

Moving forward

As we shared in the letter that accompanied our Ofsted report, we are fully committed and rapidly moving forward to ensure that our plans to improve are thorough and effective. The Local Authority will be monitoring our progress and in the next few days, this Action Plan will be shared on the school website. To have parental support too is extremely positive and the amount of proactive feedback over the last 10 days, has just been wonderful. All feedback that is shared with school can be acted upon, so thank you to all of you that have openly expressed your opinions and/or offered support for the parent groups that we are setting up. A date and agenda for our first parent meeting will be shared with you in the next few days.



We have recently welcomed two new staff members to the DPS team. Mrs Kim Ritchie has joined Year 1 Lion Cubs and Mrs Karen Carlisle, our great cleaning team.

Reading

As always, we are keen to ensure that all children enjoy reading and make good progress as it has such an impact on learning in all subjects areas. In order to make the very best progress, support is also needed at home. All children regardless of their age, should be reading regularly and preferably daily. Looking through Year 2 and 3 diaries this week, only a small group of children were reading regularly. This is something that we are extremely keen to improve. It could be that home support is higher so please ensure that you record home reading in the home/school diaries after every session.

On the school's website there is a suggested reading list that might be helpful - <http://www.deanshangerprimary.co.uk/documents/DPS%20Booklist.pdf>

Reading is a major focus for school improvement. We will be setting up a Parent Support Group specifically for reading; full details will be shared very soon.

Accelerated Reading Since September (2016) we have been using Accelerated Reading in KS2 to help support reading progress and hopefully get children even more hooked on reading. Every time a book is read, a book quiz is taken to test comprehension. Assessments providing a reading age and book level, are taken 3 times a year, and more often if required to ensure that the reading level (known as ZPD in this reading programme), is the correct level to ensure decoding and comprehension go hand in hand.

The colour sticker for Accelerated reading relates to their assessed ZPD. Very soon we will be re-coding every day readers too so that the colour system is uniform across all reading materials in the school to avoid confusion.

The teaching of **Phonics** is a core area in FS, Year 1 and 2 (and above as required). For more information about how you can support progress in phonics, please look on the English page of the school's website.

<http://www.deanshangerprimary.co.uk/documents/DPS%20phonic%20Leaflet.pdf>

Please let us know if you have any questions about reading, phonics or any other aspect of school life.

We are very proud to have an active Anti-bullying Committee with extensive plans to ensure that all children are happy and safe and fully understand what bullying is. Our Tuesday meeting dates are as follows from 3.30pm to 4.30pm.
24th January, 28th February, 28th March, 25th April, 6th June and 11th July.



We are keen to 'recruit' two volunteers to take on a half day painting project for another upgrade in FS. If you feel you have the time, please touch base with Mrs Watson.

Our next Open Book afternoon is coming up on **Monday 23rd January** from 3.00pm - 4.00pm

Feel free to come into class at this time and share in your child's learning journey.

With the help of an enthusiastic student group, we continue to work towards being the healthiest school that we can be. This includes drinking lots of water, healthy lunch boxes and snacks and lots of learning opportunities to support this.

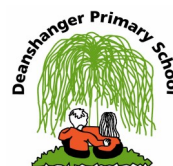
This week, our Healthier Eating Team will be leading an assembly to remind and motivate us all. They will also be sharing informing from the following website -

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life-beta/sugar#tx1o8ovpZZRt72h.97>

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With such an amazing outdoor area at school and the known benefits of learning outside, three member's of staff will be taking Forest School training later in the school year. All updates will be shared.

The next PTA meeting is on Thursday 19th January at 7.00pm. New members are extremely welcome.