



Great Denham Primary School
NEWSLETTER 13
Autumn Term
3rd December 2021

SPRING TERM CLUB BOOKINGS

We have been made aware that a few parents have not been able to book all the After School Club sessions that they require for the spring term.

The Extra-Curricular club team have met this week and we will be able to confirm next week which activities will be available for the spring term. This will hopefully help free up some spaces in After School Club or give parents an alternative to After School Club.



Friday 10th December - Santa Dash in loving memory of Mrs Chris Dennis our teaching assistant for Cancer Research UK

We will be joining thousands of children from across the country to participate in this fun festive event.

Each year group will complete a mile by choosing to either walk, jog or run alongside their friends. We are encouraging children to wear a Santa hat, and/or festive headwear, and/or Christmas jumper on this day along with P.E Kit and trainers. We are asking for a small donation for Cancer Research UK.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

This week has been a busy week for our children with Christmas play and concert rehearsals and as well as this it has been assessment week for children in Year 1 - 6. We have been blown away with how well our children have done in their assessments and the progress they are making.

Also this week our youngest children, our Nursery 'Little Stars' performed their first Christmas play to their families - they were absolutely wonderful and sang so confidently - a huge well done to each of them and to Mrs Lee and her wonderful team for putting together such a lovely show!



Food



Drink



LETTERS THIS WEEK

Boys Futsal Tournament – Y5 & 6
(selected pupils)

Portals to the past – Y6

Choir Club – Year5 & 6
(selected pupils)

Hope you have a lovely weekend
Denise Burgess

Online Safety

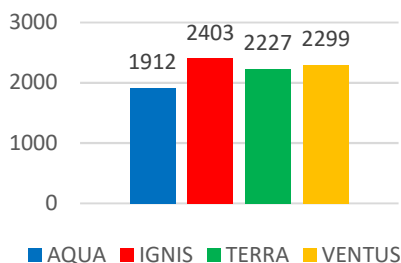
Last week we sent out information regarding a fantastic online safety resource that we have subscribed to as a school from **National Online Safety**. This allows parents to sign up and receive access to a range of resources including training, help videos and regular updates on how you can keep your child safe online. If you haven't signed up already please take advantages of this brilliant resource by following the link below:

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/great-denham-primary-school>

Safety Squad

As part of our work at improving online safety awareness as a school we have elected children from each class to take on the role of a member of our safety squad. We are looking for 2 parents to join this group and take an active role in helping promote online safety across the school. The group will meet termly in school time for one hour, three times a year. If you are interested please email ruth.preece@gpds.uk for further information!

Family Points



ATTENDANCE

Our attendance winners this week are:

Reception – Orion – 96.6%

Key Stage 1 - Delphinus – 97.1%

Key Stage 2 - Phoenix – 98.9%

YEAR GROUP UPDATE

Year 3

As the Year 3 children have continued to discover more and more about the Vikings, we have begun to see this learning reflected in their wonderful Take Home Task, which began to arrive in school at the end of last term.

The children should be incredibly proud of their creative efforts. As you can see from the photograph, we have had some amazing Viking weaponry created, Longboats and some really in depth non-fiction pieces. I know that I speak for all the Year 3 team when I say thank you for the continued support. It is wonderful to see how proud they are of their work and how confident they are to talk about it.



DIARY DATES

- **Tuesday 7th December** – Year 1 – Christmas Play 9:00am
- **Tuesday 7th December** – Year 2 – Christmas Play 10:15am
- **Tuesday 7th December** – Reception – Christmas Play 2:00pm
- **Wednesday 8th December** – Reception – Christmas Play 9:00am
- **Wednesday 8th December** – Year 1 – Christmas Play 10:15am
- **Wednesday 8th December** – Year 2 – Christmas Play 2:00pm
- **Wednesday 8th December** – Years 3 – 6 – Carols by Candlelight – 5:00pm
- **Thursday 9th December** – Year 2 – Christmas Play 9:00am
- **Thursday 9th December** – Reception – Christmas Play 10:15am
- **Thursday 9th December** – Year 1 – Christmas Play 2:00pm

STARS & VALUES OF THE WEEK



Little Stars – Whole Class

Cassiopeia – Araya H
Aquila – Dylan
Volans – Elliana
Pegasus – Rayyan
Auriga – Ibrahim
Vela – Mya
Phoenix – Noah

STARS

Tucana – Thomas
Pavo – Ignacy
Delphinus – Monty
Eridanus – Hameeda
Perseus – Annise
Lyra – Tommy
Circinus – Florence

Orion – Ellen
Cygnus – Thomas
Serpens – Amy
Andromeda – Acacio

Cassiopeia – Luke
Aquila – Louie
Volans – Jai
Pegasus – Anayah
Auriga – Jessica T
Vela – Lewis
Phoenix – Kayla

VALUES

Tucana – Jaida
Pavo – Amelie
Delphinus – Abdul
Eridanus – Poppy
Perseus – Jacob
Lyra – Laura
Circinus – Lena

Orion – Millie
Cygnus – Isaac
Serpens – Jodie
Andromeda – Asher

SPORTS STARS

Aquila – Amelia
Volans – Mohsin
Pegasus – Maxwell
Auriga – Lulu
Vela – Zara A
Phoenix – Lucy

Tucana – Chanice
Pavo – Albie
Delphinus – Nesonna
Eridanus – Jordan
Perseus – Harvey
Lyra – Adil
Circinus – Ethan

Orion – Celine
Cygnus – Quinn
Serpens – Skye
Andromeda – ZiZi

SPORTS UPDATE

Events next week:

Tuesday 7th December
4-6pm Year 5&6 Boys Futsal

Thursday 9th December
4-6pm Year 3&4 Futsal

Friday 10th December
Santa Dash (mile run) –
whole school



Year 5&6 Girls Dodgeball tournament

The girls played amazingly well in this fun, fast and fierce competition. Each match consisted of five lots of two minutes, which tested their teamwork, stamina and accuracy. The girls grew in confidence throughout the competition and should be extremely proud to have finished in 4th place, out of 9 schools. Congratulations to; Anaya, Grace, Grace, Kayla, Zara and Zuwenna.

Year 5&6 Boys Dodgeball tournament

The boys set themselves the challenge to match the girls achievements, however the level of play from other schools was excellent and this was a challenge. The team took a while to find their rhythm but when they did they presented a real challenge to the opposition. After some amazing dodges, catches and hits the boys finished in 8th place out of 9 schools. Well done to: Eli, James, Joe-Joe, Ken, Nakai and Toby.

Year 5&6 Girls Netball tournament

Thank you to all of the netball squad for celebrating their achievements this year and playing in our first Great Denham tournament. It was fun, energetic, competitive and filled with high quality performances- a perfect way to finish the season. Well done girls!

A special thank you to Mrs Lee (Grace's mum) who has given up her free time to umpire most of our matches and help develop our squad.

Year 3&4 and 5&6 Sportshall Athletics

Thank you to the 36 children who represented our school in the exciting Sportshall Athletics competitions this week. These children showed an enormous amount of courage, determination and excellence whilst competing against many other schools, in both track and field events. Photos and place announcements to follow next week. Thank you and well done to;

Year 6 : Amber, Anaya, Ava, Kayla, Mo, Noah, Tobi, Yusuf, Zuwenna

Year 5: Alice, Charlie, Deborah, Grace, Mije, Nakai, Sienna, Romaine, Thomas

Year 4: Emilie, Florence, Harvey, Holly, Jude, Kawthar, Oisin, Ramsey, Tyler,

Year 3: Acacio, Amelia, Cleusia, Danielle, Jacob, Jordan, Lexi, Rio, Thalia

LOCAL EVENTS & ADVERTS

*Great Denham's
Festive Fayre*

2021

Saturday 4th December
2pm to 6pm
Great Denham Community Hall

Fairground rides
Refreshments
Craft Stalls

Carols in Saxon Hall @ 5.30pm
Santa's Grotto!

Email any queries to:
events@greatdenhamcommunityhall.co.uk



SANTA'S GROTTO

At Great Denham Community Hall's *Winter Festival*

✳ Saturday 4th December ✳ From 2pm – 6pm ✳

✳ Only £3 per child ✳

Join us upstairs in the Anglian Suite, where the Elves will be on hand to help little ones to make reindeer food*, decorate baubles* and enjoy other festive activities, before they meet the Big Man himself, and receive a gift.

Each booking will meet Santa as a group. Adults do not need a ticket.

*Small additional charge for these optional activities in the Elves Area.

BOOK TICKETS ONLINE:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/friends-of-great-denham/e-ojgkaq>



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SUPPORTING **Great Denham**
PRIMARY SCHOOL



Follow the school on Twitter
@GreatDenhamPS

Active Advent

imoves

FUN ELF-Y AND EDUCATIONAL FREE GIFT

Free 'Active Advent' calendar, designed specifically for kids, their friends and their families to enjoy at home.

Just like the traditional advent calendar, an **amazing new activity** is revealed each and every morning throughout December - but with no chocolate in sight!

It's **super simple** and **easy** to use and can be **safely accessed** on pretty much any electronic device available in most homes.

The daily activities are **FULL OF FANTASTICAL FESTIVE FUN**, as well as being **elf-y AND educational**. And most important of all - it's

100% FREE

You can join the fun in literally 10 seconds at
www.activeadvent.fun

About imoves

imoves Active Education have over 10 years experience working with primary schools and providing 'active educational' resources, both in the UK and overseas. Each Christmas, they produce what they call an 'Active Advent' calendar which many teachers will use in school, during the last couple of weeks before the holidays. This year, in response to the devastating impact of the pandemic, self isolation and lockdowns, they've gone even further, and produced this brilliant FREE resource designed for parents to use with their kids at home. No catches, no hidden agenda, just a nice thing to do because it's the right thing to do.

Join the fun at www.activeadvent.fun

BEDFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Free Event

COME AND VISIT SANTA ON HIS MAGIC BUS

SANTA SCOOT

Mowsbury Park

Wentworth Drive, Bedford MK41 8DQ

Sunday 12th December

Drop by any time 10am to 12pm

Start from the Wentworth Drive Car Park and follow a trail to find the magical Christmas bus. Bikes and buggies also welcome. All children receive a free gift from Father Christmas.

Please do not attend if you, or anyone in your household, feel unwell or have symptoms of COVID-19.

Thanks to Grant Palmer Limited for supporting this year's Santa Scoot



My child has received a neurodiversity diagnosis (e.g. Autism or ADHD)

Where can I find help and information?

The **DIAGNOSIS SUPPORT PACK** is an online '*one-stop shop*' for information, resources and signposting for families.

- Introduction
- Positives of Neuro-diversities
- Holistic Approach
- What to expect at your appointment
- Sleep
- Medication
- Talking about a diagnosis
- Sensory Processing Needs
- Mental Health
- Supporting Social Communication Development
- Best Practice Guide for Professionals
- Contact Information and Resources
- Jargon Buster
- Printable resources and links



www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/dsp

This pack has been co-produced with the help of parents, young people, local Parent Carer Forums, CAMHS, Education Psychology and other key partners.



Great Denham Dinkies Christmas Party

Friday 17th December 9:30-11:30am

Great Denham Community Hall

£5 Per Child – Tickets Only

(Ticket includes: Crafts, magic show, balloons, mince pie and hot drink for one adult)