



Great Denham Primary School

Inspiring excellence; everyone, everyday

EXCELLENCE RESPECT COURAGE DETERMINATION FRIENDSHIP EQUALITY

Newsletter 10 – Spring Term

19th March 2021

A message from the head.....

It has been a busy week in school with lots of year groups having their fabulous finishes! A particular highlight was watching our year 6 children enjoy their scavenger hunt yesterday! The children continue to impress us with their positive attitudes to being back at school. I look forward to seeing many of our families at our Friends of Great Denham Bingo event tonight!

Hope you have a lovely weekend.
Denise Burgess

Follow the school on Twitter  @GreatDenhamPS



Please join me in welcoming Ms Robinson & Mrs Parveen who joined us last week as Teaching Assistants.



Music Lessons - Violin

Violin lessons will be restarting after the Easter holidays. If you would like your child to take violin lessons in school, you will need to sign up through the Bedfordshire Music Coop web site at <https://www.bedsmusic.coop/>



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](#). A letter will follow shortly.

This week's letters home – look for them on our school website under

[parents/letters home/2020-21](#)

Summer Term Lunch Menu
Y4 Grafham Date Change
Easter Holiday Activities & Food Programme
Y4&5 Sports team trials
Y5&6 Stunning Start
Y4&5 Fab Finish
Y1-6 Extra-Curricular Clubs

REMINDERS

Uniform

This week we have had a number of unnamed jumpers and cardigans put into lost property. Please ensure your child's clothing is clearly named so that we can get it back to them.

Last Day of Term

A reminder that the school closes at 1pm next Friday so all children must be collected between 1.00-1.30pm. There are no Afternoon or After School clubs running.

DIARY DATES

- **w/c 22nd Mar** - Club bookings open for the Summer Term (see schedule below)
- **Tue 23rd Mar** - Y4/5 Fab Finish

The reward shop grand opening

Yesterday was the grand opening of the reward shop - it is called Meritopia, meaning a magical land and the name was chosen by Alanna in Year 4 - well done Alanna! A much better name than the one it was going to be called which was 'Burgess Bargains!' Next week the children with 75 stars or more will start visiting the shop and choosing a reward!



Virtual Coffee Morning

Thank you to all the parents who attended our first coffee morning yesterday. I hope you enjoyed it and found it useful. You shared some great feedback and ideas which we will certainly take on board. Our guests from the Parent Carer Forum and Local Offer were really informative and we learnt about services that we were not aware of either! We hope to see lots of you at our next session on 15th April when one of our school nurses, Jo Charlton, will be joining us, we can't wait to see you there!



Ruth Preece and Emma Gooch

Our attendance winners this week are Aquila & Serpens with 100%.

- **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

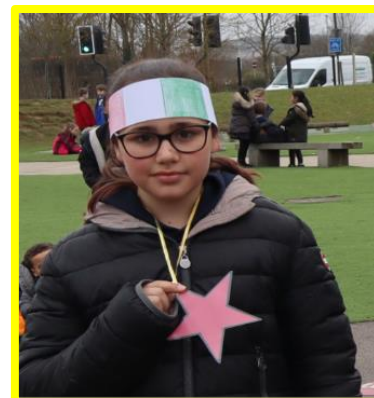
EASTER HOLIDAYS

- **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 & Y4 Bikeability
- **CANCELLED 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

Year 6 – Olympics Day

Y6 children had an Olympics day for their fab finish to wrap up their Greek topic. They enjoyed listening to national anthems, watching opening ceremonies and competing in events. All children showed our school values and the Olympic values too! The judges had the tough job of awarding medals. In the afternoon, the activities continued with traditional Greek dancing and an opportunity to reflect on our key question of the term.



Sports Update – Miles to Tokyo

So after 7 weeks of being on a mission to move it, move it, move it..... we have now clocked up a grand total of **3,997 miles!** We are on our way to China.

We achieved 1,356 miles this week! Our BEST so far!

Our top 3 classes this week are

Gold Volans 102 miles, **Silver** Auriga & Perseus 96 miles,
Bronze Delphinus 94 miles

OVERALL YEAR GROUP MILE TOTALS:

EY - 476 miles, Y1- 608 miles, Y2 - 789 miles, Y3 - 664 miles, Y4 - 592 miles, Y5 - 327 miles & Y6 - 541 miles

THANK YOU FOR GETTING THE CHILDREN MOVING !



Stars of the week

Little Stars: Chanice

Stars of the Week:

Cassiopeia – Olivia, Tucana – Willow, Orion – Zack, Aquila – Zachary, Pavo – Yusha, Cygnus – Paloma, Volans – Essie, Delphinus – Matilda, Serpens – Emily, Andromeda – Tami, Pegasus – Ella, Perseus – Florian, Auriga – Mohamed, Vela – Isabel, Lyra – Lucas, Lacerta – Oliver, Circinus – Cansu, Phoenix – Addison.

Values:

Cassiopeia – Zaina, Tucana – Ignacy, Orion – Teigan, Aquila – Alex, Pavo – Hugo, Cygnus – Isaac, Volans – Edward, Delphinus – Olivia, Serpens – Poppy, Andromeda – Ethan, Pegasus – Grace, Perseus – Eli, Auriga – Adil, Vela – Charlie, Lyra – Tobi, Lacerta – Toyin, Circinus – Isabelle, Phoenix – Amari.

Sports Stars of the Week:

Reception – Ofelia, Lauren & Thomas
Year 1 – Ace, Cairo & Divya
Year 2 – Ismail, Danielle & Maddy
Year 3 – Mason & Lewis
Year 4 – Eden & Max
Year 5 – Bella & Ethan
Year 6 – Micah, Isobel & Oliver

Link to celebration assembly
<https://youtu.be/IUO5n8UMOfU>

LOCAL EVENTS & ADVERTS



HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES FOOD PROGRAMME

An exciting range of opportunities for **children in receipt of Free School Meals** and **those with identified Special Educational Needs and / or Disabilities (SEND)** over the Easter Holiday.

All activities are **FREE** of charge!

Activities include Active Holiday Playschemes, activity packs, SEND family swim and inflatable sessions, sensory room, multi-sports and a timetable of online activities.



Booking is essential and Free School Meal eligibility will be checked for specific opportunities.

Visit the Bedford Local Offer website for more information:

 <https://tinyurl.com/BBLocalOfferHAF>



BEDFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL



**200
FREE**

**Operation Diversity
memberships**

We are delighted to announce that we have joined up with 'Operation Diversity' and are funding FREE membership for 200 of our members for the next six months.

They have significant knowledge and support families of neurodivergent children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities online. As a member you will have Instant access to live webinars, Q&As, a huge library of pre-recorded training, resources and professionals.

What's on offer?

- Specialist Training Webinars and Support -

Operation Diversity Offer advice and training via a large team of specialist professionals, such as:

- Education and SEND Specialists
- Health Care workers
- Legal professionals
- Autism Specialists
- Occupational Therapists
- Speech and Language Therapists
- Specialist Teachers
- Neurodivergent Parenting Coaches
- Behaviour Intervention Specialists
- SEND Advocates
- ADHD Specialists
- Clinical and Educational Psychologists

- Emotional and Mental Health Support -

They are also partnered by special arrangement with 'Health Assured' (<https://www.healthassured.org/>), giving their SEND families access to their helpline, with calls answered by experienced in-house counsellors and legal and financial specialists. They also provide opportunities for emotional support via their online community and through virtual meetups and have their own qualified counsellor who delivers regular Mental Health webinars, and online group therapy sessions weekly.

Places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.

Contact us on communications@bbpcf.org.uk to secure your place!

Operation
Diversity[®]
ACADEMY



Meet the mind's best friend

Research finds that gut cells protect the brain and may have a role in autism



Learning that's lighthearted

Strategies from schools and colleges for lowering students' stress levels



Adventures await

After lockdown, specialist holiday companies are ready with a warm welcome

Autism | eye

For parents and professionals

Issue 41
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Advice on will writing to avoid all-too-easy pitfalls

Ways supported living can improve independence

Tackle anxiety by understanding what can cause it

Pupils and pandemic support

Gut and nutrition focus

With tips on improving mental health