

DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 12th January 2024

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!

We hope that you and your family had a lovely Christmas break. It has already been a great start to 2024 here in school, and there are lots of exciting events and activities to look forward to throughout the spring term. Please read below for a digest of the most important news items here at Debden.

Assessment Outcomes/ Learning this Term: At the end of each term, we use summative assessments to gauge the children's learning thus far this academic year. As a collective, we are really pleased with the children's progress so far this year, and across the school in most areas we are well on course to reach ambitious targets. A big well done to all of the children for their excellent effort and learning skills in achieving this. At the start of each term, we send you a class newsletter and the knowledge organisers detailing the main learning for the upcoming term. We hope these help to keep you informed about your child's learning and to support and initiate conversations at home. We have more teacher-parent consultations scheduled for after February half term, but you are always welcome to approach your teacher informally (at the end of the day in person, or through the admin team) to find out about how your child is doing academically.

Uniform/ PE: On PE days, children in years 1-6 come into school wearing their PE kit. This helps to ensure that children's lesson times are not impacted by getting changed etc. and their time in PE is maximised. We have a PE kit of white t-shirts and black shorts, but it is accepted that children may need to wear something a little warmer over the top. Tracksuit bottoms/ tops are perfectly acceptable for whilst the children are out doing their PE lesson. However, we do ask that if your child is bringing a tracksuit top/ hoodie, they also bring a red jumper for whilst they are in lessons/ assembly. We try not to be too draconian with our uniform, but I do think it's important to maintain this minimum expectation whilst children are inside learning. Thank you for your understanding with this.

Attendance: Here are the attendance figures up to the end of last term. We, like all schools, experienced a bit of an attendance dip towards the end of the term as the winter bugs kicked in. However, all in all, this was a strong term in terms of school attendance, particularly compared to the picture nationwide. Well done everyone – strong attendance is helping us to achieve the best possible outcomes for the children.

Class	Attendance
Ducklings	91.18%
Minnows	96.66%
Dragonflies	95.50%
Frogs	95.89%
Newts	95.83%
Kingfishers	95.94%

Dates for your diary

- Monday 15th January – Martin Luther King/ Celebrating Differences Awareness
- Wednesday 31st January – Tag Rugby Tournament (Team of Y3-4s)
- Thursday 1st February – Fab Science (KS2)
- Wednesday 7th February – Multi-Skills Tournament (Dragonflies & Minnows)
- Monday 12th February – Bikeability (Y6 (that didn't do it last year) and Y5s)
- Tuesday 13th February – Online Safety Sessions with the 2 Johns

- Wednesday 14th February – Tag Rugby Finals (Y5-6s)
- Wednesday 28th February – Cross Country Finals
- Tuesday 27th and Thursday 29th February – Parent Consultations
- Thursday March 7th – World Book Day

Kind Regards

Mr Hawley