

DEBDEN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 6th December 2024

Dear Parents,

Seasons greetings! December is always a busy and exciting time of year here at Debden Primary Academy, with lots of festive activities and events taking place. Below is a digest of the latest news from within the school, in addition to a look forward to what is coming up over the next few weeks.

Autumn Assessment Round

We have recently completed our Autumn round of assessments. Overall, we have been really pleased with how well the children have done in these learning checks, and we are delighted with the progress. This is testament to all of their hard work in school over the term – there are lots of children who are on a roll! A number of the children have made great strides in both their reading and their maths automaticity. Rapid development in both of these areas requires practice both in school and at home, so a big thanks to the many of you who have been helping your children to practice their reading and TT Rockstars/ Numbots. The practice is paying off!

You can ask your child's teacher for an update on their learning at any time, either by catching them at drop-off/pick-up, requesting a phone call, or via the admin team email. The next formal, school-wide opportunity for learning discussions will be at the parent-teacher consultations in February.

Christmas Fayre

Many thanks to all of the parents who helped to support the FODs Christmas Fayre. I am pleased to report that it was absolutely jam-packed and was a resounding success! Visitors to Fayre enjoyed a wide range of festive stalls, the grand tombola, and of course the visit from Santa Claus himself. Thank you to all of the families who visited, and of course to our wonderful FODs for making this such a special event.

Anti-Bullying Week

We recently recognised anti-bullying week in the school, with a range of lessons and events designed to inform children about what bullying is and how it should be addressed when it occurs. This culminated in our 'Odd Socks' Day last Friday, to celebrate our own uniqueness and diversity. The theme for this year was 'Choose Respect' – if you would like to learn more about this, or discuss bullying with your children at home, then the Anti-Bullying Alliance's resources come highly-recommended. You can find them at: <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2024-choose-respect/anti-bullying-week-2024-choose-respect>

Parking

We have had contact from some concerned neighbours regarding some of the parking that is taking place at drop-off and pick-up times. Some of the concerns raised were:

- Parents parking on the junction of Deynes Road (in the road);

-Parents on the corner of Deynes Road, so that anyone pulling out of the road onto the High Street is unable to see if there is any traffic coming;

-Children getting out of cars on the roadside with no parent to escort them.

The neighbours felt that they needed to report this to us, as they feel that there is a high likelihood that a serious accident could take place. May we politely ask all parents to ensure that they are parking safely, for the safety of our children and also with consideration of other road users.

Bus Queries and Concerns

We're still getting a number of concerns direct to us regarding the school bus. We do help wherever we can, but once again a polite reminder that the bus company is contracted by Essex local authority and is separate from the school – we do not have any staff on the bus to supervise the children.

Should you have any questions or concerns about matters relating to the school bus, in the first instance please contact Acme, the bus company, on 01279 871707 or via email: jane@acme-bus.com.

For Essex School Transport, please contact on 0345 603 2200 or via email: passenger.transport@essex.gov.uk

Key Dates for the Remainder of this Term

Wednesday 11th December – Santa Dash

Thursday 12th December – School Dinner/ Christmas Jumper/ Elfiridges

Friday 13th December – FODS Raffle Draw in Achievement Assembly (starting earlier @ 2.30pm)

Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th December – Key Stage 1 Nativity to Parents (both at 1.30pm).

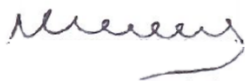
Friday 20th December – Christmas Service – 9.20am in the church

Friday 20th December – Final Day of Autumn Half Term 2

Monday 6th January – Inset Day (Teacher Training – School Closed)

Tuesday 7th January – First Day of Spring Term 1

Kind Regards



Matt Hawley

Headteacher