



Newsletter 7 – Summer Term

28th May 2021

It has been a busy week in school and the sun shining yesterday was a very welcome return! This week year 6 showed such resilience when their much looked forward to trip to Legoland had to be cancelled due to the increase in rates of COVID in the area. They did however get to enjoy a fun day yesterday which included cakes, water fights and lots of games!

Please can I ask that you take the time to read the letter from Public Health attached today regarding Covid cases locally. As well as that if your child develops symptoms of Covid over the next 48 hours or 48 hours before we return to school on Monday 7th June then you must email the covid@gdps.uk email address and let us know as this could mean we need to take action.

The Trish & Den Finale – The GD Bushtucker Trial – will take place this afternoon. The score stands at 3-3 – who will win? Video to follow.....

I hope you enjoy your half term break & stay safe
Denise Burgess

Follow the school on Twitter  @GreatDenhamPS

Since March 2020 we have been using SIMS-PAY for booking lunches and for parents to make payments to the school. Most parents have now signed up to the system and we really appreciate this as it reduces the cash coming into the office.

If you have any problems logging into SIMS-PAY please contact Rachel.smith@gdps.uk.

After half term any cash received will be provided with a receipt. If you do not receive a receipt please query this with Claire.boyce@gdps.uk

Parents making payments to the Friends of Great Denham fundraising events will not be issued with a receipt.

Bedford Borough Council have asked us to pass on the link below regarding the vaccination programme in our Borough.

<https://www.bedford.gov.uk/social-care-health-and-community/public-health/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccination-programme/>

For children who need to self-isolate for 1-3 days - we have now updated the home learning pages on the school website and there are links to support them at home.

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

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

Year 5 – Head Boy/Girl applications

Bedford Borough Council
letter (attached)

Cricket

Are there any parents who have a link with any cricket coaches/ clubs that might like to offer some coaching sessions during National School Sports Week 21st - 25th June.

Our attendance winner this week is Aquila with 99.6%.

Thank you to everyone who took part
in Break the Rules day
and for all your kind donations.



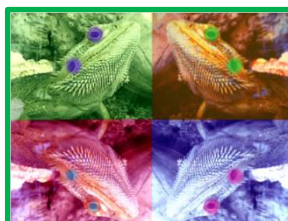
YEAR 6 UPDATE

Year 6 are enjoying the beginning of their crime and punishment topic linked to the key text 'Holes'. We have used emotive language to write letters home from the camp, put on our best Texas accents during role play and created animations using lego based on our favourite scenes from the film.



We are now learning about the location of Camp Green Lake and we are investigating the different plants and animals that live in North America. We even have a new resident in our block - Harley, the school bearded dragon! We were inspired to develop our artistic and photography skills by relief printing and image editing.

Over the coming weeks, Year 6 look forward to martial art sessions and other sporting activities.



DIARY DATES

- **Mon 7th June** – Children return to school
- **Mon 7th June** – Nursery – Marvellous Middle
- **Mon 7th June** – Year 3+4 Marvellous Middle
- **DATE CHANGE Tue 8th June** – Year 1 – Marvellous Middle
- **Tue 8th June** – Years 3-5 – Intra-sports cricket competition
- **Tue 8th June** – Year 2 – Marvellous middle
- **Wed 9th June** – Year 5 – deadline for applications for Head Boy/Girl
- **Wed 9th June** – Reception – Marvellous Middle
- **Mon 14th June** – Year 1 – Marvellous Middle
- **Mon 14th June** – REC Hearing Screening
- **Tue 15th June** – Year 1 – Hearing Screening
- **Tue 15th June** – Young Voices - Big Sing
- **Wednesday 16th June** – 4pm – Year 6 – Deadline for Leavers' hoodies
- **Tuesday 17th June** – Years 6 – Intra-sports cricket competition
- **Monday 21st June / Tuesday 22nd June** – Year 5 & 6 – Marvellous Middle

SPORTS CLUBS – Year 4 & 5

Please see the timetable below for the sports clubs for next half term. The ones in red are where changes have been made from the original plan due to numbers.

	Monday Boys Football Mr Moon	Tuesday Girls/Boys Table Tennis Mrs Hardy	Wednesday Girls Football Mr Moon	Thursday Girls Netball Mrs Hardy
w/c 7 th June	Year 5	Year 5	Year 4 & 5 (split)	Year 5
w/c 14 th June	Year 4	Year 4	Year 4 & 5 (split)	Year 4
w/c 21 st June	Year 4 & 5	Year 4 & 5	Year 4 & 5	Year 5
w/c 28 th June	Year 4 & 5	Year 4 & 5	Year 4 & 5	Year 4
w/c 5 th July	Year 4 & 5	Year 4 & 5	Year 4 & 5	Year 4 & 5
w/c 12 th July	No Sports Clubs			

Sports Update

Sports Teams

This half term has seen us get physically active as a school in so many ways. Watching the children enjoy themselves through participation in physical education, school sport and other physical activity has been refreshing and energising. The sports captains, leaders and their ambassadors have worked hard to collect feedback and PE and sports from their classes and we look forward to planning the next steps after half term, where the enjoyment and fun will continue.

Family competition

This week the children have competed in their family teams during PE sessions, to score as many points as possible for their family. Both personal and team challenges were set in the sessions, which enabled children to show the skills learnt over the past 7 weeks. The enjoyment has been wonderful to see and the final results were so close. Congratulations to everyone for showing the school games values and taking part, and to Ignis for winning the competition.

1st place - Ignis - 297 points
2nd place - Aqua - 272 points
3rd place - Terra - 269 points
4th place - Ventus - 264 points

Next half term PE focus

After enjoying tennis & athletics this half term, we will be moving onto **Striking & Fielding**, where the children will focus on developing their teamwork and skills in cricket, rounders and even baseball for some.

Through our school sports partnership programme, Year 1 will have dance workshops on a weekly basis and we look forward to seeing their performance.

Upcoming sports events

Tuesday 8th June – Year 3, 4 & 5 cricket competition

Thursday 17th June – Year 6 cricket competition

Monday 21st - Friday 25th June – National Sports Week

Stars of the week

Little Stars: Jessica & Sophia

Stars of the Week:

Cassiopeia – Lionel, Tucana – Rose, Orion – Alex, Aquila – Omar, Pavo – Austin, Cygnus – Madeleine, Volans – Jordan, Delphinus – Helena, Serpens – Emily, Andromeda – Annie, Pegasus – Finlay, Perseus – Tiana, Auriga – Isabella, Vela – Abu Dawood, Lyra – Naima, Lacerta – Luca, Circinus – Kamil, Phoenix – Sophie-Grace.

Values:

Cassiopeia – Alaina, Tucana – Aliyah-Marie, Orion – Harry, Aquila – Nathan, Pavo – Myles, Cygnus – Monty, Volans – Alexandru, Delphinus – Amelia, Serpens – Amy, Andromeda – Kawthar, Pegasus – Ella, Perseus – Ken, Auriga – Fabien, Vela – Sian, Lyra – Bandile, Lacerta – Eivissa, Circinus – Katherine, Phoenix – Julian.

Sports Stars of the Week:

Nursery – Daisy

Reception – Joshua, Willow & Luca

Year 1 – Ben, Jodie & Okley

Year 2 – Setaish, Finlay & Teddy

Year 3 – Ramsey & Harvey

Year 4 – Zachary & Leo

Year 5 – Nardo & Zuwenia

Year 6 – George, Swayley & Wanny

Link to celebration assembly
<https://youtu.be/rqPYfCOB9Fg>



LOCAL EVENTS & ADVERTS



Wednesday 2nd June - 7pm

Evening Half Term Get Together

Join us for a general get together to chat with other parent carers and let us know how things are going for you and your child. Any new parents who haven't joined us before are welcome to join us to find out more about the forum and what we do.



Thursday 10th June - 10am

Sleep Workshop

Does your child have problems with sleep? We will have nurses from the Sleep Clinic running a workshop and joining us to discuss any sleep issues you may have with your child. Please book your place via the link below.



Thursday 17th June - 10am

Get Together for Parent Carers of children age 0-5

Is your child pre-school age and received a diagnosis for something or have they been struggling? Do you have concerns that they are having some difficulties. Come and join us for a get together with other parent carers in a similar situation. All welcome.



Children's Community Health HUB

Your one stop
contact point

0300 555 0606

ccs.bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub@nhs.net

Open 9am-5pm
every weekday
(excluding BH)

New contact number and email address for the Beds and Luton 0-19 services, including:

- Health Visiting
- School Nursing

New contact number for:

- Luton Community Paediatric services (Edwin Lobo Centre)
- Beds and Luton Looked after Children's services

Health HUB - a single contact point,
making it easier for you to
get in touch with us.




**Get in touch to book a place for
your young explorer**

By post:

PO Box 1591, Bedford MK42 5DT

By email:

info@countrydays.net

By telephone:

07599336532 / 07938267057

Visit our website:

www.countrydays.net



The Leys Nature Reserve, Pavenham
Road, Felmersham Beds MK43 7EX



Summer Courses 2021

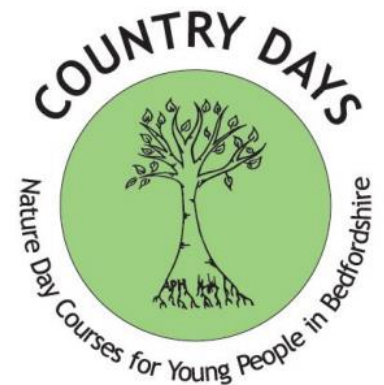
Monday 9th August- 1 day course

Course 1:

Tuesday 10th & Wednesday 11th
August

Course 2:

Thursday 12th & Friday 13th August



*We must teach our children
To smell the earth
To taste the rain
To touch the wind
To see things grow
To hear sun rise and night fall
To care*

Course Programme
Easter & Summer 2021

Country Days is an educational charity
providing outdoor learning in a beautiful
6 acre nature reserve for young people
aged 7-11 in Bedfordshire.



**Visit our website for more
information about our sponsors.
We are so grateful for their
ongoing support.**

Registered Charity Number 1181833



- Places cost £15 for each two day course.
- If you sign up for two courses, the price is discounted to £25 total.
- £10 for 1 day course Monday 9th August
- Free places for those on free school meals or pupil premium.

Activities

Summer Courses

Monday 9th August- 1 day course
Activities include:

- Sport/den building
- Pond dipping
- Art

Course 1: *Surviving in the Wild*

Activities include:

- Obstacle Courses
- Orienteering
- Adventure challenges
- Bushcraft

Course 2: *Stories of Nature*

Activities include:

- Botany
- Performing Arts
- Storytelling
- Creative Writing

**Visit our website for more
information about all the courses**