



# Denmead Junior School

Building success, inspiring curiosity

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Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

A miserable end to a very positive week. Our Cross Country team were hoping to head out again for Race 2 up on Portsdown Hill but the weather defeated us. The prospect of 40mph winds and rain ultimately led to its postponement but happily enough, despite circumstances today being not right for the race, they have postponed to later in October to make up for it, so nobody misses out.

Likewise, our PTA have rearranged the date for our school discos, that were unfortunately postponed because of circumstances, which now sees us planning for Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November (the first Thursday back after half-term). I know the consternation the postponement caused at the time and I'm hoping that the many willing offers of help then will still be there for both discos on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November; please look for the orange letter coming home next week.

Equally, I am hopeful that there are a number of you who will be keen to join our PTA, which has been depleted by the moving on of parents whose children are now in Year 7. The PTA will be holding their annual AGM next Wednesday in school from 6.30pm. Please do come along to find out more about how you can help our school in the future. The group are very friendly and are very welcoming to newcomers, so please do come and join us.

Listen2Me continues apace and I have to say, it is wonderful seeing our children really relish this opportunity. I am hopeful that at the end of this term, there might be the opportunity for you to come into school again, to see a class performance.



I hope that through this process, not only do we give every child a fantastic opportunity but that we might have inspired some to take up an instrument in the future. Mrs Painting and her Cape Verde class enjoying Listen 2 Me sessions as they learn the clarinet in our music & drama room.

Next week, we will be holding our Open Morning for prospective parents whose children are in Year 2. We will be canvassing your own views of the school in our annual questionnaire just after half-term but if you have any positive thoughts and words that we can share with our prospective parents next Thursday, please do email in so that we can give our potential new parents your perspective on our school. I am very proud of what we are able to offer our children and the learning environment we create for them to thrive but hearing it from others (we will be asking our children to speak on this morning) can sometimes be more powerful.

Thank you so much to those of you who were able to attend Parents Evening this week in whatever form. We will be again canvassing your views on how these evenings work for you, especially with the hybrid model that we currently



offer, so do look out for that questionnaire when it comes out. Parents Evening are a great opportunity to find out how your children are getting on and progressing but they are by no means the only opportunity. If you have any worries or concerns, please do come and see me, drop me an email or phone into the office. I am genuinely committed to trying to address any issues as they arise, as often matters that are nipped in the bud are most effective.

I have really enjoyed being in all classes this week, talking with children, watching how they are learning, seeing how well they are engaging and how hard they are working! I am both very proud of your children and of my staff too.

Thank you too, for your continued support. Keep it up with Go Read or Boom Reader as it is now known and also good luck with using Doodle Maths. If you are finding it hard to access either of these two online resources, please do let us know. The success of these will be in how well you and your child are able to engage with these across the school. We're really hopeful, that together, we can get your child both into the habit of reading and learning and to love it also, although I recognise that for some this might be an ongoing aspiration – together we can try!

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards,



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

### **KEY COMMUNICATIONS & REMINDERS THIS WEEK:**

- Rotary Shoebox scheme – open to all pupils, boxes now available at reception to collect
- Reminder email sent – essential to avoid nut-products in school please
- Reminder to Year 4 Calshot families of balance due date in February. There are a small number of places still available – please contact the office.
- Presentations are now on the website:
  - [Welcome to lower school](#)
  - [Welcome to upper school](#)
  - [Stone Farm residential](#)

### **DUE DATES:**

- Lower School Butser Farm trip online sign up information – please book by Weds 5<sup>th</sup> October
- Governor enquiry deadline Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October
- YEAR 6 ADMISSIONS: Apply online by 31st October 2022

**CONT >>>**



## OUTDOOR LEARNING SCHEDULE:

Please remember **WELLIES, TRAINERS AND COAT** for your child's sessions....

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

## PTA NEWS:

The PTA are starting a brand new chapter as a few members have now moved on from Year 6 at the end of the Summer term. Now is a great time to come to our AGM next **Weds 5th Oct, from 6.30pm** and help elect a new committee and also hear about our events since we returned post-covid. We would love to see you there. It's the ideal way to get involved with your child's school and to meet some of the parents as well!

**\*\*DISCO NEWS\*\*** We have booked a new disco date after half term – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. **We can't do these events without your support though**, so please look for the letter coming next week for more details.

**CONT >>>**



## CALENDAR (new additions will appear in red):

### WHAT'S ON NEXT WEEK:

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October: PTA AGM

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October: Open Morning for Y2 families

OCTOBER	
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
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>PTA school disco</b>
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
7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Sibling &amp; class group photos</b>
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>

