

# **Denmead Junior School**

**Building success, inspiring curiosity** 

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Mr A Clarke Head Teacher

#### www.denmead-jun.hants.sch.uk

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a tale of two weathers this week. It seemed at the start of the week that the rain would never end, and in school, that means one bad thing – wet play! And then for the last 3 days, the weather has been glorious – well, glorious for November!

It meant that today we were able to collectively join together to show our respects on Remembrance Day. We were joined by Mr Webb who, following the recitation of 'In Flanders Fields' by John McCrae, played for us The Last Post. What followed was a 2-minute silence beautifully observed by all. We were then treated to the Reveille, which signalled the end of our silence.

Thank you to all of you who were able to attend in your uniforms, which I think made a real difference to our remembrance. I hope to see many of you again on Sunday, as we parade down to the War Memorial and pay, once again, our deepest respects. I think that is really important to mark these occasions with a sombre appreciation and sense of gratefulness. Even if the children don't fully understand, it prepares them for a time when they will more fully appreciate the actions and sacrifices of those that went before – Lest We Forget!



Our visits to Waterlooville Library continued with our Year 5s this week. It did make me realise that there are still a few parents who might be finding it difficult to log on to the Go Read App or website. Having assisted one parent, I feel confident to share that with others, so please do catch me if this is still presenting a problem. My year 5s were delightful and were definitely enthused to both a) go on the school minibus, and b) visit the library. It really is a terrific library and with the way that things are going more widely, it might be a case of 'use it, or lose it'. So if you do get the chance, it is worth a visit. It's also really easy to a become a member of the library, but in the case of the children, they will need you to complete the forms for them.

There's also the opportunity, once you become a member, even if you can't physically visit, is to use their virtual library by using an app called 'BorrowBox'. This will enable you and your child to 'borrow' books without the worry of returning











them late and incurring charges as the book will automatically disappear from your device and be 'returned' to the virtual library.

In our LSA training this week, we were joined by Seren, who gave us all a tutorial in the use of Doodle Maths. Seren did a great job in demonstrating what a great maths tool it is, but also how children are encouraged to use it and how the programme supports them in their journey to maths mastery. If your child is not using it at home, or you've not had a chance to see them use it, I would strongly encourage you to try it, as I and Seren think that it's great. Generally, I would be advocating less screen time for children but if it's spent reading and honing their maths skills, then I can't really complain. Maybe even use it as a way of earning time on their games console, if that works for your child!?

Of course, what I would be definitely advocating is getting outside more and spending time in nature. Our Outdoor Learning is certainly well focussed on this. I received this lovely email from Miss Halford which read:

"Just to let you know that the Year 4s have been learning how to classify information and have been doing this with British wildlife. Today they are helping habitats by making seed bombs to encourage pollinators in the warmer months and they are also making a bird feeder with pine cones I collected on the Isle of Wight. They have lovely little paper bags and have just been doing instructions on them and pictures so at the end of the day they will have a bag with both gifts in for their families. Thought you'd want to know about the loveliness of what they are doing!!"

I think we have a really great balance of different types of opportunities for children here at Denmead Junior School. Whether it be the Outdoor Learning, the Listen 2 Me music lessons for all children, the additional RockSteady opportunities, the access to a range of educational apps and now rather excitingly, our new Lego League kits which we have just received which we intend for Year 5 to do the new "Superpowered" challenge. The kits focus on the transfer and storage of energy – which is far more fun than it sounds!







## **PRIDE** <u>CERTIFICATE WINNERS THIS WEEK</u>

Class	Child	Reason				
Aruba	Eadie	For always doing the right things at the right times and being considerate of her peers. She has worked incredibly hard this week.				
Egypt	Dylan	For showing determination in his writing. Dylan fully applied himself writing his paragraph and the results were amazing- keep it up Dyla				
Qatar	Thomas	For working extremely hard in all his learning and for always being an excellent friend to all of his class mates.				
Indonesia	Grace	For determination and concentration during her outdoor learning session. She worked extremely hard to make her bird feeder and was very proud of the finished result.				
Panama	Freya	For showing resilience and determination when problem solving in maths. I am also proud of Freya for practising her times tables at home.				
Seychelles	Dolly- Marie	For concentration, curiosity, self-improvement - Dolly actually employs and exemplifies all of the learning powers and is someone who tries her best no matter the level of challenge				
Djibouti	Amelia	For showing inspiration, positivity and respect throughout her learning this week by actively choosing to work with a wide variety of her peers; gaining and developing new understanding as well as new friendships along the way.				
Philippines	Jimmy	For trying really hard when writing his genie report and publishing independently. Well Done!				
USA	Charlie	For his great determination with his fractions work this week. Managing to use resources or diagrams to help understand equivalent fractions.				
Bermuda	Joe	For excellent effort in all subjects, and providing some really thoughtful contributions in class.				
Cape Verde	Kayli	For encouraging her working partner and for excellent discussions in maths and English.				
Mongolia	Willow	For showing curiosity when thinking about a maths problem in an entirely different way, helping others in the process.				

Wishing you a great weekend and hopefully see many of you on Sunday morning.

Kind regards,

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**Mr Andy Clarke Head Teacher** 









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

- General guidance regarding high temperatures
- Photos sent home
- Email regarding small amount of funding available to support families apply to Mrs Connett

#### **OUTDOOR LEARNING:**

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

	UP	PER: N	MOND	IONDAY & TUESDAY				LOWER: THURSDAY & FRIDAY					
	Mongolia	Bermuda	Cape Verde	Philippines	USA	Djibouti	Qatar	Aruba	Egypt	Indonesia	Panama	Seychelles	
w/b 14 <sup>th</sup> November													
w/b 21 <sup>st</sup> November													
w/b 28 <sup>th</sup> November													
w/b 5 <sup>th</sup> December													

*CONT >>>* 









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

4 oth	NOVEMBER			
18 <sup>th</sup>	Children In Need Day			
24 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 SATS parent evening 6pm			
	DECEMBER			
6 <sup>th</sup>	Flu spray for all children – letter to follow			
16 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term – early finish 1.25pm			
	JANUARY			
3 <sup>rd</sup>	INSET day			
4 <sup>th</sup>	First day back			
	FEBRUARY			
10 <sup>th</sup>	INSET day			
13 <sup>th</sup>	Half term week			
	MARCH			
2 <sup>nd</sup>	World Book Day			
7 <sup>th</sup>	Sibling & class group photos			
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>	Easter Holidays			
17 <sup>th</sup>	First day back			
$26^{th} - 28^{th}$	Year 4 Calshot residential			
	ΜΑΥ			
1 <sup>st</sup>	Bank Holiday			
w/c 8 <sup>th</sup>	SATS week			
w/c 30 <sup>th</sup>	Half term week			
•	JUNE			
26 <sup>th</sup>	INSET day			
	JULY			
<b>21</b> <sup>st</sup>	LAST DAY OF TERM – early finish tbc			











Finspiring people







Ofsted