



Denmead Junior School

Inspiring Curiosity, Building Success

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Mr A Clarke
Head Teacher

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Friday 7th July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I think this week has included it all in one way or another! What an exciting Monday morning – not often that can be said in many walks of life! But at Denmead Juniors, Monday morning saw our Transition Morning, which brought much excitement and anticipation ... and not just from the children!

It was a lovely atmosphere around the whole school, as we welcomed the Year 2s into our school to meet their new teacher, along with our current Year 3, 4 and 5 all experiencing the same sense of eagerness and readiness to make a great first impression. And everyone did just that! Feedback from staff was one of happiness and how impressed they were with how the new classes gelled and responded to the morning of activities.

Taken from our policy on mixing classes, which can be found on our website, we state that:

“Our reason for deciding to mix classes throughout school is to build new and improve existing relationships, so that over a child’s journey they would be given the opportunity to connect and re-connect with all of the children in their year group, building strong, positive connections.

We have previously seen the positive impact of mixing classes in the past, we feel that regular, routine mixing of classes will help the children’s relationships, help to balance the classes and limit any ongoing friendship issues within classes which is not conducive to learning, allowing children to develop better resilience and develop broader friendships in a safe and comfortable environment.

We feel that by mixing the year group, the children will have the opportunity to make friends across the year groups and see themselves as a year group team rather than just a class, thus building a stronger school community and pride in our school.

This also builds resilience that will be needed when moving on to secondary education, where children are regularly streamed and in addition, may attend different schools to some of their existing friends.

Benefits for the children:

- To create opportunities for children to learn and play with a wider variety of peers.
- To enable greater social interaction between children as they move through the school.
- Better resilience in developing friendships in a safe, comfortable environment – arguably even more important in the older year groups when they will be moving to secondary school soon and be taught in various groups.
- Being part of a year group team and not just a class.



- Building more relationships and connections with children in their year which will benefit them throughout their whole school journey and in the wider community.
- Enabling new children to settle better into school.
- To promote a greater sense of community in a large three-form entry junior school
- Strengthening the whole school community as families will also have the opportunity to develop relationships with other families within the year group.”

I am sincerely hoping that this process has been experienced positively by all children and their families.

The icing on the cake was the PTA disco later that day. A massive thank you to the PTA and all the helpers that enabled both discos to run so smoothly. Great fun was had by all, especially for those witnessing my terrible dad dancing! A huge thank you to Mr Nkire and family for DJing – you are DJS ... a DJ Superstar!

The Year 6s are working so hard practising and rehearsing for their production, Space Warts! You can sense the excitement, enjoyment and pride that each and every one of them has for this out of this world venture. It is a wonderful experience for our Year 6s, especially as we head into their last 2 weeks in their junior school journey. They continue to legacy build!

Reports for Years 3, 4 and 5 are out on Monday, with Year 6s being delayed to Wednesday so that we can include their SATs results.

And fingers (legs, toes etc.) crossed that the weather stays fine for Friday’s Sports Day. It looks a little inclement all this week but you never know with the British weather. Safety has to be our first and foremost priority but we’re all hoping here that it can take place. We will keep you as informed as the weather allows us.

And finally ...



Lost property:

This is our current stack on unnamed lost property. We will set it outside by the reception entrance next week after school. To minimise waste, we will offer any unclaimed items to anyone who would like it on Thursday and Friday.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

A. Clarke

Mr Andy Clarke
Head Teacher



SENT THIS WEEK:

- Year 3 Calshot deposit letter – deposit & slip required by 14th July
- Sports Day communications – in case it was unclear, spectators are very welcome during the day!
- Year 5 & 6 – Independent travelling information
- Year 3, 4, 5 – September 2023 Information
- Reports notice ahead of next week

REMINDERS:

- Year 6 Show: Please book your tickets asap online (using links in email sent 21st June)
- Year 5 Stone Farm: Balances due for full payment by the end of July

UNIFORM ORDERS – The deadline for uniform orders is Friday 14th July. Anything placed after this date will be processed after the holidays.

CALENDAR (new additions will appear in red & * indicates more details to follow):

JULY	
w/c 10 th	Year 6 Production performances
14 th	SPORTS DAY all day
20 th	Year 6 Leavers' do (5pm finish)
21 st	LAST DAY OF TERM – early finish 1.30pm with Leavers Arch created from 1.15pm



Open 8am - 6pm



Summer IS here - 24th July -31st August - BOOK NOW!



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Bere Road, Denmead, Waterlooville PO7 6PH

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