



Great Denham Primary School  
NEWSLETTER 8  
Autumn Term  
22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021

## Family Day

On Tuesday we had a fabulous day with Aga, a singer, songwriter from London. Aga came to help us celebrate Black History Month and spent time singing a selection of songs from Jamaica and Africa with the children.

As well as this he helped us relaunch our family songs which he wrote with the children at GDPS around 6 years ago. As Aqua family was our last family to be set up they never had a full song so Aga spent extra time with them writing their song - watch this space for a performance in the not too distant future!



Please join me in welcoming Carys who joined Year 4 last week.

Also a warm welcome to Miss Tillson who joined Aquila class this week as a 1-1 teaching assistant.

Today we say a sad goodbye to Miss Suman who leaves us for pastures new - Miss Suman has been with us at Great Denham for over 6 years - we will miss her but wish her well in her new role.



## PHOTO ORDERS

This week your child will have brought home an order form for the individual & sibling photos - if not please speak to your child's class teacher.

All orders need to be placed on the Tempest website

[www.tempest-orders.co.uk](http://www.tempest-orders.co.uk)

using the reference number on the order form. The deadline for orders for free delivery to the school is Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October.

## LETTERS THIS WEEK

Y5+6 - World War 1 visitor  
Squid game

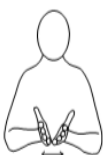
Y2 - SATs parent info session

Y4 - Multiplication and Times  
Tables parent info session

Y1 - Forest School



Read



Write



Inspiring excellence; everyone, everyday



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

As we come to the end of our first half term I would like to thank you for your continued support to our school. It has been wonderful having a more 'normal' term and whilst we still have some restrictions in place, school has felt much more like Great Denham!

A huge well done to our new Early Years children both in Nursery & Reception who have done a brilliant job of settling into school life - I hope they enjoy their well earned rest next week!

It has been such a busy week with sports fixtures, open mornings, Viking days, presentation speeches to the Parish Council, family day and parents' evenings. No wonder the staff and children are tired!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my wonderful staff who have gone above and beyond as always this term to give our children such fantastic learning experiences - I am sure you will join me in wishing them all a lovely break next week!

Denise Burgess

## PARKING

Please can we ask parents to be considerate to our neighbours and the local community when dropping off and picking up children from school; particularly around Muirfield.

We are very lucky to have a dedicated car park for parents to use rather than on the surrounding roads.

## REMINDERS

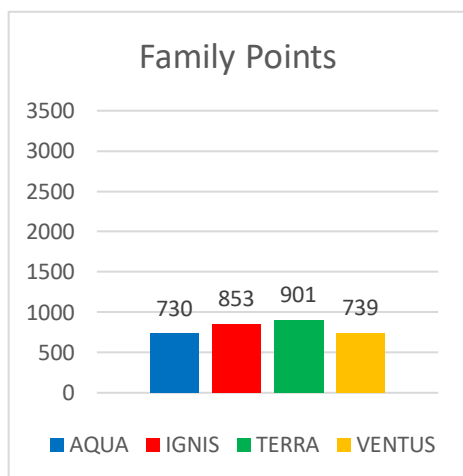
School return on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November  
(There is no staff training day)

Our Friends of Great Denham (PTA) need you!  
Come along to the AGM on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November

## PARENTS EVENING

Thank you to all the parents who attended parents' evening and thank you for your understanding and patience with having to wait outside – this meant that we could hold face-to-face appointments within our covid risk assessment.

We hope you found it beneficial – if you didn't get to meet with your child's class teacher please either email our enquiries email address or the year group email or call the office and the teachers will be able to arrange a meeting or call after half term.



## ATTENDANCE

Our attendance winners this week are:

Reception & Key Stage 1 – Pavo – 96.3%

Key Stage 2 – Perseus – 98%

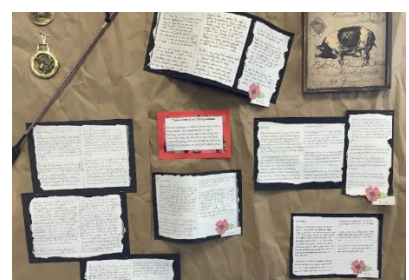
## YEAR GROUP UPDATE



### Year 6

Year 6 had a very busy start to the term. After pinpointing the exact point in history when WW1 took place, we explored and located those countries of the world, which were involved in The Great War. Our key text 'War Horse' has been helping us understand how the war would have influenced families and communities, through the eyes of Albert - Joey's owner. Albert's emotions, thoughts and feelings were explored through role-play and the children wrote diaries as a reaction to the sale of Joey, who was now destined to become a 'war horse'.

The children have also produced some fantastic sketches of Joey, after getting expert advice from Mrs HB! This week, we have written persuasive speeches and presented them to a local parish councillor, as we were upset to hear that Great Denham's memorial had been vandalised and we wish to make our own memorial in Great Denham to mark remembrance day this year.



## DIARY DATES

**HALF TERM: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October**

- **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October** – Deadline for Secondary school application
- **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November** – Children return to school
- **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 7.30pm** – Friends of Great Denham AGM in the school hall
- **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2.45pm** – Year 2 – KS1 Statutory Assessment Meeting for Parents  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/190322960097>
- **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2.45pm** – Year 4 – Multiplication & Times Table meeting for Parents  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/190194907087>

## STARS & VALUES OF THE WEEK



### STARS

Little Stars – Sidney  
Cassiopeia – Freddie  
Aquila – Emilia  
Volans – Alaa  
Pegasus – Danielle  
Auriga – Setayesh  
Vela – Tanisha  
Phoenix – Amna

Tucana – Jude  
Pavo – Parker  
Delphinus – Okley  
Eridanus – Kyle  
Perseus – Zara  
Lyra – Amy  
Circinus – Summayah

Orion – Aiden  
Cygnus – Aurelia  
Serpens – Edie  
Andromeda – Ewan

### VALUES

Cassiopeia – Luca  
Aquila – Olivia  
Volans – Finley  
Pegasus – Reuben  
Auriga – Carys  
Vela – Ken  
Phoenix – George

Tucana – Marcus  
Pavo – Elizabeth  
Delphinus – Aiyla  
Eridanus – Lola  
Perseus – Mason  
Lyra – Alesha  
Circinus – Anaya

Orion – Emilia  
Cygnus – Bella  
Serpens – Cairo  
Andromeda – Summer

## SPORTS STARS

Aquila – Kayhan  
Volans – Sienna  
Pegasus – Logan  
Auriga – Thabile  
Vela – Grace  
Phoenix – Hamza

Pavo – Alice  
Delphinus – Okley  
Eridanus –  
Perseus – Alex  
Lyra – Mije  
Circinus – Jake

Cygnus – Scarlett  
Serpens – Chloe  
Andromeda –



# SPORTS UPDATE



Wow, wow, wow....what a magnificent first half term of active participation, training and fixtures! The children who have represented our school during fixtures, tournaments and festivals should be extremely proud of themselves; excellence, determination and respect has been shown by them all. Thank you!

## **Year 6 Boys Football team final match v Bromham Primary**

This match was the final match in the league and it was definitely the strongest performance. From start to finish the boys truly believed in themselves - it was fast paced and exciting. To add to the excitement, Abu Dawood's penalty strike was saved, Leo made a phenomenal save in goal and James scored an unbelievable goal! The final score was 6-1 to Bromham. Huge congratulations to the whole team on their achievements in the league.

Team: Abu Dawood, Aydin, Bandile, Ben, James, Joe-Joe, Leo, Mo, Nardo, Ramin, Thomas, Yusuf. **Player of the match: Leo**

## **Year 5 & 6 Netball match v Scott Primary**

These matches were extremely challenging and fast paced. Both teams worked hard to defend and looked strong when attacking, however Scott Primary won both matches and thoroughly deserved to. Well done to both our teams who, as always, enjoyed the game and showed superb determination.

**Year 5 team:** Alanna, Alice, Amelia, Ava, Deborah, Elliya, Grace, Hollie, Jemima, Sienna  
**Player of the match - Deborah**

**Year 6 team:** Aamani, Anaya, Afrin, Ava, Kayla, Ola, Fathima, Zaarah, Zuwen  
**Player of the match - Zuwen**

## **Year 5 & 6 Netball match v Sharnbrook Primary**

Our super netballers played with passion, pride and skill against Sharnbrook. Both year 5 and 6 teams moved the ball around the court beautifully, attacked strongly (scoring many of their shots on target) and defended superbly! The girls finished both matches on a real high and thoroughly deserved their wins! Congratulations to year 5 who won 6-3 and year 6 who won 8-1.

**Year 5 team:** Alesha, Alice, Ava, Grace, Holli, Isabella, Jemima, Julia, Sienna,  
**Player of the match - Ava**

**Year 6 team:** Amber, Amelia, Ava, Bella, Florence, Naima, Ophelia, Zaarah, Zuwen,  
**Player of the match - Amelia**

## **Year 4 Multiskills festival - Auriga class**

Auriga attended an afternoon jam packed of sporting activities at Kempston Challenger Academy. It was so nice to compete and participate against so many other schools. Well done to the tag rugby ten, who won all of their matches. The nine children who learnt how to play Goalball blindfolded and the amazing nine who navigated their way around the orienteering course and team challenges. Fun was had by all!

## **Sports events first week after half term;**

Monday 1st November 3:15-4:15pm - Year 5 & 6 Boys Basketball training  
Tuesday 2nd November 4-6pm - Year 5 & 6 Girls Table Tennis tournament  
Wednesday 3rd November 4-5pm - Year 6 netball match HOME v Hazeldean  
Thursday 4th November 4-6pm - Year 5 & 6 Girls Futsal league match