



Denmead Junior School

Building success, inspiring curiosity

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Mr A Clarke
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Dear Parents and Carers,

There's never a dull moment here at Denmead Juniors (at least, I'd like to think so!). I am hopeful that for many of you, things have now settled into a rhythm and that workable routines have slowly but surely been established.

Obviously, from next week, we will upset the apple cart a little, but hopefully in a very positive way, with all online schoolers receiving their Monday to Thursday MS Teams sessions on a consistent, weekly basis. The feedback from these sessions from all quarters has been very positive, as has the feedback regarding the home learning packs. If, for whatever reason, this hasn't been your personal experience, please do get in contact so we can address any issues.

What I am focussed on at this time, is making sure everyone is getting a fair and equitable deal and that no child or family is 'left behind' regardless of circumstances. My teaching team are equally focussed on making sure that the provision for all our children, in school or at home, is of a high quality and will lead to ongoing progress.

Despite all this, a further priority is making sure that the emotional well-being of all our learners and their families is being catered for, one way or another. Hopefully, you have appreciated the regular phone calls and emails and have felt adequately connected with the school, despite the remote nature for the majority of you.

We have uploaded onto our website, under NEWS AND EVENTS > COVID NEWS AND RESOURCES here: <https://www.denmead-jun.hants.sch.uk/page/?title=Covid+news+and+resources&pid=122>, which is a really useful powerpoint with embedded links and videos, which you should also find useful. A personal favourite of mine is Brene Brown's video clip on Empathy, which is accessible through slide 65 or from the link below: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Ewvgu369Jw&vl=en-GB&ab_channel=RSA

We are all looking forward to when all children can return and work is continuing to progress in the Forest School area and outdoor classroom to that end. As you can see from the photos below, Mr Marley has been doing a terrific job in installing seating in and outside of the classroom, putting in planters around the structure and is currently working on fencing a much wider area that we hope to populate with a number of free-standing planters as part of our outdoor learning programme.

We are currently looking at sourcing a large greenhouse to enable the growing process that all children will be able to engage in. We are also hoping to purchase a large number of fruit trees so that we can plant a small orchard. We hope to be able to use the produce either to sell or to cook with. We have already been in touch with the Woodland Trust to acquire one of their free woodland tree/hedge packs, which will enable us to plant natural hedgerows along the new fencing area. When established, this will encourage a multitude of wildlife to frequent the area.



Although these are uncertain times, there is still plenty to look forward to if you're a child at Denmead Junior School.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Kind regards,

A. Clarke.

Mr Andy Clarke

Head Teacher

