



A message from the Head...

Dear Parents,

This week has been assessment week for children in the main school and the children have shown real resilience and have worked hard to do their best. As well as this, our teachers have been busy planning next term's exciting projects which they can't wait to share with the children!

It has been lovely seeing children in their red today for Comic Relief and as well as starting to get back to 'normal' with celebration assembly today with different year groups mixing. A highlight today was our new celebration assembly for our Reception and Year 6 children together where they enjoyed celebrating successes with their buddies!

Another highlight this week was our lovely Year 1 children performing for their families at their music concert - they showed our school values of excellence and courage so well - I was so proud of all of them!

Have a lovely weekend and let's hope the sun is here to stay.

Denise Burgess

This week's letters home

Year 2 - Kite Flying

Year 2 - Multi sports festival – Serpens Class

Year 5 & 6 - Mixed hockey tournament

Year 5 & 6 - Quick sticks tournament

Reception – walk to school week

Young Voices o2 x 2 letters (selected)

Fab Finishes!

Year 1 are inviting their parents to a premier of their documentary on climate change next Thursday 24th March at 4:30pm – 5pm.

We invite all Y1 children to come dressed to impress as it will be a red carpet event!

Light snacks and refreshments will be provided.

We look forward to seeing you! All the best,

Year 1.

Year 3 & 4 parents are invited to come and wonder through the 'Eco Exhibition' at 2.30pm on Thursday next week for their fabulous finish. Please enter at the office from 2.30pm.

Each class will have a fund raising stall with their project books and work on show to share.

Online Safety

National Online Safety this week:

Supporting children on how to deal with upsetting content (see poster attached to email).

Our #WakeUpWednesday guide this week addresses the timely and delicate issue of speaking with children about worrying content they've seen online. Young people are so connected to the world through their devices that, by now, the vast majority will be acutely aware of the situation in Ukraine, even if they're not quite old enough to comprehend it fully.

If you haven't signed up to National Online Safety already, please take advantage of this brilliant resource by following the link [HERE](#)

Diary Dates

21st-25th March - Walk to school week

Thurs 24th March - Year 1 Fabulous Finish

Thurs 24th March - Year 3 / 4 Fab Finish

Friday 25th March - Reception art morning – part of the fabulous finish week

Cygnus Concert

This week, our lovely Year 1 children performed in a xylophone concert to showcase all the songs that they have been learning in their weekly music lessons with Mrs Burgess. The children loved being able to perform their songs to their grown-ups! Well done!



Lunch items REMINDER

We would like to encourage you to include healthy items within the children's packed lunches and to please not include chocolate bars. You are welcome to include biscuit bars such as club bars, Oreos biscuits, penguins etc.

We'd also like to remind you not to include any peanut butter or chocolate spread within your child's lunch box. We are unable to differentiate between the different types of chocolate spread especially and we have multiple nut allergies at school.

Thank you for your support.

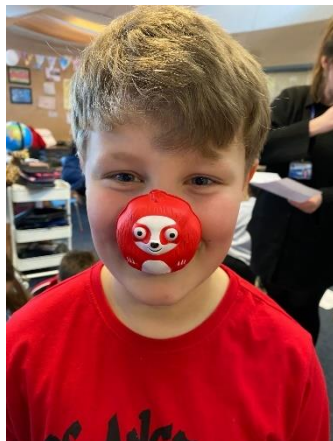




Red Nose Day

The children never fail to put a smile on our faces and today have gone all out to celebrate Red Nose Day by wearing red. Take a look at some of the pictures we took at school today.

Don't forget to tune in to BBC1 tonight at 7pm where you can join in on the fun for Comic Relief.



Our 10 Year Anniversary – 9th September 2022

Please note that on Friday 9th September 2022 **there will be no Friday afternoon club or after school club available on this day.** School will end for all children at 1:30pm.

We are letting you know now to give you plenty of time to make alternative arrangements. This date marks the 10-year anniversary of our school being open and we will be hosting celebrations for ex pupils and staff on the afternoon that day. The children in school will enjoy celebrations in the morning as well. If you have older children who attended GDPS please share the flyer with them and ask them to put the date in their diary - we would love to see them and show them how the school has changed over the years as well as share memories with them!



Save the date!

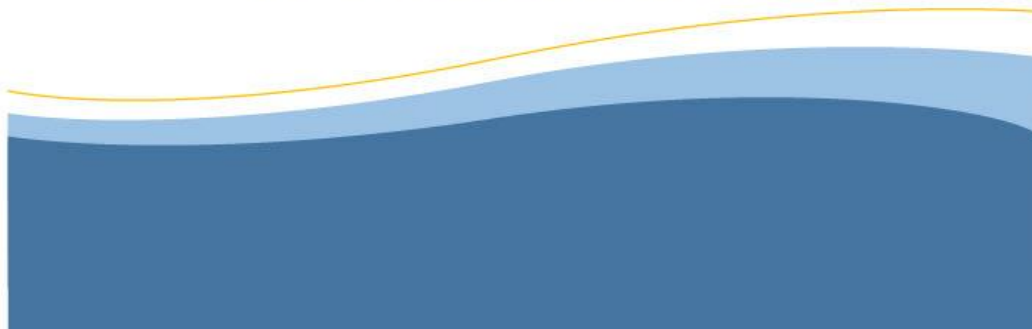
Friday 9th September 2022



Calling all ex Great Denham Primary Pupils

You are invited to drop in to school to join us
in celebrating our 10th anniversary on Friday
9th September from 2.00pm to 5.00pm.

We'd love to see you all!



YEAR GROUP UPDATE

Nursery

The children have been busy exploring stories and wondering where their imagination will take them this term. They have built their imaginations on the stories of Julia Donaldson and have truly engaged in the learning. The children have been anything from a ladybird to a busker from Tabby McTat. The children made their own musical instruments and learnt the song from Tabby McTat and spent the whole morning busking around the whole school, much to Emma's delight!



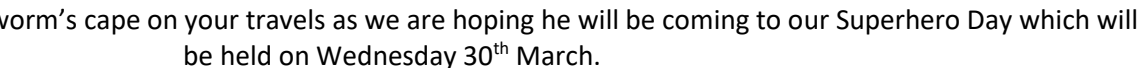
Nursery have been fully immersed in our learning environment. They are particularly enjoying our weekly cooking sessions.



They have extended this learning outside in the mud kitchen where they are often found using what they know to bake mud cakes.



100



**SPORTS
UPDATE**

Tuesday 22nd March
Year 5 & 6 Mixed Hockey
tournament
4pm – 6pm
Bedford Hockey Stadium

Wednesday 23rd March
Year 2 Serpens
Multi-sports festival
11:45am - 2:45pm
Biddenham Secondary
School

Wednesday 23rd March
Year 5 & 6
Mixed Athletics training
3:15pm - 4:15pm
Great Denham

Thursday 24th March
Year 3&4
Girls basketball league
3:30pm - 5:30pm
Westfield Primary School

Wednesday 23rd March
Year 2 Serpens
Multi-sports festival
11:45am - 2:45pm
Biddenham Secondary
School

Thursday 24th March
Year 3&4
Girls basketball league
3:30pm - 5:30pm
Westfield Primary School

Physical Education (PE)

Year 5 and 6 have been busy developing their map skills by orientating themselves accurately around a route to find clues and solve problems. This week they had difficult photo clues to identify locations around the school grounds and place these accurately on a map, whilst creating a key. Next week we are going out and around Great Denham on a mission to locate lamp posts.



School Sport

Year 5 & 6 Girls Basketball team

Congratulations to our phenomenal girls' basketball team who have played outstandingly well in this league. They finished the league winning all of their matches and drawing with Livingstone, who had also won all of their matches. So in the end it came down to goal difference, of which we finished in second place! Well done girls - you really did do Great Denham PROUD!

Team: Alice, Anaya, Ava, Deborah, Grace, Kayla, Naima, Sienna, Summayah and Zuwenna

Congratulations to our phenomenal girls' basketball team who have played outstandingly well in this league. They finished the league winning all of their matches and drawing with Livingstone, who had also won all of their matches. So in the end it came down to goal difference, of which we finished in second place! Well done girls - you really did do Great Denham PROUD!

Team: Alice, Anaya, Ava, Deborah, Grace, Kayla, Naima, Sienna, Summayah and Zuwenna



Physical Activity

Our sports leaders continue to shine and work hard to maximise opportunities for our children to be active. This week they have helped out at an extra- curricular club, which the younger children loved and will continue to help lead at these clubs in the summer term.



Next week is Sustrans Big walk and Wheel to school. Your child will record how they travelled to school daily, so if you can it would be great to get more of us moving in this way to and from school.





In Person Get Together

Thursday 31st March, 10am – 12pm

We are delighted to be hosting an in-person get together for the first time in two years! Come and join us for a cuppa, some cake and a chat. Whether you have been to our events before or if you are a new parent carer, everyone will be very welcome.

No need to book, just come along and join us.

Kempston Council Chambers, 104 Bedford Road, Kempston, MK42 8BG



Healthy Parent Carer Training

Starting Tues 19th April, 7-9pm (12 wk course)

The healthy parent carer programme is designed to improve parent carers' health and wellbeing by promoting emotional balance through understanding, empowerment, confidence and resilience.

Kerri and Karen of Bedford Borough Parent Carer Forum are leading on the delivery of the programme to parent carers of children who have SEND in Bedford Borough. Kerri and Karen are both parent carers themselves.

The course lasts for 12 weeks running every Tuesday from 19th April (with a week's break on Tuesday 31st May for half term). If you sign up, you will need to commit to the full 12 weeks. Places are limited so please book quickly if you would like to join.

We have been running two courses already this term and the feedback from parent carers who have attended has been really positive.

Quotes from parents who have attended this term:

'I'm really enjoying this'

'This course has really inspired me'

'It's great talking to other parents who get it'

'I really love these sessions, why are more people not doing them?'

[BOOK HERE](#)



HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE AVAILABILITY OF CHILDCARE IN BEDFORD



Take part in our survey and help shape
childcare in Bedford

Closes 1st of April



Scan the QR code above to take part and have your say on
the availability and accessibility of childcare across the
county, or go to this website:
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BedfordParentsCSA>



Parents and Carers of
Great Denham Primary
are invited to...



Mothers' day Coffee Morning

We will be holding a coffee (or tea) morning
every 2 weeks from 8.45-9.45am, our next
date is...

Monday 21st March

Members of the Early Childhood
Partnership, who run free weekly sessions
for babies and pre-schoolers, will also be
joining us.



Come and join us to make new
friends, share ideas, challenges, tips, ask questions
and offer advice in a friendly environment.

You don't need to book, just turn up at any time
within the hour and stay as long as you want!
Please come and join us for a drink, cake and a
chat, we would love to see as many of you as
possible!

Please come into school via Greenkeepers Road gate
(next to the MUGA) and head to the Milky Way room.
(Emma will be on the gate and able to point you in the right
direction.)

Ruth Preece (Assistant head for inclusion)
Emma Gooch (Family support worker)

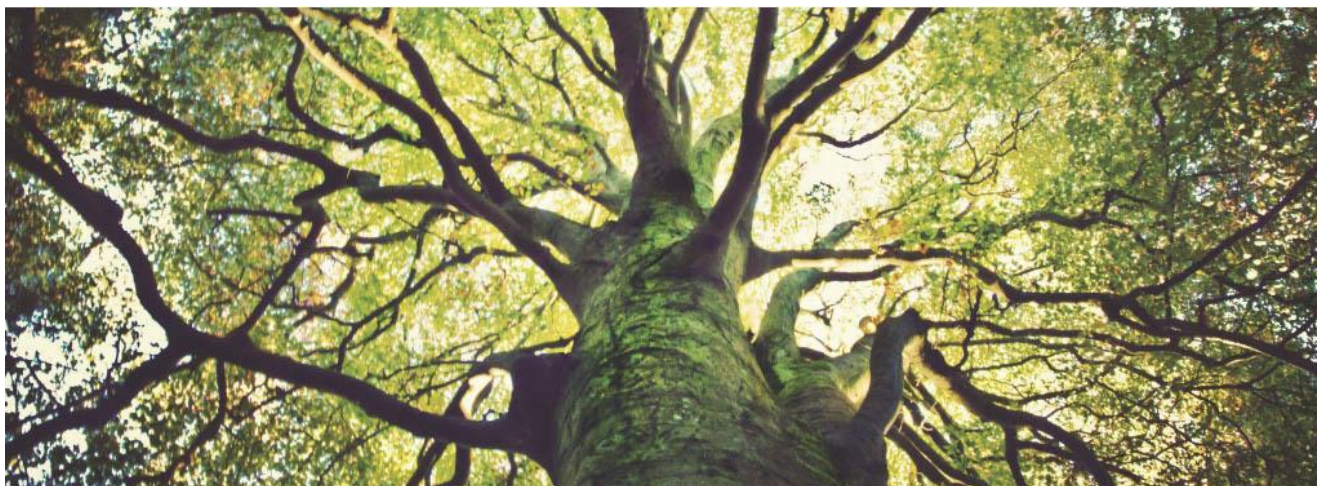
Awareness days and religious festivals

21st March – **Mothering Sunday**

15th April – **Good Friday**

17th April – **Easter Sunday**

18th April – **Easter Monday**



COUNTRY DAYS

EASTER COURSES 2022

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



EASTER COURSE PROGRAMME

When is it?

Course 1: Tuesday 5th April

Course 2: Wednesday 6th April

Course 3: Thursday 7th April

Activities begin at 9.30am and finish at 3.15pm

Where is it?

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

Who can attend?

Primary school children in years 3 -6 who live in Bedfordshire

How much does it cost?

Places are £10 for the day or *free* for those on Free School Meals or Pupil Premium

What will they be doing?

Over the course of the day, every child will have the opportunity to do pond-dipping, bushcraft, sport, and arts & crafts

How can we book?

Download the booking form from our website: www.countrydays.net or contact the office on info@countrydays.net for more information

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.

JOIN IN THE FUN AT OUR Easter Camp

Ages 3-14




Tennis	Cricket	Go Karts
Nerf	Football	Easter Hunt, 40ft Maze, Danos, Gymnastics & More! (select locations)

Week One: 4th-8th April Week Two: 11th-14th Week Three: 19th -22nd

Banbury / Bedford / Brackley / Flitwick / Milton Keynes

9-3:30pm / 10-5:30pm / 8-4pm / 8-5:30pm / 10-2pm from £18 per day

Activities: Specialising in Tennis, Cricket, and Football plus an introduction to a wide variety of other sports and activities like Go Kart, Zorbs, Nerf, Laser Tag, 40ft Inflatable Maze. Throughout the day children can choose their themed activities depending on who is feeling adventurous, or maybe on the creative side!

Food Options now Available to add on to your booking



BOOK NOW: www.sportyscholars.com Tel: 07511194319




"The teaching is a joy and I have the flexibility to deliver a course that engages and empowers the children in a fun way."

an Outspoken cycle instructor



careers.outspokentraining.co.uk

We're searching for new Cycle Instructors

Could you inspire the next generation of cyclists?

Outspoken Training are looking for confident communicators to enthuse school children to make more journeys by bicycle.

If you have loads of enthusiasm to share and are looking for rewarding work to deliver during school term time, we would love to hear from you.

Role: Employed-Variable Hours
Hourly Rate: £12

Cycle Training Programme: Bikeability

Training and Support: We provide full, free training and ongoing support including nationally recognised qualifications.

For more information, please contact Graham:
jobs@outspokentraining.co.uk
 01223 473820



BEDFORD MARIANETTES PRESENTS

MIS-CASTS

A showcase of our favourite songs from the
musicals with a unique twist...

FEATURING SONGS FROM:
HAIRSPRAY
HAMILTON
BILLY ELLIOT
WICKED
MATILDA
AND MANY OTHERS...

APRIL 6 - 9, 2022 AT 7:30PM
(2:30PM SATURDAY MATINEE)
TRINITY ARTS AND LEISURE
BROMHAM ROAD, BEDFORD MK40 2BS
TICKETS - £16.00*

ENQUIRIES: MAIL@BEDFORDMARIANETTES.ORG

BOX OFFICE: [TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/MARIANETTES](https://ticketsource.co.uk/marianettes)

noda

Be inspired by amateur theatre

Bedford
Marianettes

 **TRINITY**
ARTS & LEISURE
Train. Swim. Perform.

*Concessions priced tickets available for select performances