



End of Term Updates

It is hard to believe that we have already come to the end of our first half term of learning! In this time, the foundation stage children have settled extremely well and are very much part of the whole school joining in with whole school 'everyday' and special events. In all other year groups, the children have shown good focus to ensure that they are making daily steps forward; this includes their attitude to learning and each other, as well as their recorded work.

On Friday, we all came together to celebrate Future Job Day and it is fair to say, that our future seems to be in good hands. With a diverse range of jobs represented and an aspirational 'yes I can' attitude, I think the community will be well supported in the future. Watch out for a photo collage coming soon.

We also planted 600 daffodils together on Friday to bring a splash of colour in the Spring; a way of showing our community love and respect for the sad passing of Mrs Dennis's daughter Emily. Thank you very much for the kind words that have been passed on to us and Mrs Dennis—they mean a huge amount.

From the Governors

Following on from the Parent/Carer Survey Results the Governors noticed there are a number of people who are unsure of what the role of a governor is within school hence we have decided to include a small item in the regular newsletter.

One of the core roles for the team of governors is to help the school accurately self-evaluate and support this with a rigorous programme of improvement outlined in the School Evaluation and Improvement Plan (SIP/SEF). This is an extensive document covering a breadth of areas in which the school aims to improve as the academic year progresses. Alongside this work was the process of the Head Teachers Performance Management in which a School Improvement Consultant and three governors were a part of the process.

In one of our recent meetings a session on iTrack training was presented enabling us to have a greater understanding of how data of individual children is tracked and used within school. A visit from Ofsted may well be very soon, so in our role as critical friends we work with and support the school in readiness for that time.

Our role is also one of support and in this past week we have endeavoured to support staff following the tragic news of Sarah Dennis's daughter Emily. All our thoughts go out to the family at this devastating time.

Stephanie Hibberd

Chair of Governors

Congratulations to Sophie Lathwell, Benjamin Peel, Leo Fletcher, Ali Leigh, Aiden Harper, Molly-Mae Baker, Molly Cowlin, Lola Brown, Harriett Sapwell, Lizzie Blackmore, Lucy Bolton and Dillon Singh for being selected for the first Head teacher Tea Party.

This is a new event to recognise impeccable manners and exceptional commitment to learning.

We also have 20 names on our Top Table list and we will have a special Top Table lunch as we return on Tuesday 1st November.

Well done to all the children involved in these two celebration events.



Congratulations to the children in Year 5 and 6 that represented the school brilliantly on Thursday in the Tag Rugby tournament at Ashton. One of our teams came 3rd and the other 1st! WOW

We now await news about the next round.

A date for your diaries

There is a meeting open to all parents and carers on Wednesday 2nd November at 2.30pm and repeated at 6.30pm regarding assessment methods used in the school. Please come along and join us if you can.

Our grateful thanks go to the Heritage Society for preparing another beautiful historical display for us to learn from and enjoy. The theme this time is the role of canals in Deanshanger's history. Come and have a look.

We would love to see more children join us on Mondays and Fridays to 'Run a Mile in Style'. Please come in at 8.30am promptly wearing running shoes. Parents, you are very welcome to run too! A great start to the day and part of our push to be the healthiest school that we can possibly be.

Dear Parents / Carers

We have recently launched a new way of supporting reading called 'Accelerated Reader'. Accelerated Reader is a computer program that will help to develop your child's independent reading. It works in quite a simple way; your child will pick a book at their own level, and when finished will take a short quiz on the computer at school. Your child's responses to the quiz tells us what they have understood about the contents of their book.

All children involved in Accelerated Reader have recently undertaken a short reading test that has assigned them a reading colour (or Z.P.D). More children will be joining the scheme very soon. Once they are part of the scheme, your child will be able to select a book from our library that falls within their Z.P.D. This reading colour will guide your child towards choosing books at an appropriate reading level that are challenging without being frustrating. The aim is for them to pass the quiz and be successful whilst reading books for meaning and fun.

A lot of the books in our school library have been newly labelled and put into colour bands that will further help guide your child in choosing a book. The PTA have also given us some money towards purchasing new Accelerated Reader books. One of the best parts about using accelerated reader is that your child can choose their own books to read, rather than having one assigned to them. This will hopefully make reading a much more enjoyable experience as they can choose books that are interesting to them.

As a part of our reading programme we ask the children to read at home every day and to an adult at least three times per week, fill in their 'Home/ School Diary' and have it signed by a parent. We would greatly appreciate your support in helping your child to do this, as ultimately the reading practise that your child gets outside of school contributes greatly towards them becoming a confident, successful reader. If you have any queries about 'Accelerated Reader' please come in and ask.

In addition, watch out for a new whole school reading challenge coming soon.

Sarah Webb, English Co-ordinator

In line with our healthy eating policy, KS2 children should only be bringing in healthy snacks for break time such as fruit, vegetables, bread sticks etc Please save any crisps and chocolate bars for home treats, thank you.

Deanshanger Feast

Thank you to all the parents and grandparents that baked amazing loaves as part of the school's contribution to this wonderful annual event. The children helped make class loaves too and the finished display was something that I have no doubt Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood would have been totally impressed with! Lisa Gordon had the challenging decision of selecting a winning loaf and after much deliberation, chose Yr3 Rabbits for their incredible loaf of The Iron Man and the stunning tractor loaf made by Reuben and Toby Nuttall. Thank you also for bringing your children to sing with the choir and for the substantial donations for Towcester Foodbank. We were proud to display beautiful artwork made in sessions with Mrs Archer and to be art of such a strong community tradition.



Wishing you all a happy half term break. Please be reminded that there is a staff training day on Monday 31st October as we develop our skills in delivering the IPC curriculum. **Children return on Tuesday 1st November.**

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Half term fun at Deanshanger Library

Thursday 27th October

Owl themed activity



Free drop in session of crafts and games with an owl theme.

Under 8's need adult accompaniment.

Anytime between 3.00pm and 5.30pm.

Taking feedback from the parent survey and teacher comments, the format of reports is changing this year. You will receive 2 additional one page reports at the time of the parents' evenings to compliment the end of year one. All three reports will focus on providing more succinct and clear information about your child's learning journey.