayah-Rose & Laloona, Pavo – Isla & Chloe, Cygnus – Zoe & Emily, Volans – Lilith & Joshua, Delphinus – Maxwell & Asher, Serpens – Ismail & Sam, Andromeda – Gracie & Marcel, Pegasus – Jamie & Flora, Perseus – Maya & Amy, Auriga – Lilian & Sarah, Vela – Evie & Laura, Lyra – Bella & George, Lacerta – Lemar & Noah, Circinus – Miranda & Freya, Phoenix – Rio & Sophia-Grace.



Link to celebration assembly
<https://youtu.be/N3HoDthRmxQ>



Great Denham Primary School

Great Denham Nursery Class 2021/2022

Due to the current pandemic, Great Denham Primary School has extended its closing date for the Nursery Class applications (Starting September 2021).

The new closing date is **Friday 12th March 2021**. We wanted to give parents an extended opportunity to apply as it has been a very difficult year for most.

Application packs are available to collect from the school office Monday-Friday 9am-3pm or you can email admissions@GDPS.uk and we will send you a pack via email.

Any questions please email us on the email provided.

LOCAL EVENTS & ADVERTS

**BEDFORD**
BOROUGH COUNCIL

LOCKDOWN ACTIVITIES

*for Children with
Autism & Learning
Difficulties and
their families in
Bedford Borough*

ONLINE ACTIVITIES NOW AVAILABLE!

We have exciting opportunities for **children with autism & learning difficulties and their families** in Bedford Borough to access a variety of activities during the COVID lockdown period. All activities are free of charge!

Activities include Swimming at St. John's School Pool, Various Sports Sessions, Inflatable Fun and Sensory Room at SSG.

These sessions will be available to the whole family. Parents / Carers are required to supervise and support their family throughout the activity (including going into the swimming pool with them).

Virtual Learning Opportunities include Street Dance, Musical Theatre, Drama, Music, Art & Dance.



Booking is essential as there are very limited places due to COVID restrictions. If you are unable to attend please ensure you cancel in good time to allow another family to book.

Visit the Bedford Local Offer website for timetables and booking information: localoffer.bedford.gov.uk/kb5/bedford/directory/site.page?id=rZoAyoQb-FQ

