



Denmead Junior School

Building success, inspiring curiosity

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Friday 4th November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a week! And what a way to end the week with the return of our school discos! I still haven't fully come down myself, having witnessed first-hand the physical excitement of all those involved – adults included!

It really was a fantastic event and, just like myself, it was a first for the vast majority of our children. As one excited child shared with us, "It was just like the real thing!" What the 'real thing' is actually like, I cannot remember, but it was lovely to see so many children having such a lovely time dancing away and throwing a few shapes on the dance floor. I didn't recognise an awful lot of the tunes but there was one that the year 6s were also singing at Stone Farm when doing the chicken farm duty, which I think was by Little Mix, 'This is a shout out to my eggs!'

A massive thank you to DJ Sammy, who DJ'd brilliantly. And a huge thank you to Mrs Windsor in particular and all the helpers from the PTA, along with all the parental help too. Also, a big shout out to my staff who were able to attend. It's great when we are all able to come together to give our children a wonderful and memorable experience. Role on the next one ... when I've fully recovered!

We had our Harvest Festival assemblies on Wednesday, which were supported by Reverend Emma and Lewis the Youth Minister at All Saints church. Your incredible generosity with your donations of so much food will make such a difference to those who will need it over the coming weeks and months, as winter draws in. Waterlooville Food Bank collected our donations today and were over-whelmed with the sheer amount of food donated – thank you again.

A massive thank you also, to those of you who were able to complete a shoebox present this year. I am proud that we are able to support this scheme, as you can see directly how a child will benefit this Christmas from your efforts. For those of you I spoke to, I know you enjoyed doing it, but I appreciate that in these times, it's still a really lovely and generous gesture – thank you too!

We completed our first library visit of the year with a group of keen year 6s. It was great to be able to visit our local library, that would be too far to visit if it were not for our shiny, new minibus. Mrs Todd at Waterlooville Library was there to welcome us and we all enjoyed the opportunity to read, have some squash and a biscuit and also enjoy each other's company. I look forward to taking a group of equally keen year 5s next week.

For those of you who have a child in Year 3, if you haven't already done so, please take the time to complete the Year 3 Transition Questionnaire. Your feedback will help us shape transition for next year's cohort as we try to make things even better, as well as celebrate the things that worked well for you and your child.

Shortly, we will be virtually sending out our annual, whole-school questionnaire which we hope you will be able to complete also. Please though, if there is anything we need to know in the interim, I am always really keen to hear from you – good or constructive!



Next week, we hope to finalise House Captains and I will be letting the successful captains know the following Monday in our weekly PRIDE assembly. In next week's newsletter and beyond, we will also be including the PRIDE winners, along with the reasons for their nomination.

Next Friday, we will be commemorating, as a whole school, Remembrance Day. We will be joined by Mr Webb, who will be playing the Last Post for us. If your child is in the rainbows, brownies, guides, beavers, cubs or scouts and they would like to wear their uniform for that day, that would be encouraged.

As for tonight, if you are going to a fireworks display, enjoy yourselves and if you're doing them at home, please enjoy yourselves with care.

Have a great weekend.

THANK YOU From Waterlooville Foodbank



Thank you for all your donations what a fantastic job of collecting so many items, we couldn't do what we do without people like yourselves donating to us in this way, this will enable us to continue to support our local families in need.

Kind regards,



Mr Andy Clarke
Head Teacher

OUTDOOR LEARNING UPDATE:

This half term, as part of their outdoor learning, Year 6 have been or will be, finding out about possible dangers in their environment and how we can help encourage more wildlife. Mongolia this week made a Wildlife Radar! If this is placed in the garden with some dog food or meat in it, an animal may walk in, through the edible charcoal and leave some footprints on the paper. You may want to leave it there for a few nights but remember to check the food! Please could the children report back with what they find in your garden using email, a photo, a drawing or something of your child's choice so we can build up a



picture of what wildlife is in our gardens. Children could Google the different possible footprints to see if a squirrel, mouse, rat or even hedgehog has visited!! Bermuda it's your turn next week and Cape Verde after that.

KEY COMMUNICATIONS & REMINDERS THIS WEEK:

- Year 6 SATS information evening – email sent with online booking link.
- Reminder to Year 3 re: Transition survey link [HERE](#)
- Lost property email: Now displayed outside reception on a rail every day. Any unclaimed items will be disposed of every half term.
- Launch of Denmead Village decoration competition. Labels available from classes.
- Christmas lunch – use [this form](#) to indicate request for green or home packed lunch option please.

OUTDOOR LEARNING:

Please remember **WELLIES, TRAINERS AND COAT** for your child's two consecutive sessions on their weeks as follows...

	UPPER: MONDAY & TUESDAY						LOWER: THURSDAY & FRIDAY					
	Mongolia	Bermuda	Cape Verde	Philippines	USA	Djibouti	Qatar	Aruba	Egypt	Indonesia	Panama	Seychelles
w/b 7 th November		■									■	
w/b 14 th November			■									■
w/b 21 st November				■			■					
w/b 28 th November					■			■				
w/b 5 th December						■			■			



CALENDAR (new additions will appear in red):

NOVEMBER	
18 th	Children In Need Day
24 th	Y6 SATS parent evening 6pm
DECEMBER	
6 th	Flu spray for all children – letter to follow
16 th	Last day of term – early finish 1.25pm
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

