



Denmead Junior School

Building success, inspiring curiosity

Bere Road
Denmead
Waterlooville
Hampshire
PO7 6PH

Tel: 02392 252735

Mr A Clarke
Head Teacher

www.denmead-jun.hants.sch.uk

Friday 14th October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a good week in my absence. Although I have attended and led many residential visits, this was my first post-pandemic. Like some of the children I'm sure, I felt a mixture of excitement and nervous anticipation. Fear of the unknown can be debilitating, but hopefully, with people around you who can offer you unconditional support, positivity, a listening ear and a helping hand, it can make all the difference. I was very lucky that I had a staff team who epitomised this and a group of children who were generous with their kindness and who came with exactly the right attitude.

Consequently, we had a terrific time. The children drew praise from adults wherever they went and their curious attitude and sharp learning behaviours meant that they got the most from the week, which was laden with rich experiences and challenge throughout.

Hopefully they learnt a lot about themselves, not only as learners, but more importantly in this context, as human beings. And just as important, I hope they were able to create amazing memories that will last them a lifetime.



For the mums and dads who were left at home, I hope you enjoyed the ongoing blog that was created each day and could be found on the school website in News & Events > Residential News, which hopefully captured in a timely fashion, what we were all enjoying and experiencing. We hope to continue this next week also.

These opportunities are wonderfully important for children, when the time is right. For some I recognise, this time might not be right for them, but hopefully, if they stayed at home as a Homebird, they were also able to enjoy the week.

I am keen to make sure, in the broader context in which we find ourselves in, with the cost of living becoming ever more an issue, that our residential programme remains affordable and inclusive. We shall be reviewing each of our



residential trips in light of this, to make sure the trips offer a rich experience and great value for money – this will include our trip to Calshot later this academic year.

On Wednesday, the school became quieter still when all of lower school travelled to Butser Ancient Farm to continue our history learning on the Stone Age and the Iron Age. After a slightly delayed start waiting for our coaches, we were excited to discover that they were double deckers! Our day at Butser started around a fire sharing our knowledge and learning new facts about how people lived during this time in history. We then took part in 4 different workshops which helped us learn more about what it was like to live in the Stone Age and Iron Age. We wattle fences, made jewellery, took part in an archaeological dig and carved a piece of chalk. Everyone had a fantastic day and we have already been able to use our experiences back in school in our English narrative writing.



And so, this last week was our school in a nutshell. If you make the learning experience rich, first-hand, practical and challenging, it draws children in and they learn deeply and in many instances, without realising – Inspiring curiosity, building success!

Hoping you all had a great weekend.

Kind regards,

A. Clarke

Mr Andy Clarke
Head Teacher

KEY COMMUNICATIONS & REMINDERS THIS WEEK:

- Annual Privacy notice – emailed to all families
- Reminders sent to Y6 families without Year 7 application currently

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL REGARDING ABSENCE:

If your child is not well enough to be in school, please telephone the office by 9.30am daily with details so that we may update the registers and keep a track of any illnesses in school. Please note our answerphone is available at all times, so you can leave a message before school if needed. 8.30-9am is a peak busy time, so please do leave a message for us if we cannot answer at that time.



****Please note we still have boxes available for anyone wishing to donate to the Rotary Shoe Box Appeal – just pop to the office to ask for a box and flyer.
Collection date is after half term – Monday 31st October ****

OUTDOOR LEARNING:

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												
7. 17/10/22												

WE NEED YOU: GARDENING VOLUNTEERS

We would like to invite volunteers with general gardening knowledge to help maintain the Forest Garden on a Wednesdays from 10.30am (for an hour or two). This would involve general gardening duties such as weeding, clearing, sorting etc. Although people will not be working with children, as with any regular visitor to school, we would require a DBS to be completed. We will provide tools and tea/coffee and biscuits. Please contact Zoe Halford directly via email: zoe1@live.com if you or someone you know are interested. Thank you.

*****Thank you for all the peeling donations – we now have enough! *****

PTA NEWS:

Plans are well underway already with the PTA team and they would like your ideas and feedback, so please take a moment to complete their online form [HERE](#). They are championing one of the fundraising Christmas artwork programmes, so look out for more details soon, and hold off buying your cards till then – deliveries will be scheduled for early December! In the meantime, you can follow them with updates etc on their Facebook page [HERE](#).



CALENDAR (new additions will appear in red):**WHAT'S ON NEXT WEEK:**

Mongolia class residential: usual drop off time

Tuesday 18th – deadline for photo orders via school

OCTOBER	
24 th	Half term week
31 st	First day back Deadline for Y7 applications Collection date for rotary boxes and Harvest donations
NOVEMBER	
3 rd	Y6 Height & Weight checks in school
3 rd	PTA school disco
18 th	Children In Need Day
DECEMBER	
6 th	Flu spray – <i>information to follow</i>
16 th	Last day of term – early finish tbc
JANUARY	
3 rd	INSET day
4 th	First day back
FEBRUARY	
10 th	INSET day
13 th	Half term week
MARCH	
2 nd	World Book Day
7 th	Sibling & class group photos
8 th	Year 6 Trip to Mary Rose
9 th	Year 5 Trip to Mary Rose
31 st	Last day of term
APRIL	
3 rd - 16 th	Easter Holidays
17 th	First day back
26 th – 28 th	Year 4 Calshot residential
MAY	
1 st	Bank Holiday
w/c 8 th	SATS week
w/c 30 th	Half term week
JUNE	
26 th	INSET day
JULY	
21 st	LAST DAY OF TERM – early finish tbc





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

Sunday: www.ticketstripe.com/hexpro-oct23

Pumpkin Café

Why not drop in after school for crafts, activities, games and food.

When: Monday 31st October from 3-5pm.

Where: All Saints Church, Denmead

Who is it for: Our Pumpkin Café is aimed at Infant and Junior school-aged children and their families, but everyone is welcome.

How much is it: Free

For more information please visit: <https://allsaintsdenmead.org.uk>



Church in Denmead | All Saints, Denmead

All Saints Church, Denmead. We are a large family of people living in and around the village of Denmead. A Christian church is not a building – it is primarily a community of people who, together and individually, are on a journey of faith.

allsaintsdenmead.org.uk

