

Denmead Junior School

Inspiring curiosity, Building Success

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Mr A Clarke **Head Teacher**

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Friday 27th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week here at Denmead Junior School. As I sit here, I've just seen the year 5s heading off for another swimming session and Mr Marley is just giving the minibus its safety check before we head off up to Portsdown Hill for our first race of the new year. We have a full minibus of eager cross country runners, with more meeting us down there. Each week, we also take a full minibus of budding readers to Waterlooville library, so it's getting used. It will be used more in this spring term for our outdoor learning visits, where we hope to take in the surrounding countryside and for when we do our rivers trips shortly, when we trace the course of the River Meon.

Outdoor Learning continues apace with its focus this half term on Seasons and Weather. Year 3 have been studying 'Direction and Wind', Year 4 'How and Why we Measure Weather', Year 5 Micro-climates and Climate Zones and in Year 6 Clouds and Extreme Weather. A massive thank you to the small but growing band of Forest Garden helpers, who are busy assisting Miss Halford with maintaining our Forest Garden area on Thursday mornings.

Listen2Me are practising hard, ahead of their performances to parents at the end of this term.

Speaking of performances to parents, our class assemblies have started again, although they are a first for me, as they are for many of you who may not have been here when the last class assemblies took place pre-pandemic. A massive well done to Indonesia and Mongolia classes for two splendid assemblies that were both well attended and very well received.

In PRIDE assembly last week, I shared with the children the story of Joe Useless, a sausage dog who his owner does not believe has a talent for anything. He proves him wrong and saves the day. The moral of the story being that we all have talents; some of them we know about, some which are emerging and some that remain hidden. Our job is to celebrate the known talent, to encourage the emerging talent and to look for the hidden talent – we all can make a difference!

Thank you to those of you who took the time to complete the travel survey.



Staying with the theme of 'travel', our Year 5 pupils were invited to apply for a position in our Junior Road Safety Officer team this week. 14 candidates diligently applied in writing and were all interviewed by Mrs Jones and Mr Proctor. The four successful

candidates who will be trained in the coming weeks are Taylor, Gwynli, Sienna and Alana. Congratulations to them and we look forward to their contribution in helping promote road safety across our whole school community.

News from Mr Stapleton about Boomreader, our reading app; they are launching a new version of the parent app on Monday. They have listened carefully to parental feedback and this update will make logging reading easier and clearer and includes many improvements parents and carers have asked for. If you have any questions please get in touch. Please keep reading with your children and logging this on the GoRead/Boom Reader app – if you're still having difficulties, please contact the school. And please keep on using the Doodle Maths free app, which is a













fantastic free tool for you but one that the school has heavily invested in - please try and encourage your child to use this at home also.

A bit like the dry weather that we've been experiencing this week, next week will be more of the same, which is a good thing with all that's going on.

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards,

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Mr Andy Clarke Head Teacher

KEY INFORMATION SENT THIS WEEK:

- Email statement regarding strike action ahead of next week + letter 27/1/23 •
- Year 5 deposit letter for the October 2023 Stone Farm Residential (hard copy and email) •
- Year 5 and 6 trip email for Mary Rose trips in March (email book online) •
- Year 3 and 4 trip letter for Rivers Trip in Feb/March (email – book online)

COMING NEXT WEEK:

Class assemblies @ 2.40pm for Seychelles (Tuesday) and Bermuda (Thursday)









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

Class	Child	Reason
Aruba	Jacob	For showing great pride in his complaint letter writing. He was determined to finish publishing his work and asked if he could do extra work to make sure it was excellent. Great job!
F runt	Freya	For her exemplary effort and determination in her learning this week. In all lessons, Freya has strived to do her best and has demonstrated all of the learning powers in doing so.
Egypt	Layla	For showing determination to complete her letter of complaint to a very high standard. Layla used beautiful vocabulary and ensured she followed the criteria to be successful.
Indonesia	Amelia	For showing positivity every day and friendship to all members of the class and school community
Panama	Jake	For listening and responding to feedback during writing this week. Jake has worked hard to edit and improve his language choices.
Seychelles	James	For his engagement with home reads, recording regularly which is reflected in his guided reading work in class.
Djibouti		
Philippines	Ava	For creativity and resilience when designing, writing and debugging the code for your own computer game. Well Done!
USA	Sam Hobbs	For showing great determination this term. Overcoming challenges and then showing great success. Well Done!
Bermuda	Daria	Daria should be really proud of the effort she has put into her mock SATs. Not only has she tried her best – and subsequently shown to be a role model by following the school rules - she has also put in her best effort when writing a descriptive narrative.
Cape Verde	Alex Burton	For developing his metacognition skills and joining in with group discussions and sharing his answers in class. An excellent role model for self-reflection and resilience.









CALENDAR (new additions will appear in red & * indicates more details to follow):

FEBRUARY						
10 th	INSET day					
13 th	Half term week					
27 th	Day 1 – Lower School Rivers Trip					
28 th	Day 2 – Lower School Rivers Trip					
	In-person Parents' Evening*					
MARCH						
1 st	Day 3 – Lower School Rivers Trip					
	Virtual Parents' Evening*					
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	6 th Easter Holidays					
17 th	First day back					
$26^{\text{th}}-28^{\text{th}}$	Year 4 Calshot residential week					
MAY						
1 st	Bank Holiday					
8 th	New Coronation Bank Holiday					
w/c 8 th	SATS week – tests from Tuesday 9 th – Friday 12 th May inclusive					
w/c 30 th	Half term week					
JUNE						
26 th	INSET day					
	JULY					
21 st	LAST DAY OF TERM – early finish tbc					

OUTDOOR LEARNING SCHEDULE:

	UPPER: MONDAY & TUESDAY						LOWER: THURSDAY & FRIDAY					
	Mongolia	Bermuda**	Cape Verde	Philippines	USA	Djibouti	Qatar	Aruba	Egypt	Indonesia	Panama	Seychelles
w/b 30 th January												
w/b 6 th February									All day 9/2			











CLASS ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE:

LOWER SCHOOL: 2.40pm on TUESDAYS

Seychelles	31 st January				
Panama	7 th February				
Egypt	7 th March				
Qatar	14 th March				
Aruba	21 st March				

UPPER SCHOOL: 2.40pm on THURSDAYS

Bermuda	2 nd February					
Cape Verde	9 th February					
USA	TBC (original date					
USA	clashes with trip)					
Philippines	16 th March					
Djibouti	23 rd March					









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