



Denmead Junior School

Building success, inspiring curiosity

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Mr A Clarke
Head Teacher

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Friday 2nd December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an exciting and memorable way to end the week! Christmas shopping day went with a Christmas cracker bang, with much excitement for our children. The buying and giving of presents is such a rewarding experience for children. They love the thought of getting and giving a present to their loved ones and it reminds me of my own experience of buying in-expensive gifts for my own family when I was their age, which I now look back on with fondness. The quality of the present was not important (I remember buying my mum Johnny Mathis's Greatest Hits – showing my age again!) and thinking it was the best present ever. The joy I had in giving that present was immense and lives with me to this day. Equally, our children will inevitably feel the same emotions. The palpable excitement was there throughout the day, regardless of class or age.

A massive thank you to Mrs Windsor, Mrs McLeod, Mrs Wedderburn and Mrs Green in particular, for organising the day for us.

I hope you all enjoy receiving your presents, whatever they are, and rest firm in the knowledge that they are infinitely better than a Johnny Mathis LP! Take joy, in the joy your child takes in giving you their present because wrapped up in it, is a whole lot of love!



A huge well done to the winners below and to all those who took part in our Christmas decoration competitions. The winners will receive their prizes in Monday's PRIDE assemblies.

PTA Decoration competition winners:

Year 3: Alfie & Chloe

Year 4: Henry & Millie

Year 5: Lucas & Lauren

Year 6: Ryan & Tessa

Denmead Parish Council – Eco-Decoration competition winners:

Year 3: Amelia & Alfie

Year 4: Joshua, Sophia & Millie

Year 5: Ella & Lucas

Year 6: Willow, Alice & Katie



A massive well done to our new House Captains, who found out on Monday that they were successfully voted in by their peers. They did a great job in putting forward why they would be a great house captain and now it is time for them to deliver on their promises – I'm sure that they will!

Anmore	Anthill	Barn Green	Kidmore
Kayli	Nate	Lacey	Henry
Willow	Aviraj	Albie	Imogen

Thank you to all the year 3 parents who took part in our transition survey. The results were overwhelming positive about our transition process, with some really constructive comments about what worked well and what we could do to improve transition further in the future.

Here are just a couple of the responses from our year 3 parents:

"We really liked that our child was able to do quite a few visits to the school during the Summer term as they made him feel reassured and ready to go to Juniors. His buddy was really nice and friendly too and this also made him feel happy and reassured. His buddy still says hello to him now when he sees him."

"It was a really comprehensive calendar of events- far more than we were expecting given the COVID restrictions at the time, and we were grateful that it enabled our son to familiarise himself with the school before he started. I thought the program itself was engaging and managed well in terms of a gentle transition starting with the introductions at infant school through to spending time on site at juniors."

If for whatever reason, the transition did not work quite as well for you or your child and you would like to discuss this with me, I would be keen to meet with you so that we can make sure that we improve this for others in the future.

If you are able to offer help on Christmas lunch day, please get in touch with the PTA directly via PTA@denmead-jun.hants.sch.uk Your help, as ever, will be much appreciated.

I look forward to seeing you all (or as many as can make it) on Thursday evening from 5.30pm on the top playground for our Carols at Denmead event. Please arrive early if you would like refreshments, as the PTA will stop selling whilst the carols are being sung from 5.45pm. Refreshments will resume selling for a short period after the carols.

Kind regards,

A. Clarke

Mr Andy Clarke
Head Teacher



KEY INFORMATION THIS WEEK:

- Email sent with summary of Christmas events on Thursday
(*more information about Thursday evening's carols will follow*)
- Email sent to each small school with Church Service helper request link on Thursday
- Reminder about Flu consent forms (only needed if you have not yet completed)
- Yellow paper letter sent home to Choir members today
- Class emails re: music concerts (Seychelles, Djibouti, Egypt & Cape Verde) *TO FOLLOW NEXT WEEK*

WHAT'S ON NEXT WEEK:

Tuesday 6th Flu spray for all children

Thursday 8th Carols at Denmead (gates open at 5.30pm – bring a torch if you have and wrap up warm)

Friday 9th Rocksteady band concert

**** KARATE:** Tuesday 6th will be the final club date this term (no lesson on 13th December) ******

**...AND from Monday, we will have our school Christmas card post boxes back in action.
PLEASE ensure the recipient's full name AND class are written on the envelope.**

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 5 th December												



CALENDAR (new additions will appear in red):

DECEMBER	
12 th	Ukulele concert for Seychelles & Djibouti class
13 th	Church services for all 3 small schools
15 th	Clarinet concert for Egypt & Cape Verde class Christmas lunch & Jumper day (no money required)
16 th	Last day of term – early finish 1.25pm
JANUARY	
3 rd	INSET day
4 th	First day back for children
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 week
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



PRIDE CERTIFICATE WINNERS THIS WEEK

Class	Child	Reason
Aruba		
Egypt		
Qatar	Florence	<i>For excellent resilience in all of her learning (specifically in maths) and for having great determination to give something a go even when she is unsure whether she has the correct answer or not. Well done Florence!</i>
Indonesia	Yanni	<i>For showing excellent determination when making his hill fort in history. He found it tricky to get the folds right but persevered until he was successful</i>
Panama	Issy	<i>For her positive attitude to all learning. Issy is consistently able to follow feedback to help her self-improve.</i>
Seychelles	Harriet	<i>Harriet for her excellent engagement with maths using arrays to solve missing number problems</i>
	Clark	<i>Clark for his curiosity, asking relevant questions and offering insightful observations</i>
Djibouti		
Philippines	Layla	<i>For asking thoughtful questions about a Mayan artefact in history and making sensible predictions. Well Done!</i>
USA	Bella Vu	<i>For consistently working with quiet determination and focus in all lessons including our salsa lesson last week. What a great role model for others.</i>
Bermuda	Joel	<i>For being a conscientious learner throughout his English diary writing. Joel used excellent vocabulary to really show the thoughts and feelings of the character.</i>
Cape Verde	Henry	<i>For being an excellent teacher to other students and helping them understand difficult concepts. You have shown respect to your table and inspire others around you.</i>
Mongolia	Kyan	<i>For using linguistic devices such as repetition to vividly demonstrate emotion in his diary entry.</i>





Follow The Star
THE GREAT
INVITATION

Christmas Services 2022

Sun 11th Dec 10.00am Gift Service

At this service we bring gifts and toys to be given to the Stop Domestic Abuse charity.

Sat 17th Dec 3.30pm Messy Church

Please join with us for messy activities, crafts, singing and prayers as we explore the nativity story.

Messy Church is ideal for young families with pre-school/primary aged children. Refreshments/snack included too.

Sun 18th Dec 6.00pm Carol Service

Set amongst sparkly lights and glowing candles, join with us for a traditional mix of Carols and Readings followed by refreshments and mince pies in our church hall. At this service we will take a retiring collection in support of The Rowans.

Christmas Eve 3.00pm Christingle
5.00pm Christingle

This year we are hosting two identical Christingle services – so you chose what time suits you best... Come and build your own Christingle as we raise money for the work of The Children's Society. Ideal for young and old!

Christmas Eve 11.15pm Midnight Mass

Please join us for this late-night service as we welcome in Christmas morning!

Christmas Day 8.00am Traditional Communion Service

Please join with us for a traditional BCP service including a couple of Christmas carols!

Christmas Day 10.00am Christmas Celebration

A Christmas Celebration for all ages – including carols, prayers and a talk followed by:

10.45am Simple, said Communion