



A message from the Head...

Dear Parents,

What a fun week it has been! The children and staff loved having our annual pancake race back in full swing and a 'flipping' good time was had by all! A huge thank you to all of our parents who are part of the Friends of Great Denham who gave up their time to help on the day - it was lovely to see so many of you and so great to have you there helping - thank you. A particular thank you though must go to Kirsty Lister our chair for organising it all and to Mr Evans who found his talent on the microphone!

Yesterday we also celebrated world book day as well - again it was wonderful to see the children having fun, talking about books and celebrating 25 years of World book day - thank you to all the parents for your support in getting your children dressed up in such fabulous costumes, as a parent myself I know how much time and effort goes into getting organised for the day (and am secretly glad now my boys are too old to have to dress up)!

Have a good weekend,

Denise Burgess

This week's letters home

Year 1 – Music Concert

Year 6 – SATs Workshop

COVID update and flow chart

Andromeda class update

FOGD Mother's Day daffodils

Reception warn and inform

Year 6 – Legoland



GOOD LUCK!

A huge good luck to our Year 4 - 6 choir (chosen children) who are taking part in the Bedfordshire Speech, Music and drama festival this weekend for the first time! We are looking forward to competing against other schools. Also the best of luck to some of our talented performers in Year 3 - 6 next week who will be competing in the poetry recital as well.

Finally, another good luck to Xara and Aleya Killick who are also taking part in both piano and violin competitions!

Online Safety

National Online Safety this week:

What parents need to know about WhatsApp (see poster attached to email).

As people sought a quick, reliable way to stay in touch with loved ones at the onset of the pandemic, WhatsApp experienced a jump of 40% in its usage figures. It's now been downloaded by almost a third of the planet's entire population – with more than half (53%) of those users opening the app at least once per day.

If you haven't signed up to National Online Safety already, please take advantage of this brilliant resource by following the link below: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com>

Diary Dates

Friday 18th March – Red Nose Day

Annual Pancake Race

Everyone was in great spirits for this year's pancake race and we certainly weren't phased by the rain. There was laughter and great team spirit all round making it a really fun morning.

We'd like to say a huge thank you to all of our parents who are part of the Friends of Great Denham and who gave up their time to help on the day. Another big thank you to Kirsty Lister our chair and Mr Evans for organising and helping it run smoothly on the day.

For anyone who would still like to make a donation for the day, please pop it in an envelope and pass to our team in the office or to your class teacher. Thank you so much.

Below are a few photos of the races and pancake treats at our after school club.



YEAR GROUP UPDATE

Year 5

Year 5 have been transported into outer space by the mysterious super computer 'Cosmos' from our key text - 'George's Secret Key to the Universe'. We considered the question 'what is above us in the night sky as we dream?' and considered the following: how the earth, sun and moon orbit to create night and day and the seasons, how artists recreate the art sky and what dreams we have for the future. After completing our astronaut training day, Cosmos rewarded us with a trip to the Space Centre in Leicester to find out more about space exploration through the years. We have since found out about the Mars space rover and created timelines of the space race. We were encouraged by the space centre to enter the 'Logo Lift Off' competition, so are busy creating our logos that could be the winning entry that finds itself on the first ever rocket being launched from a UK spaceport!



SPORTS UPDATE

Sports events next week:

Monday 7th March –
Year 6 Netball tournament
Bedford Girls School
1pm - 4pm

Tuesday 8th March – Year 4
Perseus Multiskills Festival
Westfield Primary
9.30am – 12.30pm

Tuesday 8th March –
Year 5 & 6 Handball League
Westfield Primary
3.30pm – 5.30pm

Wednesday 9th March –
Year 5 & 6 Athletics Training
Westfield Primary
3.15pm – 4.15pm

Thursday 10th March –
Year 5 & 6 Basketball Finals
Westfield Primary
3.30pm – 5.30pm

School Sport

Year 5&6 Girls Basketball League

Wow- what a superb start to the league! The team were highly motivated from the start and their play went from strength to strength, which saw them secure three out of three victories. Well done girls!

Team: Alice, Anaya, Ava, Summayah, Zuvena,

Player of the day: Zuvena

Year 5&6 Mixed Handball league

The first week of this league provided the teams with an introduction to the new sport and allowed them to gain an understanding of the rules. Both teams enjoyed learning the new sport and gained the respect of other schools through their strong performances during their training matches. We are looking forward to the league officially starting next week.

Squad: Alice, Ayesha, Bandile, Charlie, Joe-Joe, Kayla, Ken, Summayah, Thomas, Tobi, Yusuf, Zuvena

Player of the day: Yusuf

KS2 Sitting volleyball competition

Six children participated in this competition which required the team to stay seated, which sounds easier than it was. The team were motivated and enthusiastic to play and their performance improved throughout every match. Well done team and congratulations to Amna who was awarded the school games value of respect by the sports leaders.

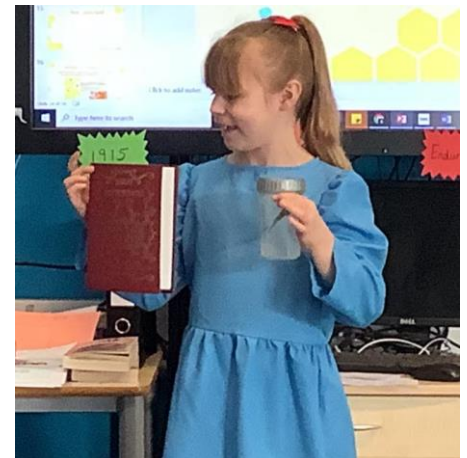
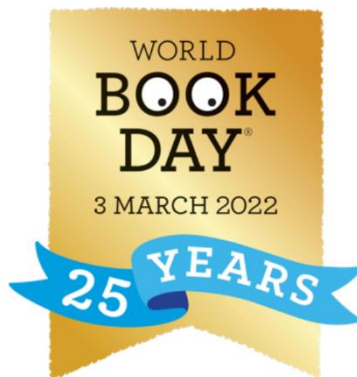
Team: Amna, EJ, Fathiya, Lewis, Muhammad & Rowan



Physical Activity – Date for your diary



World Book Day Photos – 3rd March 2022



Awareness days and religious festivals

18th March – Comic/Sport Relief

21st March – Mothering Sunday

Keen knitters wanted!

Dear parents, carers, grownups and friends of friends. Recently the school received a couple of beautifully hand knitted worry monsters, from a charity whose aim is to help ease children's worries. The children just simply have to write down their worry on a piece of paper and pop it in the mouth of the worry monster who then eats up all their worries.

We thought it would be lovely for the children if each class were able to have its very own worry monster. With this in mind, we are putting a plea out there for any keen knitters to ask if you could please pick up you needles when you have time, to create worry monsters for the children of Great Denham.

If you are interested and would like to show your support, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Thanking you all in advance, Ruth Preece and Emma Gooch.



Are you aware of these two text messaging services for parents and young people?

Parentline: for parents and carers of those aged 0-19 TEXT 07507 331456



Parentline offers advice and support on a range of issues such as weaning, sleep and emotional health. You can also find out how to access other local services.

For more information please visit: www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/Bedfordshire/services/health-visiting/parentline or watch our short animation: <https://vimeo.com/333146030>

ChatHealth: for young people aged 11-19 TEXT 07507 331450

ChatHealth is a similar service for young people to confidentially ask for help about a range of issues or make an appointment with a school nurse. Young people can also find out how to access other local services including emotional support or sexual health services.

For more information please visit: www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/Bedfordshire/services/school-nursing/chathealth-bedfordshire or watch our short animation: <https://vimeo.com/507047916/7266be3f14>



Parentline

A confidential text messaging advice and support line for Bedfordshire parents and carers of children aged 0-19.

Text: 07507 331456

Parenting advice and support Sleep Contenance

Immunisations Mental health Minor illness

Speech Behaviour Temper tantrums



Infant feeding Diet & exercise

Child development Parenting

and much, much more....

We might inform someone if we were concerned about your safety but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other healthcare staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate message back to confirm we've received your text. If you need help before you hear back from us contact your GP nearest walk-in centre or dial 111. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps). To find out what we do with your information, please internet search: 'NHS CCS privacy notice' or use this link bit.ly/rluprteyprc. Prevent the health professional from sending messages to you, text STOP to our number. Messages are charged at your usual rates.

Bedfordshire adult and children's community health services are provided in partnership by East London NHS Foundation Trust (ELFT) and Cambridgeshire Community Services (CCS) NHS Trust



Need to talk?

Are you aged 11 - 19?

Text your school nurse on 07507 331450 (Beds)

Messages are charged at your usual rate
*Text messages will be answered between 9am and 4.30pm (Mon to Fri)

Designed by Andrea aged 10



ChatHealth

Confidentiality and safety disclaimer

We do not usually inform your parents, or anyone else if you contact our nurses. We might inform someone if we were concerned about your safety, but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other healthcare staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate message back to confirm we've received your text. There will not be any outside of normal working hours. If you need help before you hear back from us, contact a professional or your doctor. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps). To find out what we do with your information, please visit NHS CCS privacy notice. Prevent the school nurse from sending messages to you by texting STOP to our number.

Bedfordshire adult and children's community health services are provided in partnership by East London NHS Foundation Trust (ELFT) and Cambridgeshire Community Services (CCS) NHS Trust

Parking at the Doctors

It has been raised again that parents are using the doctor's car park to park to collect their children from school - this is not acceptable and parents must not use the doctors. The surgery are finding that patients are then not able to park on site which is obviously very frustrating for them. Please use the park and ride car park which we are so fortunate to have. Thank you.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

We are now on Facebook and Instagram as well as Twitter. Please follow us to keep updated with the latest school news and activities.



@greatdenhamprimary



@greatdenhamprimaryschool



@greatdenhamps

LOCAL EVENTS & ADVERTS



Holiday Activities and FOOD Programme

HAF is back! This Easter, Bedford Borough Council is funding an exciting range of **FREE activities** for children and families on **income related free school meals**.

Places are limited and so booking is essential, eligibility will be checked before bookings are confirmed.

Visit the Bedford Local Offer website for more information:
<https://localoffer.bedford.gov.uk/hafeaster22>

Website & bookings will be live from Friday 4th March, 12pm.



CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE PE AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY CONFERENCE

Workshops include:

- Concept Curriculum
- Deep Dive in PE
- Creating an Active and Engaging Playground
- Quidditch
- EYFS -Boosting Communication, Language and Literacy through Movement
- Mini Muay Thai
- Supporting all your pupils in developing a physical activity habit

Early Bird Rate - £175pp for bookings made by 18th March

To register your place head to www.teambedsandluton.co.uk/cyp-conference

WEDNESDAY 18TH MAY 2022

Center Parcs, Woburn Forest

Or scan QR code



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4-8 & 11-14 APR
1-5, 8-12
& 15-19 AUG



LET'S PLAY CRICKET
11-14 APR
1-5 &
15-19 AUG



**THE CRICKET ACADEMY
DEVELOPMENT CENTRE**
2-4
AUG



**TRIATHLON
MASTERCLASSES**
9-11
AUG



**LET'S PLAY
HOCKEY**
22-24
AUG

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