



Danbury Park Community Primary School

Be wise, be happy, belong!

Newsletter

Website: www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk

5th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading Awards

Congratulations to the following children who have passed their reading awards:

Thomas P – Silver Freya R – Diamond Toby B – Diamond

Certificates will be presented when the children return to school

Weekly Update

This week has been children's Mental Health Week and I hope that you have been able to make some time to do some of the activities we suggested with your children. We sent them by Parentmail so that you would receive them on a daily basis and we have added them further down the newsletter as a reminder. The children who are in school at the moment have also been given time to do some activities outside the curriculum this week so that they too have time to relax and reflect.

Of course, our concerns for children's mental health doesn't stop at the end of this week. We will continue to share ideas and wider resources with you. On **Friday 12th February** the teachers are planning a variety of practical activities for the children to round off the half-term. It does mean that for next Friday's learning there will **not** necessarily be specific Maths and English tasks. We would like the children to be able to finish off their school work so that over the break, they can have a rest and be refreshed and ready for the coming half-term. The teachers will catch up with their online feedback and respond to e-mails in the morning and will sign off from Google Classrooms at lunchtime. This will give them uninterrupted time in the afternoon for planning, preparation and assessment so that they are also ready for the final 5 weeks of the Spring Term.

School will be closed for the half-term break and we will re-open on Monday 22nd February for the children of our critical key workers who have registered with us for places. We continue to hope that schools will re-open on Monday 8th March and we are expecting guidance from the government as soon as we come back from the half-term break. As soon as we know anything, we will share it with you.

Please remember that we are still here for you and that the office is open every day from 8.30am to 4.30pm. If you need any support either phone the office or contact the class teacher via their class email.

News from Class Flamingo

Class Flamingo, you have been truly fabulous, as we knew you would be. You have created so many outstanding pieces of work whilst at home and here are just a few of them. We will share more from the rest of you next time.



Ivy,



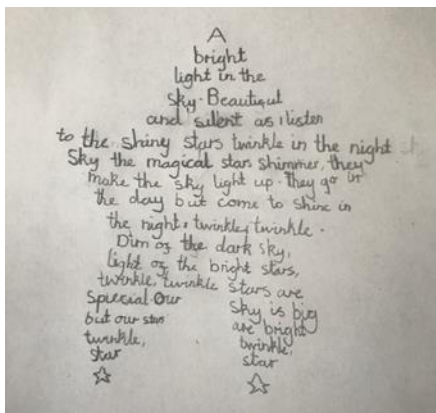
Phoebe and



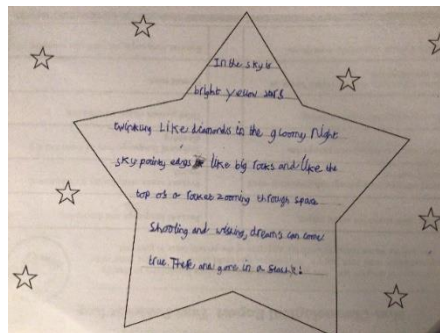
Emily worry dolls

For our work within PHSEe we have been thinking about feelings. The children followed the video and thought about the feeling called worry and what to do if they, or someone felt worried. They then made these wonderful worry dolls.

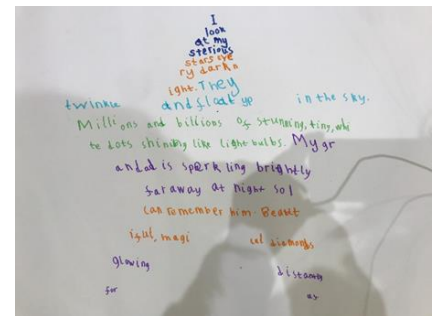
In English these last two week we have been focussing on space related poetry. We have looked at acrostic poems, shape poems, rhyming poems and many more. We have really thought about our adventurous word choices and have been using a thesaurus to help develop our word choices. You might be able to spot some of our similes or expanded noun phrases.



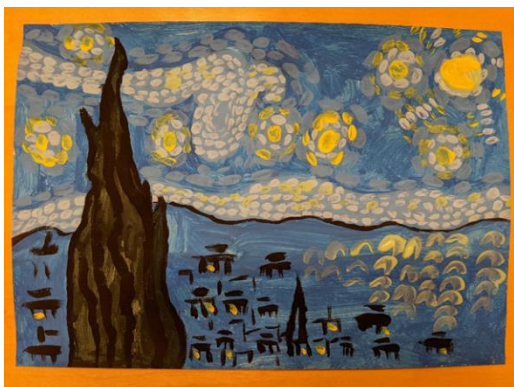
Ruby



Zachary



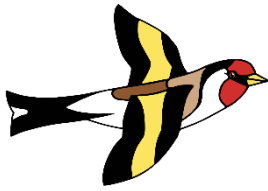
Stanley



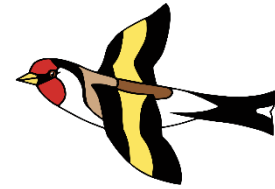
Oliver has created a painting in the style of Van Gogh's Stary Stary Night



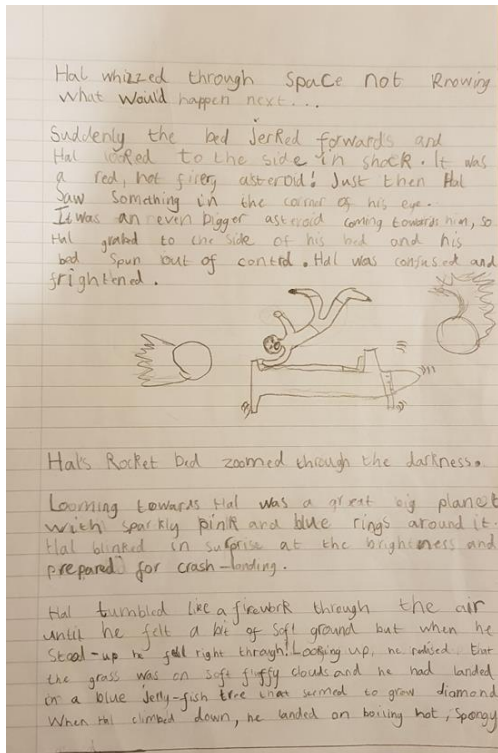
Some great art work from Willow when looking at how to look after our pets in RE



Learning in Class Goldfinch



This term's topic is Voyage of Discovery so the children in Class Goldfinch have been learning about space, discovering who Neil Armstrong was and why he is famous. In English, our stories and poems have had a space theme too!



The children looked at the rhyming text and the character's journey in to space.

From this, they planned a new event and invented a planet for the character to visit.

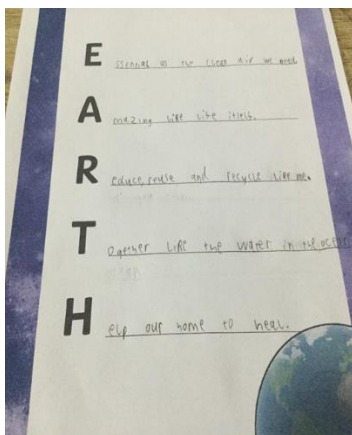
This is an extract from Florence's detailed story.

She had me sat on the edge of my seat in suspense wondering what was going to happen next!



In computing, the children have created posters to present the facts they have found about Neil Armstrong. They have learnt many new computing skills including: changing the size, style and colour of the font.

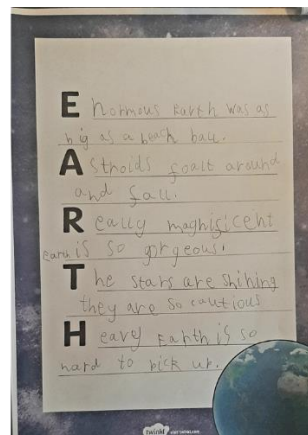
Here are some acrostic poems that the children have enjoyed creating. They chose their space themed word and some even created poems that rhymed too! Look out for their use of similes and alliteration



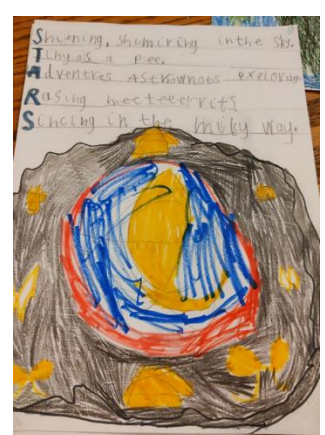
George



Ella



Amber M



Amber H

Within their history work, the children have researched the 1969 Moon landing. With some of them becoming news reporters, they filmed their report of this amazing moment in history. Sound effects and props were also included so thank you to their productions teams too. The big smiles on their faces told me how much they are enjoying this topic!

Here you can see which artist the children have been studying. They looked carefully at the colours, textures and effects used. They also had to think about who lived there and, whether it was a place they would want to visit. I just hope that all of the parents have enough space to be able to display these amazing pieces of artwork!



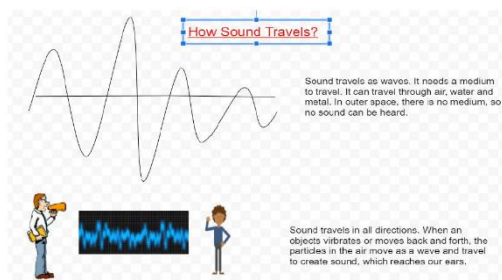
The children have continued to work extremely hard and I am super proud of all that they have achieved. Well done Goldfinches!

Class Dove's Learning Whilst at Home

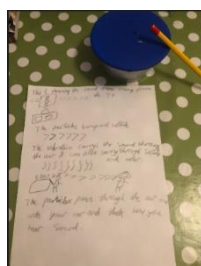
Class Dove have continued to keep busy, to learn and to use their knowledge and skills, whilst working from home. Below are some of the areas the children have studied during this time.

Science - Sound

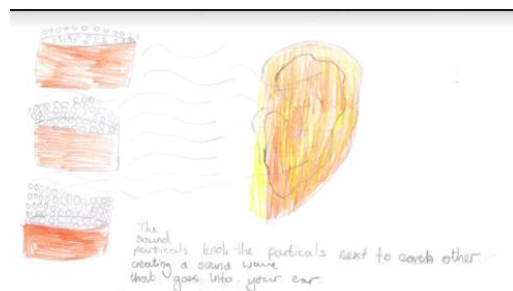
We have been investigating how we hear sound and how the ear works. We have also found out how sounds move and how we can change the sound made. Even though we have been at home, we have still found many practical ways to increase our knowledge.



Avy



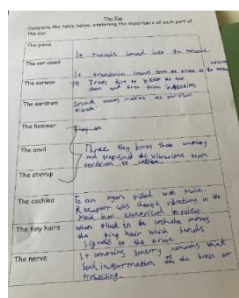
Luca



Josh



Holly



Charlie



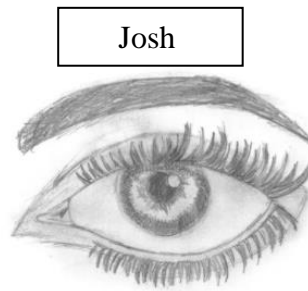
Sophie

Art - Portraits

We began drawing a human face. We took the face we created and decorated it like a Mayan. We then made a closer look at the eye and then created a piece of work in the style of Andy Warhol. After half-term we will use our skills to create a mask suitable for a Mayan god.



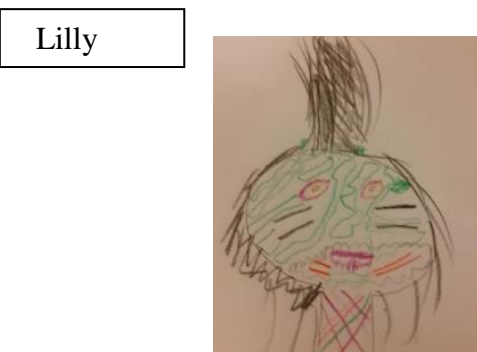
Ellie



Josh



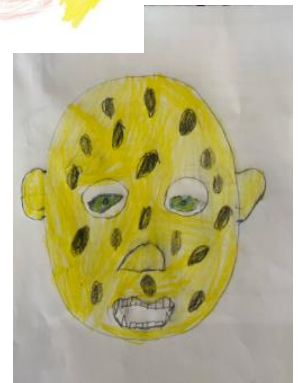
Emily



Lilly



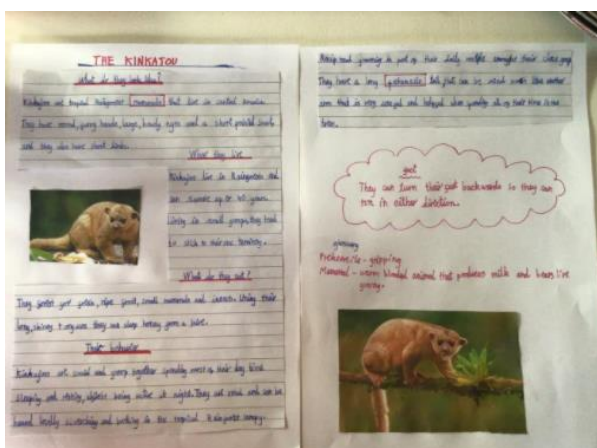
Elena



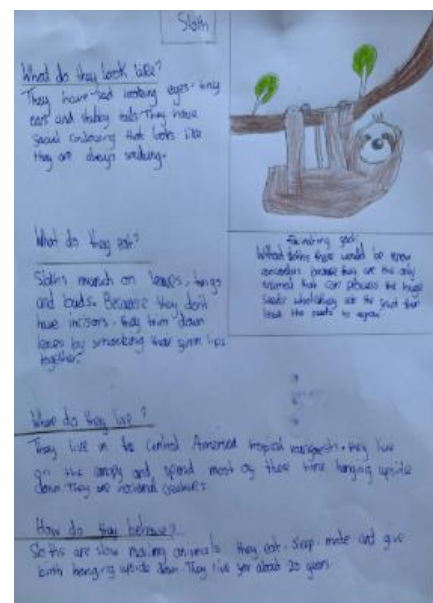
Harry V

Non-Chronological Reports

We have also been busy using our writing skills. These we used to create a non-chronological report about the animals found in Central America. Below I have shown you extracts from their work. I hope you agree with me when I say they are amazing! Due to the space available, I have only shared four, however, I could have shared them all as they were all extremely well written.



Alice



Isabelle

Central America

Central America is an isthmus joining North and South America. The land area is $521,876 \text{ km}^2$. It is surrounded by the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea. Central America contains countries which are Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Costa Rica. Central America has loads of rain throughout the year and the landscape contains mountains, hills and lush rainforests. These rainforests contain a variety of wildlife.

Wildlife



Did you know?

Spanish is the dominant language spoken of Central America and English is the official language.

All about Sloths

The Sloth is a brown coloured, slow moving animal living in the rainforests of Central America and South America. They measure up to 24-31 inches. They have small ears, long arms and rounded heads. They eat leaves, fruit, small lizards and insects. Their body temperature is up to 31-34 degrees because of slow metabolism. They are nocturnal.



All about Macaw

The Macaw's live in the following regions of Central America, Mexico, Honduras and Brazil. They can be of the following colours: Yellow, Red, Blue, green and white. These birds eat fruits, nuts, seeds and insects. They are playful, happy, curious birds, who are very social creatures. They love to interact with humans.



Avy

Jaguars

Jaguars are dangerous, deadly cats. They are carnivores with black spots on them. They live in the USA all the way down to Argentina and they only stay with their mates for 5 years.



Dolphins

They live in central America and the Amazon river. Dolphins have a big long nose, a big mouth and longer bodies. They are active in the day and night and very playful.

Harry V

Safeguarding

Safer Internet Day – Monday 9th February

Monday (9th February) is Safer Internet Day. There is a range of virtual assemblies available and teachers will be directing parents to the one that is most appropriate for your child. Please find some time to talk to your child about online safety as this is an important life skill!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/live-lessons/safer-internet-day-live-lesson/zdh2wnb>

For the Juniors:

A live assembly from the BBC on Monday at 11am, with follow up worksheets available. We hope that it will also be available after the live broadcast.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/detective-digiduck-virtual-assembly-3-7s>

For the Infants:

This assembly is based on Digi Duck's latest adventure and this is a series we have used in school. This can be accessed at any time.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2021/i-am-educator/work-7-11s/virtual-assembly-7-11s>

For the Juniors:

This is all about reliability and whether we can trust what we find or receive in messages online and is very relevant in the time of "fake news". This can be accessed at any time.

Keeping in Touch

As in the previous school closure, schools have been asked to ensure that we have regular contact with children and parents. The children will be taking part in at least weekly Google Meets with their teacher and we know that parents often make an appearance helping their children log in. Many of you have also been e-mailing teachers with questions.

To help us manage this "keeping in touch" responsibility, we would ask that once a week, you send your children's class teachers a brief e-mail to say that you are okay or ask for help if you need it. Some of you will already be in regular contact with Mrs Trussell and with the school office but if we don't hear from you, please don't be offended if we phone just to see if the family is okay and if there is anything we can do to help. Please note that teachers may be using their home phones so the caller ID will be withheld.

For anything urgent or more serious, please phone the school office. It is manned from 8.30am – 4.30pm every week day and either Mrs Gooding or a senior member of staff will be on duty and able to help. We are here to support you!

Let's work together to keep the children safe!

School Lunches - Costs for Spring Term 2021

1st Half Term = 29 days at £2.25 = £65.25

2nd Half Term = 25 days at £2.25 = £56.25

Total for Spring Term = £121.50

Please send monies in with your child via the book bags in a named envelope making cheques payable to Essex County Council. **We would encourage parents to pay in advance for meals and if possible for the whole half-term.** You will only pay for those meals that your child has and any credits will be carried forward to the next term. Thank you. Please note Key Stage 1 and EYFS are entitled to Universal Free School Meals.

Community News

Danbury Park School continues to work with our local community and we will share with you each week information that we think families might find useful.

Danbury Library

Mrs Medcroft, Librarian, has asked to share the following information:

This February half term we're joining storyteller John Kirk for two online story hunt events for the family, completely free of charge!

A story hunt is an interactive adventure that takes the hunter into a world of wonder and imagination for 30 minutes of family fun. These events incorporate popular folk and fairy tales and are suitable for families with children aged 3+. Get ready for a virtual storytelling experience like no other as you take part in a story-led scavenger hunt that will turn your house upside down!

You can book session 1, Library Adventure, here: [Story Hunt session 1- The Library Adventure Tickets, Tue 16 Feb 2021 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

You're off to visit the library but, oh no, the librarian has had her door keys stolen by a hairy, scary monster. Go on an adventure to find the key thief and help save the day.

You can book session 2, Underwater Wonderland, here: [Story Hunt session 2- Under the Sea Adventure Tickets, Fri 19 Feb 2021 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

In this session you're deep-diving into an under the sea wonderland. What will you discover?

Danbury Coronavirus Volunteer Group

The Danbury Coronavirus Volunteer Group has set up a Get Danbury Walking initiative with the aim of seeing if villagers can replicate the feat of Phileas Fogg from the novel by Jules Verne by circumnavigating the globe in 80 days. You can submit your steps as a family. The Challenge is running from 1st Dec to 19th Feb. The link below shows total progress so far by villagers:

https://www.danburycorona.com/get-danbury-walking?fbclid=IwAR09dimieke1c26_TVCrjtu5QbD2NOWB0Vdfuiv7l6h3PgT3yU-7psbQ9QI

An added bit of fun is that people are encouraged to take a photo of something interesting on their walks and post it to the village facebook page with hashtag *getdanburywalking* with the question "Where am I?" People can then guess where you are. Here's the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/getdanburywalking>

Loved by Danbury and the Volunteer Group

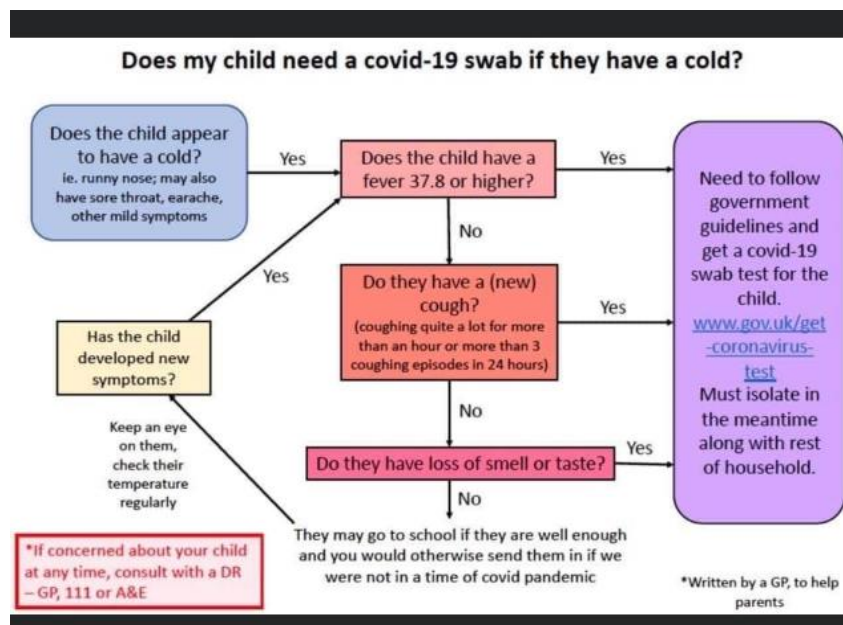
These two groups have managed to secure funding from Essex county Council to provide half term lunch and fun boxes for families in our community

Please contact Stephanie Smith at info@lovedbydanbury.co.uk or the volunteer group on 07395 904761

COVID-19 Support

Schools are still being asked to collect information for the government and even if your child is not eligible to be in school, we still need to be informed if your child tests positive for COVID-19 or is isolating due to being in direct contact with a case. You can do this by leaving a message on the school answer phone, speaking to the office staff or by e-mail.

We thought this might be useful to parents in trying to decide if their child needs a test.



Emergency School Closures – SNOW!

As we approach the time of year when inclement weather and snow is more likely, we would like to advise you of the school's emergency closure procedure. The decision to close the school is never taken lightly but there may be rare times when the site is unsafe or insufficient staff can get into the school and closure is unavoidable. Please note that the local radio stations no longer give out announcements.

Schools will notify Essex County Council and the information will be available on their website at: <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx>

We will also put a message out on Parentmail and on the scrolling news on the first page of the school website. We will aim to do this by 7.30am.

If the weather and traffic are bad, please take care and get to school safely. We will understand if you delay your journey and arrive later than the usual time.

Even though school is only open to a small number of children, we may still have to close in adverse weather conditions.

Children's Mental Health Week – 1st February 2021

This week was Children's Mental Health Week with the theme of "Express Yourself!" and each day we have shared with you some simple ideas to support the whole family. These are repeated below in case you need a reminder!

Express Yourself to Music

Take a five minute break anytime of the day or perhaps at the end of the afternoon to signify the end of the working day.

Play some music and get the whole family (mum and dad as well) just to move in response. If there's a heavy beat, stomp and jump; if it's quieter and slower, float around the room. Sometimes the louder and noisier, the better for burning off excess energy and frustration. Other times a quieter piece can be more appropriate and reflective. You can even just lay on the floor, all close your eyes and lose yourself in the music. Mrs Long, our Music Teacher, will be sharing some suggestions for pieces of music to suit all moods but the radio is bound to have a ready and instant variety and you can respond in whatever way presents itself. The beauty is that there is no right or wrong way. At the end you can all sit down together to relax or regroup.

Express Yourself on Paper

Take a five minute break anytime of the day or perhaps at the end of the afternoon to signify the end of the working day.

Each person needs a piece of paper and a pencil/pen or you could work together on one large sheet of paper. On your piece of paper, take your pencil for a walk. Let it meander over the paper, reaching all four corners in a fluid continuous line. The lines should cross to create spaces.

Using either the same pen/pencil or a range of coloured pens/pencils fill in the spaces with different marks – dots, dashes, cross-hatching. Younger children can just colour in the spaces, perhaps choosing colours to suit their mood. The patterns can be as simple or as complex as you want.

You can play some music and see how that affects how you draw and your colour choices.

After 5 minutes show each other what you have done and talk about what it means to you.

Express Yourself in Kindness

Take a five minute break anytime of the day or perhaps at the end of the afternoon to signify the end of the working day to do this activity.

Sit down together as a family and ask each other what you could realistically do for each other that would make you smile.

It's about making time for each other. It may be something very personal to your family and it may be something simple or something that may need planning for another agreed time. What counts, is that it's an act of kindness, done to make someone else happy.

Afterwards (and this may be the next day), sit down together as a family and talk about what these acts have meant to you as the giver and the receiver.

Express Yourself in Nature

Take a break anytime of the day or perhaps at the end of the afternoon to signify the end of the working day to do this activity.

Wrap up warm, take some bags with you and go for a walk. Head for one of the many open spaces that we are lucky to have locally or just quieter country lanes or stick to the residential areas and maybe let the toss of a coin decide when you come to a junction, whether it's left or right!

On your travels stop at a quiet spot and look at the surroundings, listen to the birds, point something out to each other that you don't think they might have seen. The whole family could even play *I Spy!* Collect items as you go – perhaps some leaves, twigs, seed pods or some interesting stones, anything that catches your eye.

When you get back home, arrange what you have found on a piece of paper to create a natural work of art. You can do this individually or together to create one large piece. It's even better if you can do it in the garden and leave it outside as a reminder. As you do this talk about what you found and why you choose and decided to place the individual items where you did. You can also talk about how the walk made you feel and the effect of the artwork you have created.

Express Yourself in Positivity

Take a break anytime of the day or perhaps at the end of the afternoon to signify the end of the working day to do this activity.

Sit down together as a family with a comforting drink and biscuit and think about all the great times you have had together. It might be a special birthday party, a holiday, a funny incident, visiting family and friends. Think about what made it such a memorable time and what you valued most about it.

Before everyone starts to get too melancholic about how COVID has changed life, reassure the children that things will get better. Tell them about all the advances in medicine that have taken place, how we have adapted to working from home and using technology purposefully, how communities have come together to help each other. Try to explain the positives.

Then let the children suggest what they are looking forward to once lockdown is lifted. Let them share ideas for future activities. Get them to write or draw suggestions on bits of paper and let them feel the excitement about the possibilities. Let them talk about why that event or activity is important to them. Help them put the ideas into a feasible time span. Remember to be realistic so that you do not raise the children's expectations too high but help them see that there is light at the end of the tunnel and there will be another new normal to explore and enjoy.

For more ideas go to: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

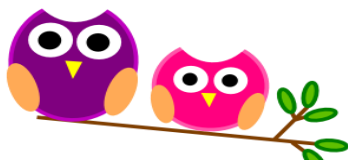
Notification and Reminders

Free School Meals – Due to Covid-19 we understand that your circumstances may have changed or may change in the near future and you may now be eligible for free school meals. To check eligibility please contact Essex County Council on 0345 603 2200 or for more information and online application go to <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Nut allergies – Please do not include nuts of any kind including peanut butter in your child's lunch box due to the risk of severe allergic reactions. Thank you.

Danbury Food Bank - The Danbury Food Bank organised by the Danbury Coronavirus Volunteer group is continuing to operate and is available to anyone who is currently struggling and families do not need any "official" referral. Donations have generously been made by local residents and businesses. Anyone can use this facility and it will be in the strictest confidence. Just phone the Danbury Coronavirus Volunteer Helpline, who will pass on details to the Food Bank on 07395 904761 or 07752 261274.

Sustainability Grant - Even though most children aren't in school, we don't want to lose our momentum in becoming more environmentally friendly. Essex County Council is offering grants of £250 to 40 schools to help them reduce their use of single-use plastics and make the children more environmentally aware. I have some ideas given to me by the School Council from previous years, mostly around how we could serve the fruit salad at lunch times without using the small plastics pots but I would like parents to talk with their children and gather any new ideas they may have. The children are the ones who see what happens on a daily basis in class and are best placed to identify what more we could do and offer possible solutions. Whatever their idea, please share it with me in an e-mail to the school office and I will pull everything together. It doesn't have to be a full blown essay, I would just like some input from the children and I would appreciate you supporting them.



DPSA News



School Tea-towels.



We still have a few tea-towels left so if you would like to order one please do so by using the form that was sent out or by emailing thedpsa2020@gmail.com and we will arrange to get one to you.

Children's Christmas Performance DVD

For this year only, as these last few months have been particularly exceptional and difficult for some, the DPSA has arranged to rent out the Christmas Performance DVD to those of you who were unable to get hold of a copy of it before the school holidays but would still like to see your child or children perform. It will cost £3 for 3 nights or £5 for a week to rent. Please email dpsadvdrental@hotmail.com and we can arrange a suitable time for collection and drop-off with you. Payment will be required at the time of you receiving the DVD.

Name Labels



Stikins are name labels for clothes and school equipment. They are a great way to ensure items are never lost again and they are very easy to use as they just stick in. The same label can be used for clothes, shoes, water bottles, etc. Visit the website www.stikins.co.uk to order and **use the code 5641** at the checkout and the DPSA will automatically receive a donation for our funds.

Co-op Community Cards



The Co-op are currently adding an extra 50% to the donations they make which is a huge boost to the fund-raising. Extra cards are available at the school office.

Online Shopping?



At this particularly challenging time for us all, please don't forget that over 4,100 shops and sites will donate to Danbury Park Community Primary School for FREE every time you use easyfundraising to shop with them. This means you can support the school, when you get your groceries, order a takeaway, renew your insurance policies or buy anything else online – at no extra cost to yourself! If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE to use.

Just visit: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/danburyparkcommunityprimary/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=s-n4

You just need an email address and a password to register. Every time you make a purchase on-line through the easyfundraising website the retailer donates a percentage to the school.



Please use this link to get to the Amazon Smile site (which is exactly the same as the main Amazon site) and shop raising funds for the DPSA. <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/285968-0>

Second-hand School Uniform

Second-hand school uniform items - jumpers, cardigans, polo shirts and PE kit - are now being sold via Natalie W so please let her know what you are looking for by emailing her at Westthorp222@mail.com and she will be able to let you know what is in stock and arrange to get it to you. Items are now selling from £2 each.

Did you know we have a DPSA Facebook page?

Like us on Facebook and make sure you know what's happening when. Our page is constantly updated so you never forget things important things.

**Have a good weekend.
The DPSA**



Owl's Barn School Meals

Week commencing Monday 8th February

Week 2 Monday	Fish Fillet Wrap Or Macaroni Cheese	Potato Wedges Peas	(KS2 only) Jacket Potato	Iced Sponge Cake Fruit
Tuesday	Spaghetti Bolognese Or Vegetarian Bolognese	Garlic Bread Sweetcorn	(KS2 only) Jacket Potato	Flapjack Fruit
Wednesday	Pork Sausages with Yorkshire pudding Or Cheddar Whirl	Mini Roast Potatoes Carrots	(KS2 only) Jacket Potato	Ice Cream Pot Fruit
Thursday	Cheese and Tomato Pizza	Pasta Sweetcorn	(KS2 only) Jacket Potato	Chocolate Brownie Fruit
Friday	Beefburger in a roll Or Quornburger in a roll	Chips Baked Beans	(KS2 only) Jacket Potato	Shortbread Biscuit Fruit

Yours sincerely

Carol Gooding
Headteacher



PUBLIC CONSULTATION -

NEW EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES FOR DAWSON MEMORIAL FIELD

Danbury Parish Council are looking to enhance and improve the recreation facilities within our Village for our younger residents and we are looking for your views on the equipment proposed (as shown in images below)

How can you get involved?

Just fill in the form overleaf and return it to the Parish Office, Old School House, Main Road, Danbury, CM3 4NQ

Alternatively complete the Survey online via the link-
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/R3T9TPV>

Please submit your completed questionnaire by
15 March 2021

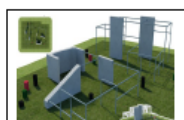


Image 1 - Parkour



Image 2 - Aerial Runway



Image 3 - Climbing



Image 4 - Trim Trail

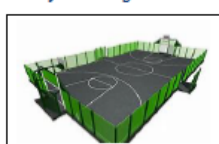


Image 5 - Multi use Games Area

Part 1 - Your Details

1. Name: 2. Contact Number:

3. Email Address:

4. Age Range: Under 10years 10 - 16years 16 - 21 years 21 years+
(Please circle)

Part 2 - Type of Facility

Please indicate by circling the response for each image (for illustration only) as shown overleaf, the equipment you would be in favour of:

Parkour (Image 1)	YES	NO	Don't Know
Ariel Runway (Image 2)	YES	NO	Don't Know
Climbing (Image 3)	YES	NO	Don't Know
Trim Trail (Image 4)	YES	NO	Don't Know
Multiuse Games Area (Image 5)	YES	NO	Don't Know

Part 3 - Additional Comments

Please let us know if there are any other types of recreational facilities you wish the Parish Council to consider:

Part 4 - Data Protection

I consent for my data and information to be collected and stored for the purpose of being contacted and to process my interest into activities in Danbury. This data will be processed by Danbury Parish Council. Your data will be stored for up to 12 months and will be anonymised thereafter. Your data will not be shared with a third party. You can request that your information is deleted at any time. Data will be processed and held securely and in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018 (and any updates).

Signed:

Date:





















Online Activities

1st to 26th February 2021 via Microsoft Teams

You can access Microsoft Teams via the internet or download the app



Note: By booking a place, you are giving your consent to share any interactions you use during the online session with other participants, eg. Video streaming and audio content. Participants are required to use their camera and use headphones during the cyp virtual session.

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>10 AM</u>	Mindfulness and Relaxation Families 	Self-Care For You Mixed ages CYP 	Staying Active Families 	Self-Care For You Parents 	Yoga Families 
<u>12 PM</u>	Conflict resolution and managing anger 13-19 	Staying Safe in a Virtual World Mixed ages CYP 	Strong Resilience and emotional wellbeing 13-19 	Boot camp Mixed ages CYP 	Lets get Arty Mixed Ages CYP 
<u>2 PM</u>	Creative Creations Mixed Ages CYP 	Strong Resilience and emotional wellbeing 8-12 	Conflict resolution and managing anger 8-12 	One Community 13-19 	
<u>4 PM</u>	Coping through Covid Families 	Yoga Families 	Family Fun Families 	Staying Active Families 	

To book your place, please check out our website; www.childrenssociety.org.uk/east/services/safe-in-essex or contact Essexreferrals@childrenssociety.org.uk

Safe in Essex Advice Line 10am – 2pm: 07725 639571 (if unanswered, leave a message and someone will contact you)