



Great Denham Primary School
NEWSLETTER 9
Autumn Term
5th November 2021



Inspiring excellence; everyone, everyday

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL CLOSURE

Today we have sent out amended term dates to take into account the additional school closure date we need to have with the bank holiday falling in the May half term next year. This now means school will be closed on Monday 6th June 2022 and children will return from half term on Tuesday 7th June 2022.



Welcome to Miss C Morey who joined us this week working in our After School Club Monday – Wednesday.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

It has been a busy first week back after half term – I hope you had a lovely half term and enjoyed the break.

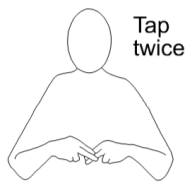
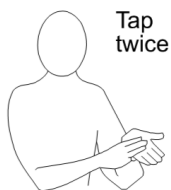
This week we have had to put some additional measures back in school due to the letter from Public Health that we received during half term (a copy was sent to you on Monday). This means staff are wearing masks when not in their classrooms, we have reduced mixing to no more than 2 year groups together and cancelled all face to face events in the short term. Hopefully this will be a temporary measure only – if you would like to read our amended risk assessment it can be found on our school website under the Covid section.

Hope you have a lovely weekend
Denise Burgess



Mum

Dad



LETTERS THIS WEEK

Y1-6 – PE days
Covid update from Bedford Borough Council
Covid Flowchart
Y4 – MTC Presentation
Y2 – KS1 SATs Presentation
Revised Term Date 2021-22
Y5+6 – Panto
Free School Meals

Year 2 KS1 SATS and Year 4 Multiplication & Times Tables Check presentations

Thank you to everyone who joined us this week for the Zoom presentations. If you were unable to attend, the presentations can be found on our website as follows:

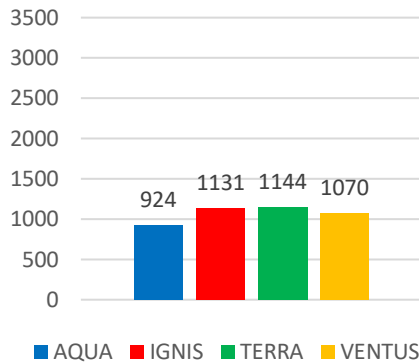
Presentations to Parents

<https://www.greatdenhamprimary.org.uk/parents/parentmail>

LETTERS

We appreciate there has been a lot of letters and communication from the school recently and this can sometimes be confusing – we are working on a solution to stream line the process and will be able to communicate this with parents soon.

Family Points



ATTENDANCE

Our attendance winners this week are:

Reception & Key Stage 1 – Orion – 100%

Key Stage 2 – Circinus – 100%

YEAR GROUP UPDATE

Nursery

The children have settled in very well in Nursery and it has been lovely to watch them shine. Our topic this term is 'Who am I?'; through this we have delved into knowing each individual child, their interests and who they are and where they come from?

We have talked about people who help us outside school, and it was during this time that we had a visit from the Police who spent time talking to the children about how they help people. The children were in awe and were so excited about sitting in the Police car and wearing the Police hat. The innocence of children is real when it is time for the question-and-answer part and one child asked the police officers "have you been to dinosaur world?" Dinosaurs are very important when you are 3 and 4 years old.



Following on from this the children were introduced to people who help us in school. Three members of staff were asked to be interviewed by the Nursery children, the chosen ones were Mrs Smith (our lovely lady in the office), Emma (family support officer) and the main person, Mrs Burgess herself. I'm not sure what they knew what they were letting themselves in for but the children excelled themselves with the questions they



asked, "What do you do in the office?" to "How do you get to school?" The children were mega impressed with Mrs Smith's transportation, when she replied she came to school by helicopter. Not so impressed with Mrs Burgess that she travelled by bike although she did make up for it by saying she had a tortoise called Sheldon.



The nursery children have become such a big part of Great Denham Primary School and just watching them grow in confidence in their new environment fills me with joy. They truly are an amazing class who make our hearts fill with love and bring us a lot of happiness.

DIARY DATES

- **Friday 19th November** – Children in Need day

(Theme to be decided by School Council – more information to follow next week)

STARS & VALUES OF THE WEEK



Little Stars – Beatrice
Cassiopeia – Joshia
Aquila – Jaxon
Volans – Lincoln
Pegasus – Alexandru
Auriga – Lulu
Vela – Sara
Phoenix – Tobie

STARS

Tucana – Aston
Pavo – Leo
Delphinus – Layaan
Eridanus – Sam
Perseus – Euan
Lyra – Eden
Circinus – Jake

Orion – Dylan
Cygnus – Willow
Serpens – Isla
Andromeda – Zizi

Cassiopeia – Asher
Aquila – Zaina
Volans – Ben
Pegasus – Hollie
Auriga – Lewis
Vela – Aalijah
Phoenix – Summer-Star

VALUES

Tucana – Jahlil
Pavo – Evie B
Delphinus – Nesonna
Eridanus – Matilda
Perseus – Bilal
Lyra – Amy
Circinus – Ameera

Orion – Harlan
Cygnus – Jack
Serpens – Layla
Andromeda – Amy

SPORTS STARS

Cassiopeia – Rex
Aquila – Noah
Volans – Finley
Pegasus – Danielle
Auriga – Ashmeera
Vela – Zachery
Phoenix – Barbare

Tucana – Daisy
Pavo – Lauren
Delphinus – Eliza
Eridanus – Sam B
Perseus – Hassan
Lyra – Tommy
Circinus – Amelia

Orion – Elijah
Cygnus – Hugo
Serpens – Amy
Andromeda – Acacio

SPORTS UPDATE

What a fantastic first week back!

Year 6 Girls netball match v Hazeldene

The girls played their final match of the league against a very strong Hazeldene side. The team worked hard to find space and keep the game calm. Unfortunately, the girls lost 8-2, but they need to hold their heads high and be proud of their achievements this season. Well done girls. Team: Afrin, Amber, Amelia, Anaya, Ava, Florence, Kayla, Naima, Zuwenna.

Player of the match: Anaya



Year 5 & 6 Girls Futsal League

This was the first week of the futsal (indoor football) league for our 2 teams. Both teams played 3 matches, which lasted for 12 minutes. The pace of each game was fast and furious, the girls can certainly be proud of their team's commitment, performance and play. In every game, the performances just got better and better.

Well done to all of you for the excellent teamwork you showed throughout. Looking forward to next week already!

Results:

A team: Florence, Naima, Lucy, Afrin, Kayla, Amelia, Sienna, Holli

Lost 4-0 v Bromham

Lost 4-1 v Greenacre (Naima scored)

Won 2-1 v Livingstone (Afrin & Naima scored)

Player of the match - Kayla



B team: Ava, Zuwenna, Ophelia, Summayah, Grace, Deborah, Mya,

Drew 2-2 v Hazeldene A (Zuwenna scored 2 goals)

Lost 1-0 v Hazeldene B

Lost 4-1 v Brickhill (Zuwenna scored)

Player of the match - Ophelia (GK)



Year 2 Multisports festival - Delphinus class

Delphinus class attended a multisports festival at St Thomas More today. They rotated around different and exciting activity stations and enjoyed developing their fundamental movement skills. Well done Delphinus for showing great determination. Photos will be in next week newsletter.

Next week

Mon 8th Nov - Year 5&6 Boys Basketball training 3:15-4:15pm

Tues 9th Nov - Year 5&6 Boys Table tennis tournament at Westfield 4:00-6:00pm

Wed 10th Nov - Year 5&6 Girls Football training 3:15-4:15pm

Year 5&6 mixed Girls netball friendly Match v Bromham 3:30-4:30pm

Thur 11th Nov - Year 5&6 Girls futsal league at Alexandra sports centre 4:00-6:00pm

Fri 12th Nov - Year 5&6 Girls Futsal tournament at John Bunyan Sports centre 10:00am-12:00pm

LOCAL EVENTS



**FREE FOOTBALL
TASTER SESSION**

Saturday Mornings at The Alexander Sports Centre

AVAILABILITY:

- INCLUSION FOOTBALL (7+ YEARS) 9:00**
- MINI'S FOOTBALL (2 - 6 YEARS) 10:15**
- GIRLS FOOTBALL (7 - 11 YEARS) 11:30**

To book your child on call 01234 340 782 or email
info@ssgservices.co.uk



ANNUAL SURVEY

**Complete our Annual
Survey for your chance
to win £50 Love
Bedford Vouchers**

Every year we run an annual survey in November asking Parent Carers in Bedford Borough for their recent/current experience of services for children with SEND in Bedford Borough. This is around Education, Health and Social Care. We really need to hear from **EVERYONE** so that we can get a full picture as to how services are working for families.

This information feeds into our annual 'Outcomes Report' which is presented to the SEND Improvement Board who make decisions around areas of local priority. It is important for us to have this information so that we can raise awareness and highlight areas requiring improvement or change.

Please take 5 minutes to complete the survey and you can enter for a chance to win £50 Love Bedford Vouchers.

If you have more than one child with SEND then you can complete the survey once for each child as your experiences may be different for each of them.

This Survey will end on 30th November 2021

[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY](#)

Children's Occupational Therapy Service

for children and young people who experience difficulties with everyday activities

You can find information and access the resources listed below on our webpage:

www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/Bedfordshire/services/occupational-therapy

- 'You make the difference' video - for parents and carers of children aged under 5, to promote use of hands and independence skills.
- Sensory Processing Awareness Training - online video, planning wheels and strategies.
- Development Skills Package - provides information to support the development of the skills notes below.



SCAN ME

This information is also available in easy read or other languages, please see the website or scan the QR code to use our RECITE function.

easy read and translation



- Play
- Eating
- Dressing
- Self-care (eg washing)



- Managing at school (e.g. school tasks and helping a child with a physical disability with supportive seating or to get around their classroom)

Further information (including details of your Local Offer pages) can be found at:

www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/Bedfordshire/services/occupational-therapy