



Denmead Junior School

Building success, inspiring curiosity

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Mr A Clarke
Head Teacher

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Friday 11th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Weekly Newsletter from the Head Teacher

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and in good spirits. Ethiopia class, we miss you and look forward to having you all back next week. In many respects, it has been a strange week. I can't believe we only have a week to go before we break up for Christmas. It has been unusual for me not to be involved in visits to the church, carol singing and all those other activities which make the time in school at this moment, that much more special. We have been trying our best to make things as Christmassy 'normal' as possible and we sincerely hope that your children are still enjoying their time in school.

The Outdoor Classroom is fast being constructed in front of your very eyes. I am personally very excited for your children with what we will have planned for them in the coming months and years! The most important aspect for me is being able to offer children a unique curriculum experience, which is of high quality and involves every child ... and gets them engaging positively and healthily with the great outdoors!

We have just received a £500 cheque from ASDA a part of their 'Getting Schools Back on Track' grant. As I understand it, we have used this money on providing additional stationary packs and copious amounts of hand sanitiser, which you'll be pleased to hear, we use a lot!

You may have also heard that the government have now reduced the need for 'close contacts' to self-isolate from 14 days to 10 days. This is effective from 1 minute past midnight on Sunday/Monday. With this in mind, we look forward to welcoming back Ethiopia class on Monday 14th December.

Thank you everybody who was able to fill in the online parent survey, which closed today. Below are the tabulated results. Thank you so much for all the comments, the vast majority of which were very complimentary. I will say again though, for those of you for whom we are not quite getting it right, please get in contact as soon as possible so that we can address any concerns you or your child may have. Our aim, is to get it right for all children and families, so that they enjoy and get the most from the educational experience we are able to offer.

It was great news to hear about the first vaccinations earlier in the week, with the first patient, Margaret Keenan, receiving hers at 90 years of age. Light is at the end of the tunnel. The second patient was a one Mr William Shakespeare! I heard that if the first patient was patient 1A, would that make Mr Shakespeare 2B ... or not 2B – that is the question?!?

I'll get my coat ... I should be bard!

Have a great weekend.

A. Clarke

Mr Andy Clarke
Head Teacher



	Parent Survey Question	Agree (strongly)	Disagree (strongly)	Don't Know
1.	My child likes Denmead Junior School	98% (74%)	1% (0%)	1%
2.	My child has settled into their new class well	99% (73%)	1% (0%)	0%
3.	My child feels safe at school	97% (74%)	2% (0%)	1%
4.	My child is taught well at this school	95% (61%)	0% (0%)	5%
5.	I feel involved in my child's education	85% (28%)	11% (1%)	4%
6.	The school is well led and managed	97% (68%)	1% (0%)	2%
7.	The school expects my child to work hard and achieve their best	95% (64%)	2% (0%)	3%
8.	Regular communication from school is good	96% (65%)	4% (1%)	0%
9.	Any issues we raise are dealt with effectively	88% (52%)	1% (0%)	11%
10.	The school has responded well to the COVID pandemic	93% (64%)	5% (1%)	2%
11.	The lockdown provision for pupils self-isolating has been effective	62% (33%)	5% (2%)	33%
12.	I would recommend this school to others	95% (68%)	3% (0%)	2%
	Out of how many responses	107		

COMMUNICATIONS SENT OUT THIS WEEK:

- **7/12/20** – Joint schools letter re: attendance expectations for last week of term
- **8/12/20** – Ethiopia bubble closure communications

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- **Monday 14th:** FINAL DATE for Christmas cards to be posted in school.
 - **Wednesday 16th:** See flyer below for local community event
 - **Thursday 17th:** Christmas lunch and Jumper Day
 - **Friday 18th:** House cup winner non-uniform & staggered finish times as follows
 - **Yr6** 1.30pm
 - **Y5** 1.35pm
 - **Austria/Estonia/Ireland** - 1.40pm
 - **Andorra/Malta/Monaco** - 1.45pm.
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- **Monday 4th January 2021** – INSET day @ DJS – *children expected back in on Tuesday 5th January 2021*





You're invited!

Wednesday 16th December

6 – 7pm



People all across the country will be standing on their doorsteps and singing along to Christmas carols on BBC local radio. Let's join in and celebrate Christmas in Denmead!



DOWNLOAD

Visit the website www.doorstepcarols.co.uk and download the words.

If you are unable to do this, then please pop in to the Co-op, The Bake House or to Parkers and pick up a copy of the words.



TUNE IN

The carols will be broadcast on BBC Radio Solent to help us all stay in time and in tune.

DAB: BBC Radio Solent.



SING

On the night, stand on your doorstep in your household bubble and sing loudly with the rest of Denmead.



DONATE (if you are able and wish to)

We have decided to support Sam's Haven, a local charity that provide short respite holidays for families who have children with a life threatening or terminal illness. Scan the QR code or visit

<https://www.justgiving.com/DoorstepCarolsinDenmead>

BBC RADIO
Solent

ALL SAINTS
CHURCH
DENMEAD

