



# Denmead Junior School

Building success, inspiring curiosity

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Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Where has this week gone!? We are definitely back in full swing. And perhaps it feels busier because not only are things happening in and around school, but there is much being planned behind the scenes.

Our Listen 2 Me music lessons have started in all year groups. If your child is not yet involved in these fantastic opportunities to learn, play and perform a musical instrument, they will be in the not too distant future. EVERY child will have this opportunity this year and beyond... and all free for you and your child. I know the children who have been partaking are already really enjoying themselves, either learning to play the clarinet or the ukulele.

Outdoor Learning has also begun this week. In this half term's unit of work, the children have been learning how to manage and work the environment. I have just been outside to watch year 3 making their own compost, which I'm reliably informed will be ready by Christmas. So, some of you can look forward to a very unusual Christmas present, which will literally be rubbish! Please do keep donations coming in, if you can.

In Upper School, and please don't read on if you're squeamish, they have been dissecting pig hearts! This is all part of their unit on the HUMAN body, and because there are laws about operating on human hearts, we have been using pig hearts as they are anatomically similar. Most children really enjoyed it! All children learned from it! If you are considering repeating this at home, Mr Earl recommends phoning the butcher's in advance and ordering them – they come vacuum-packed!

We had a fire drill today, as part of our health and safety routines. The children were excellent in being silent and sensible in the evacuation and then registering process to ensure everyone was accounted for. It's one of the many ways we keep your children safe.

Another way, is making sure any trip we undertake is fully risk assessed and safe. Mrs Painting, Mr Stapleton and myself conducted a pre-visit to Stone Farm on Wednesday. I have to say, although I was there in a serious, professional way, I couldn't help but get very excited about the visit and looking forward to all the rich experiences that we have planned for them. We hope to share this important information with those year 6 parents whose children are attending, next Wednesday at 6pm. I know we have had difficulty in deciding a date for this information evening because of the Open Evenings at the various local secondary schools. For those of you who are unable to make this evening, we will be holding a similar session, straight after school on Thursday in Mrs Painting's room. Please come to reception after collection, if you wish to attend.

We had a very popular set of cross country club trials today. Well done to those who managed to get into the club. We've said to those who didn't make it, that we will be holding afternoon break training sessions in the near future, so everybody and anybody can come and keep fit. We hope to use the school minibus to get the team up to Portsdown Hill, which will not only be very exciting but also give that real sense of team, which is so important. This club starts next Tuesday and the first race is next Friday. I will keep you updated on their successes.

We also are looking at arranging a series of visits to Waterlooville library. They are very keen to receive us and we are very keen to attend ... once again, in our new minibus. Watch this space for when we do – it will be this term!



I had a lovely time at the Dino Derby on Sunday. It was a brilliant event that was superbly organised. I'm sure if you were able to attend that you had a wonderful time like me.

Next week, on Tuesday for parents of children in upper school and on Thursday for parents of children in lower school, we have our Open Classroom event. If you would like to take part in this event, please come to reception just before 2.45pm, ready for a presentation in the hall, before collecting your children and visiting their classroom straight after school finishes.

On Monday, we held two special assemblies for lower school and upper school, to recognise and celebrate the life of our late Queen, and to welcome our new King, King Charles III. The children listened respectfully and observed a standing one-minute silence before giving three cheers for the new King.

We are living through history. But hopefully, we are also creating our own special history here at Denmead Junior School.

Wishing you all a peaceful, long weekend.

Kind regards,



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

### **KEY COMMUNICATIONS SENT THIS WEEK:**

- Y6: National child measurement letter & flyer from Hampshire School Nursing Team
- Y6: Open event information and application for Y7 reminder
- Y6: Stone Farm information evening details
- Year 4, 5, 6 running club information
- All: Nappy discount scheme
- All: Choir Cub sign up link

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## CALENDAR:

### WHAT'S ON NEXT WEEK:

- **MONDAY 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER** **SCHOOL CLOSED FOR THE QUEEN'S STATE FUNERAL**
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> @ 2.45pm Upper School open classroom event
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6pm Year 6 Stone Farm Information Evening
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 2.45pm Lower School open classroom event
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> School photos

SEPTEMBER	
28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Evenings - <i>times to be confirmed.</i> <i>One evening will be Virtual and one evening will be held at school in person.</i>
OCTOBER	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for Y2 families – <i>invitations to be sent out</i>
w/c 10 <sup>th</sup>	Bermuda & Cape Verde residential
12 <sup>th</sup>	Lower school Butser Farm trip
w/c 17 <sup>th</sup>	Mongolia residential
24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Half term week</b>
31 <sup>st</sup>	First day back Deadline for Y7 applications Collection date for rotary boxes and Harvest donations ( <i>more details to follow</i> )
NOVEMBER	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Y6 Height & Weight checks in school
18 <sup>th</sup>	Children In Need Day
DECEMBER	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Flu spray
16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Last day of term – early finish tbc</b>
JANUARY	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>INSET day</b>
4 <sup>th</sup>	First day back
FEBRUARY	
10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>INSET day</b>
13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Half term week</b>
MARCH	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	World Book Day
8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Trip to Mary Rose
9 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Trip to Mary Rose
31 <sup>st</sup>	Last day of term
APRIL	
3 <sup>rd</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Easter Holidays</b>
17 <sup>th</sup>	First day back
26 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Calshot residential
MAY	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Bank Holiday
w/c 8 <sup>th</sup>	SATS week
w/c 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Half term week</b>
JUNE	
26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>INSET day</b>
JULY	
21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>LAST DAY OF TERM – early finish tbc</b>



## OUTDOOR LEARNING SCHEDULE:

Each class has 2 timetabled afternoon sessions per half term, for which **they will all need WELLIES, TRAINERS AND COAT please.** For simplicity, each class will have their sessions on 2 consecutive days, so they only need to bring in a bag with wellies and trainers once. Year 5 & 6 classes will be on Monday and Tuesday in their week and Year 3 & 4 will be on the Thursday & Friday.

Day	UPPER: MONDAY & TUESDAY						LOWER: THURSDAY & FRIDAY					
Class	Mongolia	Bermuda	Cape Verde	Philippines	USA	Djibouti	Qatar	Aruba	Egypt	Indonesia	Panama	Seychelles
Weeks/date												
3. 19/9/22												
4. 26/9/22												
5. 3/10/22												
6. 10/10/22												
7. 17/10/22												

**\*\* Still welcoming donations for the composting programme in school, thank you \*\***  
*Thank you to Barnards in the village, for their mass donation of egg shells for this 😊*



Hex Pro Wrestling has been running fundraising events out of Denmead Junior school with this being their third weekender. The last 4 events have been well attended and enjoyed by all who came. Hex Pro has raised money for DJS to help with purchasing new equipment for the students. Mr. Restall (a teacher at DJS and wrestler himself) is the organiser of the events and wants to continue to deliver 'high quality entertainment for the community in the half term breaks at an affordable price'. 'We do the weekenders because the events are so popular and the hall can only hold so many so we split it over two days, each show is unique and exciting in its own right.' Hex Pro is also unique for its 6 sided ring, a sight rarely seen in the UK. Hex Pro prides itself on bringing together the best wrestlers the south coast has to offer in unique combinations you won't see anywhere else.

The shows are to be held at Denmead Junior School, Bere Road, PO7 6PH. Tickets are limited and must be bought in advance:

Saturday: [www.ticketstripe.com/hexpro-oct22](http://www.ticketstripe.com/hexpro-oct22) Sunday: [www.ticketstripe.com/hexpro-oct23](http://www.ticketstripe.com/hexpro-oct23)

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