



A message from the Head...

Dear Parents,

This week our Year 6 children have sat their SATS tests - their positive attitudes have really impressed us this week and they approached them with confidence and maturity- we are so proud of each and every one of them! A huge thank you must go to our wonderful year 6 team and also to our kitchen team who have provided such a wonderful full English breakfast each day for them!

Yesterday, Ignis family also had a fun afternoon with Mrs Borner celebrating winning the family points in the Autumn term - a family quiz, a long play time and ice lollies were enjoyed by all! Next up will be Terra family treat for winning family points in the spring term!

Have a lovely weekend

Denise Burgess
Headteacher

This week's letters home

Nursery – Standalone Farm

Year 6 – Hoody Letter

All - Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Year 3 & 4 Selected – Quad Kids Athletics

Diary Dates

Monday 16th May – Y5/6 Safari Stu in school

Friday 27th May – Queen's Platinum Jubilee
Celebrations

Online Safety

National Online Safety this week:

What parents need to know about Online Safety for under 5's (see poster attached to email).

Young children are becoming more comfortable with internet-enabled devices at an increasingly early age. Our #WakeUpWednesday guide has some suggestions for helping the under-5s to understand the basics of online safety.

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

Sun Cream

As we start to have warmer weather, it is important that the children come to school with their suncream on and sunhats too. Please could we ask that you apply the suncream in the morning before school so that the children do not have to do this multiple times when they are at school. Quite a few brands now do 'once' applications suncreams which would be great for putting on before the start of the school day.

Please also note that some of Nivea's sunscreens have now introduced almond oil to their ingredients which may not be suitable for some children with allergies.

Clothing Bank

You may have noticed our new clothing bank at the front of the school next to the gates. Please feel free to use this to donate all unwanted clothing.



Drum roll please...

Our star of the week awards is an opportunity for our teachers to give great praise to the children who show hard work, determination and enthusiasm amongst other things, to the children who really stand out that week. Values awards are also given out each week to children who show us how they live by the Great Denham Primary values.

Read on below to see who got the awards this week.

WC13th May Awards



STAR OF THE WEEK AWARDS

Little Stars	Logan	Pavo	Elizabeth	Pegasus	Maxwell	Vela	Liam
Cassiopeia	Asher	Cygnus	Jasmine	Eridanus	Harry	Lyra	Ava
Tucana	Oliver	Volans	Ace	Andromeda	Joey	Phoenix	Aidan
Orion	Matthew	Delphinus	Dylan	Auriga	Ibrahim	Circinus	Ava
Aquila	Joshua	Serpens	Megan	Perseus	Hugo		



VALUES AWARDS

Little Stars	Harlee	Pavo	Dean	Pegasus	Lukas	Vela	Charlie
Cassiopeia	Dawood	Cygnus	Karla	Eridanus	Oskar	Lyra	Florian
Tucana	Julius	Volans	Jake	Andromeda	Triana	Phoenix	Holly
Orion	Ellen	Delphinus	Dilneet	Auriga	Lulu	Circinus	Ethan
Aquila	Dahlia	Serpens	Amy	Perseus	Mia		



Mental Health Champions

Meet our wonderful Mental Health Champions below.

Our champions undertook a day's training to learn how to become a support for children in our school. They were keen to launch a 'drop-in' area in school, which children could access during playtimes if they feel they want someone to talk to, somewhere to calm down or an area where they can communicate their worries. To promote their role and the drop in area, they created their own poem and made this into a video. Their video can be seen on our website.

Well done Champions!

**If you are feeling sad, worried or low,
Now there is a place for you to go!
If you need some help or calm time, let us know,
We can help you feel better and help your smile glow!
At playtimes drop in and say hi,
We'll do our best to make you happy before you say bye!
Don't feel pressured to say a word,
Just know you can visit and be heard.
There's lots of us – we're all around,
Now we can be more easily found.
No need to worry on your own and feel blue
Come and see us and know we're here for you!**



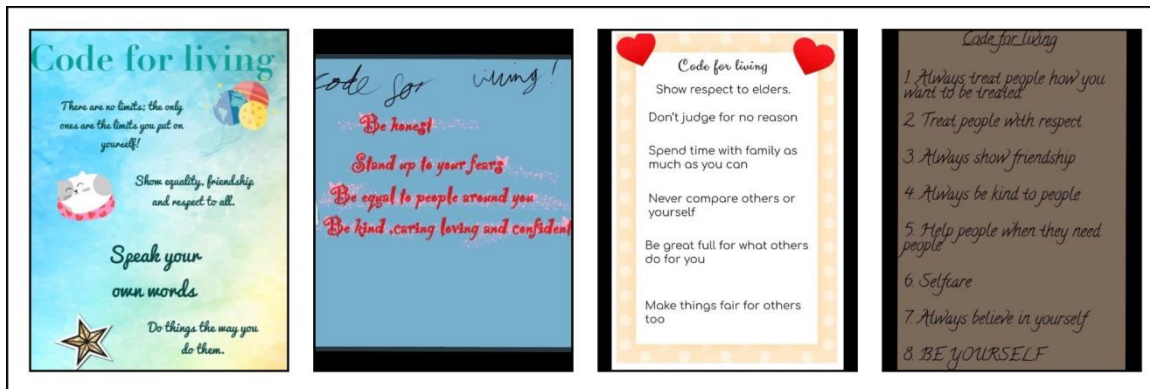
YEAR GROUP UPDATE

Year 5

The Year 5 children have thoroughly enjoyed their adventure in the Amazon Rainforest so far! They have been trialling art techniques and media types ready to create their own animal identity piece of art inspired by Henri Rousseau.

The first two chapters of our key text 'The Explorer' have gripped us, so we brought them to life using role play in preparation for writing our own diary entries as one of the four children stranded in the Amazon! In RE we have been creating our own 'codes for living' with thoughtful and inspiring messages to all. Final rehearsals are in place for the Young Voices concert at the O2 and we can't wait for the big day!





SPORTS UPDATE

Tuesday 17th May

Year 5 & 6 Girls
Cricket League
Hockey Stadium, 4-6pm

Wednesday 18th May

Year 4&5
Girls Netball training
3:15pm - 4:15pm

Thursday 19th May

Year 6 Multi-sports festival
(selected children)
Biddenham School
11:45am - 2:45pm

Thursday 19th May

Year 4&5
Boys Football Training
3:15pm - 4:15pm

Thursday 19th May

Year 6 Girls
Rounders League
Castle Newnham
4:00pm - 5:30pm

School Sport

Year 5&6 Girls Cricket League

Both teams played well in their first round of matches. As more games were played, the team's confidence grew! Both teams had mixed results and are looking forward to next week's matches.



Wishbone Day – THANK YOU

A big thank you to our GDPS families for the support of Wishbone day last Friday. We raised a fantastic £340 for Brittle Bone Society.





Autism
BEDFORDSHIRE

Parent/ Carer Workshop

The First Steps to Supporting an Autistic Individual, and those Pursuing a Diagnosis

Monday 16th May 2022 | 6:30pm - 9pm
£5 per person

This will be a relaxed session, specifically for parents and carers of children who are undiagnosed, newly diagnosed, or going through the diagnostic process. The session will consist of a talk on Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC), an opportunity to hear from and share with other parents and carers, and gain information about local support and services.

LIMITED NUMBER OF SPACES AVAILABLE

To book:

☎ 01234 214871
✉ enquiries@autismbeds.org

 The training will be online, using Zoom. Once booked on, we will provide you with the details to join.





Look at Life

Saturday, 28th–Sunday, 29th May
10.30 to 16.30*



Discover the 'invisible' **organisms** living in our pond
along with newts & tadpoles

Spot the **minibeasts** and **trees** along our **Nature Trail**

Meet and handle the **animal ambassadors** from
Animal in Mind and **Teaching Talons**

Design your own **fossil pebbles**

Learn about the **wildlife** that calls the Museum **home!**



...and much more!

*GENERAL ADMISSIONS APPLY

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EVENTS SEE WWW.MILTONKEYNESMUSEUM.COM AND

FOLLOW US ON

MK Museum is hosting its annual Look at Life event and we would appreciate if you could circulate the poster and below information with your teachers and parents.

**Go wild at MK Museum with Look at Life
Wildlife-themed events
May 28 & 29, 2022**

Milton Keynes Museum is inviting youngsters to go wild this May, with two-days of wildlife themed activities. Many of our native species are struggling to co-exist in today's modern world, but whether it's planting the correct flowers to help our pollinators or creating hedgehog spaces in our gardens, we can all help to make a positive change. Look at Life is a great way to learn how to help, while having lots of fun!

On Saturday, May 28 Animals in Mind will be at the Museum teaching visitors about wildlife conservation, animal habitats, diet and the important role animals play in our environment - and how they can benefit our mental health. You will also be able to handle some of the animals in an experience safe for them, and for little people.

On Sunday, May 29 Teaching Talons will 'fly in' with a variety of their animals; and they care for the furry, the prickly, the scaly and the hairy – from mice to hedgehogs, bugs, beetles and tarantulas to snakes and tortoises. As their name suggests, Teaching Talons also deal with birds, and they will be giving some lucky visitors the opportunity to handle an owl.

Explore the gardens of Church End

Biddenham



Sunday 26th June 2022, 2pm–5pm

Come and explore the variety of gardens along Church End, The Old Barns and Manor Road, Biddenham - whether pristine, everyday, interesting or just "work in progress".

Afternoon tea with home-made cakes for sale in the Church Barn.
Plants for sale.

Tickets £5 per person for all gardens, available on the day from the Church Barn (next to St James's Church at MK40 4AS), or by the postbox, The Old Barns. Accompanied children under 12 free.

*Parking along Main Road. Well controlled dogs on leads, children and buggies all welcome. **Note:** There are ponds, steps and other hazards in some gardens and wheelchair access may be limited in some areas.*

For more information, email churchendgardens@gmail.com

In aid of The Friends of St James, Biddenham

- the charity which preserves and enhances the historic church buildings for future generations