



Great Denham Primary School

Inspiring excellence; everyone, everyday

EXCELLENCE RESPECT COURAGE DETERMINATION FRIENDSHIP EQUALITY

Newsletter 11 – Spring Term

26th March 2021



A message from the head.....

It has been a busy 3 weeks and feels like the children have been back at school so much longer - they have been fantastic in how easily they have settled back into school life. This week we have had more lovely fabulous finishes for the children to enjoy as well as lots of Easter fun including an Easter egg hunt yesterday!

I hope that you all have a restful Easter holidays and enjoy the break together and we look forward to seeing the children back on Tuesday 13th April!

Best wishes
Denise Burgess



Follow the school on Twitter  @GreatDenhamPS

iPad delivery update

This week we received the first delivery of 1:1 iPads from Apple and have been told that we should receive the remaining ones over the Easter break.

Once the remainder of the iPads have been received and set up by our IT team we will be in touch with a collection date. Parents and children will need to read and sign the Acceptable User Policy which will be emailed to those who have signed up to the lease scheme later today. A paper copy will be available to sign when you pick up the iPad.

Please accept our apologies for the further delay.

YEAR 5 - FABULOUS FINISH

Fabulous Finish for our Shackleton project - reliving the famous Endurance expedition.



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

parents/letters home/2020-21

Year 5 – Extra Maths session
(selected children)

SIMS Parent App reminder
Parents' Evening letters

DIARY DATES

- **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
- **DATE CHANGED Thu 17th Jun 10-11am** - Virtual Coffee & Chat (Zoom) with Simon Burns - Early Help

Thank you to our PTA

The amazing Friends of Great Denham hosted their first online Bingo evening last Friday. Thank you to everyone who took part and to the Friends of Great Denham for organising the event.



Our attendance winners this week are Volans & Delphinus with 100%.

- **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**

Sports Update

Miles to Tokyo

The competition to be the most active class this week has achieved an impressive 1,635 miles (a new GD record!). Thank you to all of the staff and children for their commitment to being as active as possible and keeping us moving towards Tokyo...we have now achieved 5,632 miles which has seen us arrive in China and onto South Korea! It is amazing what you can achieve as a team!

Gold Serpens, Pegasus & Vela 180 miles,

Silver Circinus 104miles,

Bronze Volans 93 miles



Family Intra- school competition- Mini Olympics

This week the whole school competed in a mini Olympics, in a bid to win as many points for their family as possible. The children showed an enormous amount of determination to improve their individual performances in standing long jump, speed bounce, hurdles, sprints, target throw and distance throw. A great dedication to teamwork was also modelled by all, well done.

The overall results were: 1st Ignis, 2nd Aqua, 3rd Terra, 4th Ventus

Spring School games competition

We are delighted to announce that we participated in these events during lockdown both in school and at home. Our school has achieved great results, well done everyone! These children made it onto the leader boards for first and second place against other schools in Bedford

Fitness challenge

Number of burpees, mountain climbers, sit ups and jumping jacks in 30 seconds, plus holding the plank for as long as possible.

Year 1 Maya, Ellie, **Year 2** Luke, **Year 4** Mollie, Deborah, **Year 5** Lucas, **Year 6** Mahmood

Basketball challenge

Number of times the basketball was passed round the waist

1st Dilneet – 19

Number of times continuously bounced the ball

1st Year 1 – Tommy (60), Year 4 – Leo (89), Year 6 – Katherine (95)

2nd Year 1 – Elsie (53), Year 2 – Lena (59)m Year 3 –Tyler (64), Addison – (92)

For those with access to a hoop number of points scored

1st Year 2 – Alex (11), Year 3 Oisin (12), Year 4 – Joe-Joe, Isabelle & Max (11), Year 6 – Harrison (12), Rio (12)

2nd Year 1 – Hugo & Edie (4), Year 2 – Rio (10), Year 3 – Tyler (11),

Problem solving team building challenges

In PE we have prioritised team building activities which have required children to show communication, resilience and teamwork. This week we challenged the children to complete problem solving tasks and they were not easy! Thank you to all the children for working so hard! Here is a peek at some of the activities....

WHAT AMAZING ACHIEVEMENTS!!

We have lots to look forward to in the Summer term as our extra-curricular sports clubs resume and our sports captains/leaders help kick start our enjoyment of all things PE!



Stars of the week

Little Stars: Dylan

Stars of the Week:

Cassiopeia – Alaina, Tucana – Sara, Orion – Parker, Aquila – Mohsin, Pavo – Summer, Cygnus – Layaan, Volans – Kyle, Delphinus – Austin, Serpens – Aqeel, Andromeda – Abid, Pegasus – Ethan, Perseus – Muhammad, Auriga – Sabil, Vela – James, Lyra – Amna, Lacerta – Yousuf, Circinus – Ziyad, Phoenix – Jack.

Values:

Cassiopeia – Kaleb, Tucana – Jessica, Orion – Aysar, Aquila – Evelyn, Pavo – Joseph, Cygnus – Marlo, Volans – Maximillian, Delphinus – Freddy, Serpens – Triana, Andromeda – Imogen, Pegasus – Jamie, Perseus – Lailoma, Auriga – Zara, Vela – Niamh, Lyra – Barbare, Lacerta – Lemar, Circinus – Amy, Phoenix – Isaac.

Sports Stars of the Week:

Reception – Joshua, Teddy & Cienna

Year 1 – Logan, Megan & Dylan

Year 2 – Jordan, Austin & Poppy

Year 3 – Samantha & Ben

Year 4 – Hollie & Fabien

Year 5 – Abu Dawood & Musa

Year 6 – Luka & Mahmood

Link to celebration assembly

<https://youtu.be/mORzoLevyNw>

Link to Trish & Den challenge

<https://youtu.be/kd0keEmL5og>



LOCAL EVENTS & ADVERTS

Please see the link below to the latest edition of the SEND matters newsletter. It is filled with lots of useful information as well as ideas for activities over the Easter Holidays.

ISSUE 6 - MARCH 2021

SEND MATTERS

Easter Holidays edition

The official newsletter of SEND related issues in Bedford Borough

Inside this issue:

- Easter Holiday Activities
- Meet the Team: SEND Team
- Preparing for Adulthood Guide
- Transition to Further Education
- BBPCF Outcomes Report
- Inclusive Playgrounds

WELCOME from Chief Officer for Education, SEND and School Infrastructure - Ben Pearson

Welcome to the Easter edition of SEND Matters. This month, all schools in Bedford Borough have welcomed back pupils after the lockdown period. I have been in regular contact with all Headteachers to share good practice, and to provide support where needed. At a recent education conference I was delighted to hear just how pleased our Headteachers were to be able to see smiling faces and hear laughter on the playground!

I have been blown away by the courage and resilience shown by our children as they returned to school. I know that the return to school has been daunting and challenging for many children (and adults) and I would encourage any parent who feels their child may need some support at this time to speak to their child's school or visit our Local Offer for more support.

I hope that you have a lovely Easter break and that we can safely start to meet up with other people and enjoy some Spring sunshine. May I also take this opportunity to wish our Muslim community a happy Eid Mubarak next month.

Thank you again for all that you do.
Best wishes, Ben

https://search3.openobjects.com/mediamanager/bedford/directory/files/send_matters_easter_2021_final.pdf

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.

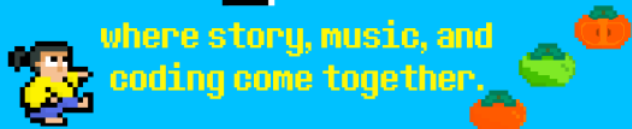
Visit the Bedford Local Offer website for more information:
<https://tinyurl.com/BBLocalOfferHAF>

Join Kaki_Hatchi to...

Embark with us on 5 x 90-minute interactive online sessions: we'll use an action-packed adventure to show you how story, coding, and music form the ingredients of an awesome game. Then we'll help you mix those ingredients together to create your original platformer quest!

Kaki_Hatchi



FREE to you, thanks to Bedford Borough Council

On Zoom, for students aged 8-12

April 6th to 10th

9am OR 1.30pm, for 90'



info@conductivemusic.uk
kakiatchi.eventbrite.co.uk

Conductive Music CIC

We joined this world 9 years ago. We helped more than 25,000 students level up and conquer this dungeon. Our weapon is technology, our mana is music and our creativity points are endless.



Voucher Code

Bedford

www.conductivemusic.uk



Below is a link to the latest newsletter from Bedford Borough Parent Carer Forum, it has a link to the outcomes report that they have produced based on the survey which took place at the end of last year. It gives an idea of how parent carers are finding services in Bedford Borough.

There is also lots of other information on there which may be of interest.

<https://mailchi.mp/3305b4f610d9/our-latest-outcomes-report-based-on-your-feedback>

FOCUS GROUP

What would make Bedford Borough's Parks and Green spaces more inclusive and accessible for all children?

Join us for a Focus Group on Tuesday 20th April at 10am to give us your views, email communications@bbpcf.org.uk for login details

Don't forget Bedford Borough parent carers can get FREE membership to Operation Diversity for 6 months...