



Denmead Junior School

Inspiring Curiosity, Building Success

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Mr A Clarke
Head Teacher

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Friday 3rd March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an exciting week we've had, especially if your child is in lower school!

Over the course of Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we took almost 180 children to Soberton in the minibuses for a River Meon, Geography Field Trip. I have to say, all 6 classes were brilliant in their enthusiasm, focus and knowledge. They behaved impeccably and not one child fell in the river! They all assisted in measuring the width, depth and speed/flow-rate of the river. They learned some new vocabulary and concepts – please ask your child about 'erosion', 'transportation' and 'deposition'. And they all played an active part in conducting 'kick samples', which is a fancy term for collecting river mini-beasts from the bed of the river and catching them in nets, before then looking at them more closely in trays of river water. The children caught and identified and number of different creatures, such as shrimp, damsel, mayfly and stone fly larvae, lamprey, caddis fly and baby brown trout. However, the most impressive was definitely the Water Scorpion, which even Ross, our leader from the Rivers Trust, had never seen before!



A massive thank you to Mrs Marks, Mr Earl and Ross from the Rivers Trust for all their hard work in making this ambitious trip happen. A huge thank you to you too, as parents, for supporting us.

I spoke to many of you over the days of the trip and you could see how much your children enjoyed the experience because of how eager they were to share with you stories of their river adventure.



Thank you so much for those of you who were able to attend Parent Evenings, either in person or virtually. If, for whatever reason, you were not able to attend and/or had issues with the virtual offering, please do get in touch and we will do our best to arrange an opportunity to discuss your child's progress and how best you can support your child at home.

I am often stopped by parents for them to share their positivity around our Doodle Maths App and the difference this is making to their child's confidence and competence in Maths. If you don't already use this app, please do make use of it – it is great and free for you to use!

<https://doodlelearning.com/maths-app>



We had a fabulously fun day on Friday in celebrating World Book Day. It was great to see so many children taking the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book characters and whether they dressed up or not, all children enjoyed a great day, where the purpose was to inspire and encourage children to pick up a book and read.

I have recently started using Audible when downloading books onto my Kindle. I was able to download the Nowhere Emporium, which I know many of the children have read/listened to in class and I wanted to be inspired by them and share with my own children. The audiobook version wasn't very much more and the audiobook meant that my children could access a) the book without me and b) and the sometimes challenging text and vocabulary because it was being read to them. Being read to can be just as important as reading by yourself. Children can access texts that they might have struggled with and therefore potentially lost interest or not understood as well. Try it, you and your children might like it!

And finally, Friday also saw the culmination of our Cross Country season with the final championship race held at Crookhorn College. Both our boys and girls teams produced another gritty and determined effort as they fought off the cold weather again to record a brilliant 2nd and 3rd place in the Havant and Waterlooville League. Kayli, George and Leo produced captain performances and were pleased as punch to collect certificates and medals on behalf of the team at the presentation ceremony after. A massive thank you to Miss Shute and Mr Goodens and all the parents who have supported us over the course of a long cross country season. Yours and your children's efforts were entirely worth it! Well done Team Denmead!

Kind regards,

A. Clarke

Mr Andy Clarke
Head Teacher



REMINDERS:

- Online reading survey [HERE](#)
- Upper school Mary Rose Trip consent form links: [YEAR 5](#) & [YEAR 6](#).
There are a number of parents/carers who have not yet made the voluntary contribution. Please would you do so over the weekend.

Class Photos

Class Photos, Year 6 group photos and sibling photos will take place on Tuesday 7th March. If possible, please send your child in wearing a DJS sweatshirt or cardigan. If your child has PE on Tuesday 7th March and would normally wear their PE kit, please would you send your child in wearing their **regular school uniform but bring in a pair of trainers in a named bag**.

Calshot

Forms and kit lists will be coming home next week. Please check your child's bag and return them to school as soon as possible.

Courteous parking:

Please can we ask once again that parents and carers who choose to park in the residential roads around the school (front and rear) at pick up/drop off, do so with care and consideration for the local residents. We have heard from several of our neighbours in recent weeks who have routinely been unable to access their own driveways, and we will be inviting the local PCSO to make a return visit as soon as possible.

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

MARCH	
7 th	Sibling & class group photos
8 th	Year 6 Trip to Mary Rose
9 th	Year 5 Trip to Mary Rose
29 th	Calshot Parents' Evening 6pm*
31 st	Last day of term
APRIL	
3 rd -16 th	Easter Holidays
17 th	First day back
21 st	Calshot Drop In session at 3.15pm (on playground if weather fine)*
26 th – 28 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
1. 20.2.23												
2. 27.2.23												
3. 6.3.23												
4. 13.3.23												
5. 20.3.23												
6. 27.3.23												

CLASS ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE:

LOWER SCHOOL: 2.40pm on TUESDAYS

Egypt	7 th March
Qatar	14 th March
Aruba	21 st March

UPPER SCHOOL: 2.40pm on THURSDAYS

USA	NEW DATE: Weds 8th March
Philippines	16 th March
Djibouti	23 rd March



A graphic featuring several stylized hands in various colors (yellow, green, blue, purple) raised in the air. Some hands have heart shapes on them. Above the hands are several question marks. The text 'Quiz Night?' is written in a large, purple, hand-drawn font. To the left, 'DSPTA' is written in a colorful, blocky font, with 'Friends of the school' written below it in a cursive script.

Quiz Night?

DSPTA
Friends of the school

One for the grown ups, BYO drinks,
snacks and battle for bragging rights!
Register your team now using the link
in the post above 🙌

10TH MARCH AT 7PM | £5 ENTRY PP
AT DENMEAD JUNIOR SCHOOL

