



# Denbigh Primary School



## NEWSLETTER December 2021

### Dear Denbigh Families

I would like to extend my gratitude to parents, carers and members of our school community for their continued support during the autumn term. I am pleased that the majority of our pupils have had the benefit of an uninterrupted normal school experience this term.

To protect everyone against the spread of the new Covid variant, Denbigh Primary will continue to follow all Public Health England guidelines as we move into the spring term. Whilst no changes have been proposed at present, parents/carers will be notified of any new restrictions via ParentMail prior to the start of the new term. With the rise in Covid locally, unfortunately, the school has been unable to host large events i.e. parent coffee mornings. We look forward to these returning in the New Year once it is safe to do so.

During the holidays, we encourage our pupils to continue to read on a regular basis. Parents and Carers can make a big difference in developing their children's love of reading by listening to them read at home. Every time your child moves up a reading level, their love of reading will grow.

With the increased number of concerns nationally regarding fitness and mental wellbeing, we encourage pupils to experience outdoor activities with their families i.e. walking, cycling. Please follow the link to some of the beautiful walks in and around the local area. <https://www.alltrails.com/england/bedfordshire/luton>

### Parking on Denbigh Road

I would like to remind everyone that parking on the Denbigh Road zig-zag lines outside the school entrance on Denbigh Road is illegal. Parking on these lines is prohibited at all times and I would ask everyone to take the health and safety of our pupils into consideration upon their arrival to and departure from school. Unfortunately, I continually witness cars parking on these lines and mounting the pavement area. The Local Authority Traffic Enforcement Team have now been requested to carry out random visits and "on the spot fines" will be issued to anyone not adhering to the law and parking illegally. On behalf of the pupils, families and governing body at Denbigh Primary School, I would urge everyone to avoid parking in this area at all times.

I would like to wish all of our community a safe and happy holiday period. We look forward to welcoming all the children back to school on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022**. Timings for the start and end of the school day remain unchanged (**8.40 a.m. – 3.15 p.m.**)

A Hodges  
**Headteacher**

### Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons for Year 3 restarts on **Monday 10th January 2022**. Lessons for **4IS & 4SK** start on **Wednesday 12th January 2022**. Pupils will need a costume (girls should wear a 1 piece costume and boys, close fitting swimming shorts that finish above the knee), towel and suitable bag for their swimming kit. You must also provide your child with a swimming cap.



### Dance Competition

This year Denbigh Primary entered teams from Year 2 and Year 3 into the Luton dance competition. Both teams won their respective competitions and returned to school with personal medals and a trophy which is proudly located in the cabinet at the main office.

The year 3 team will now represent Luton at the county dance competition held at the University of Bedfordshire in the spring term. Congratulations to all the children who took part.



## Reception

Thank you to all our families who have now signed up to Class Dojo. It has been wonderful to share what your child has been learning in school.

The children have really embraced the learning opportunities available this half term. Through stories and experiences, they have explored the themes of Family, Fireworks and Celebrations, Space, Road Safety, and winter. During space week, we visited a make believe 'crash site' in the secret garden!! We used observations to influence our writing, art work, and play. We talked about aliens in space and even made our own sandwiches for a picnic on the moon.

The children have learnt lots of new skills, including how to zip up their coats by themselves, write their name, and how to ask for help. They continue to practise retelling familiar stories, matching numbers to quantities and making patterns.

We were lucky to receive a visit from our local librarian who told us all about how we can visit the library and borrow books for free! We hope you have enjoyed exploring the Bookstart pack given to your child.

During the holidays, please continue to enjoy reading at home with your children. Talk to them about the characters and events happening in their books.

**The EYFS team wish you all a lovely holiday with your families.**



## Year 1

Year 1 are zooming ahead with their learning this half term. The pupils have been making excellent progress in all areas, particularly their phonics. Their teachers are very proud of everything they have achieved.

In English, pupils have been reading a range of exciting stories including 'Funny Bones' and 'Superworm'. They thoroughly enjoyed reading these texts, especially when some of the characters came to visit us in our classrooms. After reading such incredible stories, pupils have excelled in their writing and have produced some excellent pieces of work. Over the holidays, we would appreciate your help in continuing to encourage your child to write as often as possible in order to work on their letter formation and handwriting.

In IPC, pupils have been learning all about the human body. Year 1 have had the opportunity to explore how we feel, taste, smell, hear and see, they especially enjoyed the taste and smell tests. The children learnt lots of new skills within this topic including how the human body works.

During the holidays, please continue to read with your children at home and discuss the text with them in order to build up their fluency and comprehension.

**Miss Morris, Miss Ward, Miss Mildon, Miss Emerton and Mr Davies would like to wish all families a relaxing and safe holiday.**

## Year 2

Year 2 has had a busy half term. During English lessons, the children have been reading "Naydia's Bake me a story" and they got the opportunity to bake some bread.

In IPC lessons, the children have enjoyed experimenting by growing their very own beanstalks!

During their music lessons, Mrs Knight assembled the year group in a percussion concert where the children sang a chorus of songs they have been learning throughout the term.

Well done to all the children for working extremely hard during their Phonics Screening Checks completed this week. The children have been very busy practicing their reading comprehension and mental arithmetic and it is evident they have been busy practicing their sounds at home. Thank you to all parents/carers for your continued support.

**The Year 2 Team would like to wish you all a restful break and look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year.**



## Year 3

Year 3 have had an incredibly busy and productive term. We visited the Chiltern Open Air Museum, where the children took part in a Stone Age workshop. They had the opportunity to make dens, and observe how to make a fire. The children got to meet some farm animals and have a look at a roundhouse from the Iron Age.

This half term we took part in maths week, where the children experienced lots of practical activities including the chance to crack a code to get out of an escape room. In English, we set up our own cinema to watch "Beauty and the Beast" and investigated an alien crash site. The children have produced some lovely writing about both activities.

Swimming has been a great success this half term, and the children have made real progress with both their confidence and learning to swim. Year 3 will continue with lessons next term. Swimming is an essential life saving skill and we would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for their encouragement and continued support.



**Wishing you all a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year**

## Year 4

We've had another exciting half term of learning in year 4.

The children have enjoyed learning all about healthy eating and made some delicious, nutritious snacks in PSHE lessons. Here are the recipes if you would like to make these at home over the holidays.

In IPC, the children have learnt all about electricity and the human body, particularly the digestive system. They made model human teeth from play dough, created a working model of the digestion process and even wrote and performed their own digestion raps. The children have learnt about the human skeleton and how this protects and helps us move.

4SK have enjoyed forest school this half term. They made tally charts and tree ornaments from natural materials. 4RB and 4IS are scheduled to attend in the New Year.

As part of an exciting Art and Culture week, children made sculptures in the style of Alberto Giacometti. They used wire and twisted this around to create human-like elongated figures. They had a great time coming up with names for them too. The children also created mosaics as part of this week.

4RB and 4IS children have progressed extremely well in their swimming lessons this term. Most pupils are now confident in the pool and a few pupils are already swimming 15 - 25 metres. 4RB will take a break from swimming in the spring term and 4SK will commence their lessons. 4IS will continue to swim until the end of the spring term.



**Yoghurt Cakes**

**Ingredients:**  
1 Egg white  
12 tsp homogenised milk  
1 tsp plain yoghurt  
A few thin slices of banana  
Couple of berries (per child) (optional)

**Equipment:**  
Saucepan (child)  
Metal spoon (child)  
Custard cases  
Spoon for measuring  
Muffin tray to go in freezer

**Simple instructions:**  
Prepare the bananas by peeling them along it thinly. Allocate each child a custard case that are made a muffin tray in a bowl and in spoon.  
Mix the egg and homogenise milk in the bowl.  
Spoon the mixture into their custard case and press to the base of the case.  
Take a tablespoon of yoghurt, and add it on top of the lots in the custard case.

**Chocolate Energy Balls**

**Ingredients:**  
1 cup of rolled oats  
1/2 cup of nut butter (natural, unheated and smooth) and 1/2 cup of honey. Use the equivalent to suit your children's needs.  
1 tsp of glycerol triacetate  
1 tsp of desiccated coconut  
1 tsp of the seeds  
1 tsp of honey  
1 tsp of cocoa powder

**Equipment:**  
Frying pan  
Spoon for measuring ingredients  
Measuring scale  
Roller  
Mixer

**Simple instructions:**  
Place all the ingredients together in the frying pan.  
Carry on for 10 minutes or until the mixture is soft and sticky. Use a spoon to mix the mixture.  
Roll the mixture into balls and place in a bowl. Allow the balls to cool for 10 minutes.  
Place the Chocolate Energy Balls into a plastic bag and in the fridge for 10 hours to set.



**The year 4 staff would like to wish you all a wonderful holiday and a happy new year.**



## Year 5

It has been another exciting term in Year 5!

The children have really enjoyed reading the book 'Brightstorm' by Vashti Hardy (who visited our school last year!); an action packed tale of two children who embark on an adventure in a sky-ship to find out the truth about their father's disappearance. Inspired by this, we designed some incredible airships and wrote some fantastic pieces of writing.

We have also been flexing our creative muscles during our recent art week, creating some fantastic sculptures and sketches in the style of Shaun Tan.

In IPC lessons, we have been learning about reversible and irreversible changes in our 'Bake It!' unit. We were particularly excited by the way water, sugar and yeast reacted when mixed together; why not make some bread at home to see what else yeast can do!

To end the year, we have been taking part in our winter sports day, learning how to play Olympic sports such as ice hockey and curling (unfortunately we couldn't fit a bobsled track in the playground, no matter how politely the children asked!).

**The Year 5 Team would like to wish you all a safe and happy holiday**

## Year 6

We have had yet another very busy half term in Year 6. The children have been really engaged in their IPC topic 'Full Power'. They have learnt a lot about electricity and light and were able to use this knowledge to design and create their own night light. The children enjoyed the whole designing process; using the saws to chop their wood was definitely a highlight.



**The Year 6 team wish you all a safe and enjoyable holiday with your families. We look forward to seeing you all again in the new year.**

## Health & Wellbeing Coffee Morning

Emotional wellbeing of our pupils continues to be a priority. On **Thursday 10th February 2021 8.45 a.m. - 9.30 a.m.** during our Health & Wellbeing week, the school will be hosting a coffee morning. Parents/Carers are invited and will have the opportunity to speak with representatives from external professional organisations.



## Important Road Safety Information Do you need a car seat for your child?

Children are much more vulnerable than adults in a car so taking time to make sure you use the right child seat (restraint) or booster correctly could save your child's life.

For further information, please use the following Link <https://www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rules>

## Physics Hub

Last May Denbigh Primary was appointed as a hub school for the prestigious Ogden Trust. As part of this, we have been running some exciting physics activities. Year 4 took part in an electronics workshop in which they made musical instruments out of paper, pencils and themselves! There will be lots of exciting competitions and challenges in the New Year.

Why not try this quick experiment at home?



Inspire FM is working with Active Luton on a **FREE** Winter Fair for children on free school meals. There will be free food, rides and activities for children to enjoy during the holidays.

The event is taking place on Saturday 18 to Tuesday 21 December between 11am and 3pm at St. George's Square, Luton.



You can book free tickets for children at [inspirefm.org/winter-fair](https://inspirefm.org/winter-fair) or by calling 01582 400272.