



# Denmead Junior School

Building success, inspiring curiosity

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Mr A Clarke  
Head Teacher

[www.denmead-jun.hants.sch.uk](http://www.denmead-jun.hants.sch.uk)

Friday 7<sup>TH</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are well and staying safe. Life at DJS continues to be a bubble of positivity and hope.

By the time you read this, all 12 classes will have visited our new library and between Mrs Davis, Mr Stapleton and the 12 PRIDE winners from last week, we will have opened the library 12 times, each with its own ribbon cutting ceremony!



It was lovely to see so many children so excited to use this space, to enjoy a book and to be so positive about spending time reading. Hopefully, the excitement will translate into an even greater joy of reading. Please continue to support your children with their home reading and to remember to help your child complete their Home/School reading record each day, where possible.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/education-48916408> If we can both get children to read for the joy of it and to become a habitual reader, we together, will have done a thoroughly worthwhile thing for our children, both today and for the future.

Many thanks to the kind donations of books that we have received recently, the quality of which, will make a fantastic addition to our library. Mrs Davis is very happy to accept further donations of recent, good quality and age-appropriate books, so do please get in touch with her through the office if you would like to support this.

Many children this week will have had the opportunity to plant a young hedgerow plant within our new Forest Garden area. Once again, watching the children get so excited about engaging with nature, in their own community, is something very satisfying. It will be their actions and attitudes towards nature and the environment that will shape our world in the future. I hope their experience at Denmead Junior School will help shape them in a wholly responsible, healthy and beneficial way both for themselves and the world around them.

As we move carefully toward returning to a more 'normal' future, we have taken the opportunity to begin reorganising our classrooms back to a more familiar primary school set-up. The children, for the time being, will remain in fixed positions but now will be better able to engage collegiately with each other on their tables, rather than in rows. It feels the right move to be making at this time and is supported by the current guidance, but we will reserve the right to



change back, should the local and national picture change. I am ever hopeful but always vigilant, that children's educational experience can now be better prioritised.

Looking forward, as we are, I also would like to tell you broadly how we will be organising classes and school in general from next year. As I shared before the Easter break, we are moving back into discrete year groups. Our intention, for the current year 3/4 classes is to keep them within their current class groups as we separate them into their discrete year groups. For example, the year 4 cohort from one class will join with the year 4 cohort from another class to make one, new year 5 class. This will help maintain the current friendship groups, give the children a sense of change but without it being too overwhelming.

We have asked the infant school to suggest the new year 3 classes as they know their children best. Meanwhile our current year 5 will remain in their current groups as they transition up in to year 6 classes.

We are currently considering the new start and finish times for next academic year, working with the infant school to ensure that these work well for the Denmead schools community as a whole. Any decision will work well for both schools and with that in mind, we are likely to move back to one start and finish time, sufficiently timed so that siblings can be easily collected from both sites.

We will shortly be able to share with you our list of extra-curricular clubs that we can offer for the rest of this term. As soon as we are able to confirm this, we will.

Please continue with your efforts to instil a sense of positivity around reading, whilst ensuring that your child reads regularly. I shared with the children in my latest PRIDE assembly, a quote about respect. It reads, **"Show respect to people even if they don't deserve it. Respect is a reflection of your character, not theirs."**

Too often, our own behaviour can be negatively influenced by the behaviour of others. We encourage our children to take responsibility for their own behaviour and not to blame their behaviour on the behaviour of others. It's difficult, and none of us are perfect but we should all try and maintain our own high standards, even when, in the moment, we might forget ourselves because of how others or the situation may have impacted on us... the school car park, for example!

Have a great weekend,

Kind regards,



**Mr Andy Clarke**  
**Head Teacher**



For children who attend Denmead Juniors + siblings



**1st June - 4th June!**

ASHLEY BARKER COACHING  
A B C

A fun, dynamic and exciting holiday club for children aged 5-11.  
From just £19 for core hours (10am - 4pm)  
£3.50ph for additional hours

**Denmead junior School**  
8:00- 18:00

Special Offers Available!

With games such as Dodgeball, Ultimate Tag and the much loved Chicken, Hero, Pair!

07870971600  
@ashleybarkercoaching  
ashleybarkercoaching1@gmail.com





ASHLEY BARKER COACHING  
A B C

May Half Term Club: The sports club will be running again over the (4-day) May half term week. Book directly with them via:  
<https://ashleybarkercoachingabc.kidsclubhq.co.uk/cust#/auth>

**DIARY DATES:**

- **30<sup>th</sup> May:** Deadline for deposits for Year 4 Calshot 2021 residential trip
- **30<sup>th</sup> May:** Half Term week
- **25<sup>th</sup> June:** Sports Day
- **23<sup>rd</sup> July:** Last day of term

**COMMUNICATIONS COMING SOON:**

**Current Yr3** – Letter regarding Y4 Calshot Residential Trip (Weds 6<sup>th</sup> – Fri 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022)

**Current Yr5** – Letter regarding Y6 Wales Residential Trip (Mon 4<sup>th</sup> – Fri 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022)

**Year 6** – PTA-funded hoodies order form + further details of plans for the remainder of this term

