

## The Feast

The village's annual autumn event is tomorrow—we look forward to joining in the fun.

2.00pm - Bake-off style bread 'competition'. Bring your home creation to the stall by the school gates.

2.30pm Come and listen to the children sing their autumn songs with Mrs Ely and Mr Russell. Please encourage your child to come over and join us.

We will also be displaying a beautiful collage of allotment art work and continuing to collect items for Towcester Food Bank.

Please try and join us and enjoy the rest of the special events planned for the day.



As shown on the school calendar, individual and sibling photos are on Thursday (13th). The side door of the studio will be open at 8.30am for photos with older and younger siblings on a first come first served. Don't forget to bring your most dazzling smile!

It has been quieter than normal in the school this week since a large group of year 6 children went on a residential trip to Osmington Bay in Dorset.

'We arrived on Monday 3rd October. Everybody was exhausted but they wanted to see their rooms and then we met our awesome instructors - Molly and Geoff. Our first meal was bangers and mash - it had a bit of zing to it and was really nice. We then did 'Passport to the World'. This was fun and exciting. After that we settled quietly in our beds thinking about the next day ahead.

The next morning we woke up with the seagulls squawking in our ears and the sea crashing against the pebbles. We ate our breakfast - it was bacon! I made it into a bacon sandwich - it was luscious. Our activities started - raft building was funny although we got soaked. Warren, Harvey and Ben put their heads under the water. We were freezing cold as we went back to our dormitories. Since then I've done loads of activities including 'King Swing, Trapeze' and 'Zip Wire'.

It has taught me to believe in myself and embrace any new opportunities in my life path. It has also taught me to work as part of a team. I've also made unexpected friends'.

Sophie Bolton, Charlie Conroy, Warren Hughes

We were thrilled by the behaviour of the children on the trip and of those they worked on special seasonal projects in school with Mrs Young.

We raised £335.22



**Jeans for Genes Day**  
Changing the world for children with genetic disorders

### Art at Deanshanger by Mrs Victoria Archer, Artist-in-Residence

Since early September, all classes in Year 1, 2 & 3 have been exploring the world of Art on a weekly basis. Initially, we focussed on the vibrant work of Wassily Kandinsky, which the children seem to have enjoyed. We discussed his work in some detail and how we all felt about it, then the children created their own pieces of Kandinsky-inspired art, many of which are on display in the new Art Room space. We also have been learning about mixing primary colours to make secondary colours by hearing children stories specifically written to educate children on this subject and by mixing our own in a small messy painting experiment (apologies if children came home from school with evidence of this! All paint we use is non-toxic and washable). Combining the topic of Autumn, colour and our newfound knowledge of Kandinsky, we went on to create a collaborative project across all three year groups, which if you are visiting the Deanshanger Feast tomorrow, you will see on display as part of our contribution to the celebration. Each child made their own vegetable which has found its way into a class allotment plot. All six classes have their very own paper garden, full of wildlife and deliciously colourful seasonal vegetables which they have all contributed to using mixed media, such as tissue paper, metallic paper, liquid metal paint, felt and a serious amount of cutting out, putting their nimble fingered scissor skills to good use. They have worked tirelessly and enthusiastically to create this work which represents a supportive team effort by all children in the three year groups.

The importance of art in children education can sometimes be overlooked, since the importance of literacy and numeracy is of course paramount and takes priority. And then we have the matter of time, which becomes more and more precious as it passes. However, should children be fortunate enough to take part in an education full of a variety of other important subjects such as RE, a foreign language and Art, their childhood can be enriched in ways we may not have considered, however immeasurable these may seem at such a young age, Art is a form of non-verbal communication, allowing children to make sense of the world they live in, communicating ideas to themselves by linking words to objects and ideas to sentence structure which occurs in their inner vision as they draw, paint and create. As children grow up, they can take the good, honest materials they used when they were five and, although speaking the same language with them, can now express ideas which are much more sophisticated.

Thank you baking and /or joining us. It was a lovely sociable morning with the bonus of raising

£226 Thank you



WE ARE  
MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT



FS/KS1 Magic Show and KS2 disco on Friday 14th October—thank you PTA

Year 4 cake sale on Monday



On a regular basis, I monitor the children's reading diaries to praise them for reading regularly and developing their skills and vocabulary accordingly whilst also reminding others of how important regular/daily reading is. Even children in year 6 benefit from reading aloud to an adult and talking about the text that they have read. We are about to start working with students at Elizabeth Woodville to help support reading across the school. If you have an hour to spare on a regular basis and would like to help reading, please let the class teacher know in the first instance. We have also started a scheme called Accelerated Reading. This provides a reading age and other diagnostic information before setting the children off on selected texts and comprehensions quizzes to support understanding and enjoyment.



On Friday 23rd September 2016 some children from KS2 took part in an orienteering afternoon at Salcey Forest. Other schools from across the county also took part. Each team's aim was to complete the course to the best of their ability. They all had lots of fun and worked really well as part of a team.



The children that took part: Callum Poulter, Jasmine Bailey, Charlie Conroy, Rebekah Robertson, Neve Masters, Lottie Fleming, Evan Watson, William Philbrick, Emma Moore, Hayden Silk, Jacob walker and Keira Josling.

Thank you to the parents, friends, children and grandparents that came to help us on a gardening project 2 weeks ago. With a lot of hard work, we were able to completely remove a huge amount of wild ground cover ready to plant up with flowery plants and spring bulbs.

Community support like this makes a big difference to our school. Thank you



In August 2016, the *Childhood Obesity – A plan of action* document was released, outlining the intention and responsibility we have in the United Kingdom to address the ongoing Childhood obesity epidemic. Following the execution of this, in September 2017, schools will be expected, as outlined in the Ofsted framework, to utilise ring fenced funding to prioritise and demonstrate initiatives with regard to improving the health and wellbeing of all in school. Many of the plans outlined on the document are compulsory and will undoubtedly create controversy amongst teachers and parents alike.

At Deanshanger primary school, we are ahead of the curve. When the *Plan of action* was released there was nothing that surprised or concerned us; we have currently been prioritising this area with our Healthy Child Advisor – Paul Evans, for the past year. You will have seen the direction we have taken things in school to ensure we are the healthiest school we can possibly be of late, and with your ongoing support, we continue to do so.

In January 2017, the Department of Education and Public Health, England will be writing a *Healthy schools rating* scheme framework - a new scheme that will look to explore and celebrate how schools are establishing evidence based initiatives with regard to improving the health and wellbeing of all in school, to be released to schools the following September. Due to the progress and proactivity of Deanshanger Primary school in this area, Paul Evans has recommended we aim to be one of the first schools in the country to go for this rating.

Between now and July 2017 with both Paul's help and your ongoing support, we will continue to prioritise and embed a culture of Health and Wellbeing throughout the whole school community to enable us to be in the best position possible come September. Areas that we are currently prioritising are—healthy snacks in KS2, promoting the free hot and healthy schools meals for children in FS and KS1, encouraging all children to drink lots of water, encouraging children to walk, scooter or cycle to school whenever possible and encouraging Y2-6 to run a mile before school on Mondays and Fridays. Starting next week, we will also be starting a SNAG—School Nutrition Action Group to share ideas for a healthier school. We have just received a new batch of school branded water bottles that can be purchased from the office at a cost of £1.50.

We would like to thank you for your ongoing support in this area.



Introducing another new furry friend to school—Timothy Guinea Pig.

Our anti-bullying committee is starting up again soon. Please make contact if you would like to join the monthly meetings.

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