



## Weekly news update

Dear parents and carers,

There have been some absolutely beautiful sunrises this week, and the rain returned today.

Christmas at DJS arrived on Wednesday morning after the staff had decorated the school the evening before. It was lovely to hear the children's comments and see their reactions as they came in that morning. Thank you to Parkers DIY for donating the tree to the school, it is currently decorated with the children's lovely bauble, tree and snowman-shaped decorations. Congratulations to the winners of the PTA decoration competition who were: Hollie (Year 3), Harry (Year 4), Jamie (Year 5) and Pippa (Year 6). With almost a hundred entries received, thanks go to Mr Marley and Margaret the lollipop lady who had a very tricky decision to make as judges!

Congratulations also to George and Lamina who recently represented DJS in the first round of the National Schools Competition. Only the top 3 go through to next round, so we're proud to share that George came 2<sup>nd</sup> Place out of 12 and Lamina performed strongly, given many of her competitors were several years older.

Prior to Christmas starting, the children and parents enjoyed China's class assembly. They told a Chinese folk tale of the boy with a magic paintbrush and how the Emperor wanted it for himself. The story involves an island of gold and the children talked about the importance of using power wisely.

The school enjoyed another performance this week from the Pantaloons to a packed audience in the hall last night, with their hilarious take on the Charles Dickens classic 'A Christmas Carol'.

Obviously some of you are concerned about yesterday's letter. I am working as quickly as I can to get to speak to those who have been in touch individually. I will also be communicating more information as soon as I am able to. You may have seen some workmen in high-vis jackets taking photos outside of the school by the car park. This is relating to drainage problems and lighting outside the school.

We are looking forward to the Christmas Fair after school. Lots of staff will be around to usher you into the hall/shared areas to buy your tickets for all the stalls. Hope to see you later.

Enjoy the weekend!

Elaine Viner  
Head Teacher

### Information this week:

- **ECO GROUP PRESENTS THE GREAT DENMEAD BOOKSWAP:** Eco-Group presented an assembly to the school this week to talk about their book swap event which will be taking place in school on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December**. Children are invited to bring in up to 3 good quality pre-loved books that day which are suitable for DJS pupils. They will then be given one ticket per book they bring in that morning, to swap for a 'new' one, when their class is called to visit Eco-Group's book room in the afternoon.
- **STAFF SICKNESS:** We have had a relatively high number of staff absent through sickness recently, so a polite reminder to ensure children are clear of any illnesses before they return.

### Key information sent out this week:

- Christmas lunch letter
- Lower school church service – helpers letter
- Safeguarding information letter

### Key dates next week:

- **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December:** Eco Group Book Exchange (see above for details)
- **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September:** PTA Christmas Shopping Day
- **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** Rocksteady Performance to parents 10am