



# Great Denham Primary School

*Inspiring excellence; everyone, everyday*

EXCELLENCE . . . . RESPECT . . . . COURAGE . . . . DETERMINATION . . . . FRIENDSHIP . . . . EQUALITY

## Newsletter 1 – Summer Term

16<sup>th</sup> April 2021

### A message from the head.....

Welcome back to the summer term! It has been lovely having some sunshine this week and seeing our children back in school. I hope you all had a restful Easter holiday. The children have come back to school ready to learn and excited for their new projects. There have been some fantastic stunning starts this week from finding Roman artefacts to starting to dig an allotment!

We are looking forward to seeing you all virtually next week at parents evening. Don't forget to book your appointment.

Hope you have a lovely weekend.  
Denise Burgess

Follow the school on Twitter  @GreatDenhamPS



Please join me in welcoming Jake who joined us this week in Year 1.



### This term's project

Today the curriculum maps will be sent out to each year group showing you the learning that will be taking place for your child this term. The projects this term are as follows:

- Nursery - Who am I?
- Reception - How does your garden grow?
- Year 1 - Friend or Foe?
- Year 2 - How can food bring us together?
- Year 3 and 4 - Were the Romans really rotten?
- Year 5 and 6 - Can you dig yourself out of trouble?

As well as this the take home tasks will be sent home over the coming days too - we are looking forward to celebrating these in school later in the term.



### Year 6 leavers

We are hoping to give our year 6 children as 'normal' a term as possible for them to celebrate their time at Great Denham. At the moment we are hoping we should be able to go ahead with the Legoland trip, the leaver's party and assembly etc. Further information to follow on all of these events shortly.

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

parents/letters home/2020-21

PE Timetables Rec-Y6

Ramadan Fasting Y4-6

Leavers Hoody Y6

Book content 'Holes' Y5/6

Sports Leaders helping at

Ex-curr clubs Y6

## REMINDERS

### Bikes & Scooters

Parents – please can you remind children not to ride their bikes or scooters in the school grounds. Thank you for your co-operation.

### Year 5/6 - Bikes

If your child is in Year 5 or 6 and brings a bike to school - they should now leave them in the bike sheds and when they need to collect them at the end of the day the child (only) is able to walk to collect from the bike sheds (in reverse of the one way system), the member of staff on the Greenkeepers Road gate will support them in ensuring that they socially distance from any parents entering the school site.

### One-way system

Please also remember the one way system - **ENTER** through Greenkeepers Road gate or Early Years gate and **EXIT** by the Kingswood Way gate only.

As a result of lockdown children have been spending much more time online and on different apps they may not have used before. If you are worried about what your child is doing or want some support on how to monitor their activities, set up their devices to keep them safe or what apps they should or should not be using then the following links might be useful.

## Sports Team & Extra-curricular clubs - PE Kit & Collection arrangements

### Where to collect your child after the Sports Team and Extra-curricular clubs

	Main reception	Community room
Monday	Year 4/5 Boys football	Year 4 Multiskills
Tuesday	Year 4/5 Table tennis	Year 1 / 2 Multiskills
Wednesday	Year 4/5 Girls football	Year 3 Parkour
Thursday	Year 4/5 Girls netball	Year 5 Multisports Year 6 Badminton

# Sports Day

We are planning on holding year group sports days for our younger children on the school site and if restrictions allow we would like to invite parents of children in nursery, reception, year 1 and 2 to attend their year group sports day in which we should be able to socially distance everyone suitably. Again further information will follow on this shortly.



## Diary dates

0 0

A reminder that whilst the government restrictions are starting to ease the guidance for schools remains the same and adults are still expected to wear a mask until further notice when on the school site. Parents who are exempt should bring their badge with them.

Now the shops have opened again we would like to start seeing all our children in their Great Denham summer uniform. This means polo shirts in their family colour or a summer dress in their family colour. Shirts and ties are not part of the summer uniform. We are happy for children to continue wearing either sensible trainers or school shoes until the end of this school year as I appreciate difficulties with getting appointments to get school shoes etc! Children will continue to come to school in P.E. kit on their P.E. days or on the days they attend an after school sports club.

- **w/c Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Apr** - Parents' Evening (Online)
- **Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Apr** - Y3 Bikeability
- **Thu 22<sup>nd</sup> Apr** - Y4 Bikeability
- **Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> May** - **SCHOOL CLOSED** Bank Holiday
- **Tue 11<sup>th</sup> May 10-10.30am** - Virtual Coffee & Chat (Zoom) with Aneta Wawrentowicz - Educational Psychologist
- **Thu 20<sup>th</sup> May** - Theme day lunch
- **Fri 21<sup>st</sup> May** - Lyra Swimming Starts
- **Mon 24<sup>th</sup> May** - Rec - Vision Screening

# RECEPTION UPDATE

It has been so lovely to welcome back a year group full of happy, smiley faces this week. The children have come back in settled and ready to discover their new project. This term our project is 'How does your garden grow?' we will be exploring the growing of plants and vegetables, thinking about where our food comes from and how to use what we have grown in different ways.

We were left a very important package on Tuesday from our friend Farmer Dan, he left us his favourite book and lots of different fruit and vegetables to try. On Wednesday we had our stunning start and the children created some beautiful big flowers, butterflies and bumblebees, they planted different vegetables in our new vegetable patch and they tasted all the interesting things they were left by Farmer Dan. It was so lovely to see them all getting so excited about what they were doing.

We are looking forward to seeing how the project unfolds and spending lots of time with your wonderful children this term, we have missed them lots during the lockdown and are so glad to have them back.



- **DATE CHANGED Thu 17<sup>th</sup> Jun 10-11am** - Virtual Coffee & Chat (Zoom) with Simon Burns - Early Help
  - **Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> Jun** - Y1 - Hearing tests
  - **Thu 8<sup>th</sup> July 10.30-11am** - Virtual Coffee & Chat (Zoom) with Jo Morey - Completing free school meal applications
  - **Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Jul** - Y6 Bikeability
  - **Thu 22<sup>nd</sup> 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**

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



## Receptionist (Part-time)

We are looking for a new receptionist for our front office. Further details will be available on our website early next week.





## Parentline Bedfordshire

### Run by Bedfordshire Community Health Services

Parentline is a secure and confidential text service for parents and carers of those aged 0-19. It offers advice and support on a range of issues such as weaning, sleep and emotional health or how to make an appointment with our team. This is also a great mechanism to find out how to access other local services.

Simply text 07507 331456 with your question to start the conversation – our team will be there to answer your queries from 9am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays).

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# Sports Update

## Miles to Tokyo

We are almost at the finish line on our journey to Tokyo. Amongst a very busy week back at school, we managed to complete 615 miles, which leaves only 376 miles to go! Well done children!

## School Games CHALLENGE 101

In honour of Sir Captain Tom Moore, we would like as many of us as possible to join in with the super Challenge 101. Your child can choose a community, creative or physical task to complete in honour of the wonderful man who captured the nation's hearts. We would love to see the children's challenges, you can upload them to seesaw or tag us in a Twitter feed alongside @BedsSchoolGames. Good luck everyone- let's see how creative you can be!

## BIG PEDAL 2021 -19th - 30th April

We have registered to take part in the BIG PEDAL this year. It is a nationwide competition to get children and adults walking, scooting & biking to school in an attempt to be kinder to the environment and get active!

If you are able to leave your car at home and travel to school in any of the three active ways, your child can let their teacher know during registration, and we can log it for our school. There are lots of amazing prizes up for grabs through the Big Pedal website, so fingers crossed the children's hard work pays off!



## PE focus this half term

Our focus during PE lessons this half term will be Tennis and Athletics. To kick start this off we look forward to having coaches from Riverside Tennis club delivering an hours session to each class from 26th April. Watch this space for an update soon.

## Extra-curricular sports clubs

A reminder that our sports clubs begin next week and we cannot wait to start!

Pick up will be at 4:30 from either the main Reception or Community room

Children must wear their PE kit to school on the days they attend a club.



# CHALLENGE 101

www.teambedsandluton.co.uk  
April 2021

This time last year Sir Captain Tom Moore began his challenge to walk 100 lengths of his garden before his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

Not only did he achieve this but he captured people's hearts across the world and raised more than £32 million for the NHS.

## NOW ITS YOUR TURN!

Sir Captain Tom Moore would have celebrated his 101<sup>st</sup> birthday on the 30<sup>th</sup> April. To honour his memory, we invite you to take part in our 101 Challenge.

## HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

You can choose any of the challenges below or even create your own!

### COMMUNITY CHALLENGES

Collect 101 pieces of litter  
Carry out 101 Good Deeds  
Make 101 people smile

### PHYSICAL CHALLENGES

101 Exercises such as star jumps  
101 km walk, run or cycle  
101 of a skill such as keepy uppies

### CREATIVE CHALLENGES

Build something with 101 Lego Bricks  
Write a poem or story with 101 words  
Write a '101 themed' sea shanty.

## GOOD LUCK!

Show us your challenges  
@BedsSchoolGames  
#Challenge101

# Stars of the week



**Little Stars:** Leonardo

## Stars of the Week:

Cassiopeia – Kieran, Tucana – Gerasim, Orion – Mikael, Aquila – Alaa, Pavo – Maheer, Cygnus – Eliza, Volans – Samuel, Delphinus – Melody, Serpens – Niamh, Andromeda – Raihan, Pegasus – Flora, Perseus – Xara, Auriga – Joe-Joe, Vela – Ameera, Lyra – Ishaq, Lacerta – Veronika, Circinus – Elias, Phoenix – Sophie-Grace.

## Values:

Cassiopeia – Aafia, Tucana – Amelia, Orion – Quinn, Aquila – Jake, Pavo – Skye, Cygnus – Abdul Basit, Volans – Adele, Delphinus – Cleusia, Serpens – Hollie, Andromeda – Nodari, Pegasus – Ethan, Perseus – Markuss, Auriga – Alexa, Vela – Ben, Lyra – Tobi, Lacerta – Nicola, Circinus – Daniel, Phoenix – George.



## LOCAL EVENTS & ADVERTS



### Come and join us (remotely) for a coffee and a chat



Being a parent is one of the best jobs in the world but it can also be challenging at times. However, you are not alone! Support is available both within school and our community. We would like to begin to meet regularly with you to establish a group of parents who can share ideas, challenges, tips, ask questions and offer advice in a friendly, relaxed environment.

On the **11<sup>th</sup> May at 10-11am** we will be holding our next virtual coffee morning and we would love you to join us! The meeting will be open for an hour on Zoom so you can drop in or out as you please. We will invite a specialist from a different service around Bedford Borough each month to talk to you about how they can support you and your child and a short Q and A session as well as someone from our School to tell you about the different ways that we can support you and your child.

For our Next meeting we have invited our School's Educational Psychologist, Aneta Wawrentowicz to join us as well as Abby Rose one of our school's EAL (English as an Additional Language) Leader. They will be able to talk to you about how we can support you and your child if English is not your first language and Aneta can discuss how the EP service can help and may be able to answer any questions you have.

Join Zoom Meeting (meeting details will be the same each time)

<https://zoom.us/j/92059171697?pwd=Z01KWU0yZjc4VzhtUjFpLzZM1WFpKZz09>

Meeting ID: 920 5917 1697

Passcode: j0zVVW

Our following meetings will be scheduled as follows, each meeting will run from 10am to 11am, the time below shows when the specialist will join us:

- 17<sup>th</sup> June – 10-11am – Simon Burns – Early Help
- 8<sup>th</sup> July – 10.30-11am – Jo Morey – Completing free school meal applications, Councillor Jim Weir – representative for Kempston Rural Ward

Please come and join us for a drink and a chat, we would love to see as many of you as possible!

Mrs Preece (Special Educational Needs Coordinator – SENCO)

Miss Gooch (Family Support Worker)





## Vote for Great Denham Primary to received 2 of these sunflower buckets from Dunelm Bedford

Click on the link

[https://m.facebook.com/questions.php?question\\_id=1415796338758832](https://m.facebook.com/questions.php?question_id=1415796338758832)

join the group and vote by clicking on the dot next to our schools name.

Feel free to share the post or comment on the post with peoples name so we can get as many votes as possible.



**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April - 10am**

### **Health Update & Get Together**

Jo Drew (Designated Clinical Officer SEND Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group) will be joining us to give an update from the 'Health' perspective and take your questions. You are welcome to join us for a general get together & chat.

**Monday 19th April – 10am**

### **Demand Avoidance Training**

This training is being delivered by Autism Bedfordshire exclusively for members of Bedford Borough Parent Carer Forum, if you'd like to know more about Demand Avoidance and how to help your child please book your place on this FREE Training.



**Monday 26th April – 10am**

### **CAMHS Get Together**

The CAMHS Service will be joining us to give an update on their service and you will also have the opportunity to ask them questions.

**Wednesday 28th April - 6.30pm**

### **SIBS Information Session**

This workshop is for parent of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities who want to know more about how to supporting siblings. It will give parents and insight into siblings' needs and experiences and has some ideas for giving siblings attention.







### Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Service for Children and Young People

Please find details of the CHUMS Emotional Wellbeing Service and Family Wellbeing Team offer in Central Bedfordshire, Bedford Borough and Luton for emotional wellbeing support from CHUMS.

They have also booked in more dates for their resiliency and sleep workshops.

More information available by emailing [fwteam@chums.uk.com](mailto:fwteam@chums.uk.com)

#### Parent Sleep Workshop (Children aged 12 and under)

- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 09:30-11:30
- Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 17:00-19:00

#### Teenage Sleep Workshop (Children aged 13+)

- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April at 16:00 – 18:00
- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 16:00 – 18:00

#### 0-5 Resiliency Workshop

- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 17:00 – 19:00
- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June at 09:30 – 11:30

**Primary Resiliency Workshop (Parent workshop for children aged 6-12)** – Explores the difference between mental health and mental illness, emotional regulation. Psychoeducation around anxiety and low mood, in addition to covering basic relaxation techniques

- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 09:30-11:30

**Secondary Resiliency Workshop (For Teens aged 13+)** - Explores the difference between mental health and mental illness, emotional regulation. Psychoeducation around anxiety and low mood, in addition to covering basic relaxation techniques

- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 13:00 – 15:00

### Lateral Flow Tests – Collection Point

The government has rolled out the lateral flow testing service nationwide, to help identify any possible positive cases of COVID-19 whilst being asymptomatic.

Twice weekly testing is encouraged for household contacts or those in support bubbles of those going to school, including parents and family members.

I just wanted to let you all know we are offering the collection service of the lateral flow tests at our pharmacy. We are able to give the tests to any individuals who meet the above criteria and they can also collect testing kits for their household members (up to a maximum of 4 tests).

Please note if the individual has tested positive or presenting with symptoms for Covid-19 or has been asked to self-isolate, they should **not** attend the pharmacy. If this is the case and they require testing they should book a normal test online at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus) or by calling 119.

#### Janssens Pharmacy

28 Ampthill Road  
Bedford, MK42 9HG  
Tel: 01234 353484

Monday - Friday: 9am -6pm  
Saturday: 9am-5pm  
Sunday: Closed