



# Deanwood Dispatch

At Deanwood we want our children to be  
"Happy, Successful & Safe"



Term 6 - July 2022

## CLASS NEWS – TERM 6

### Deanwood Nursery

Term 6 has been a fantastic! We have been doing lots of experimenting with water play, exploring cause and effect of the water running down tubes. The children have used the water to push balls and cars down the tubes.

We have also been learning about transitioning to our new schools, improving our dressing skills and being self-sufficient during snack times.

Finally, we had our Leavers celebration with a presentation of a small gift.

A wonderful day was had by all, with fruit kebabs, balloon chases and face painting. Ending off the morning with fun on a bouncy castle.

We would like to say Goodbye to all our lovely leavers. It has been an amazing year and we will miss you all very much.



### Pine Class

What a great last term in Pine Class! We have been busy finishing off our learning for the year. Our topic this term was focussed on 'Minibeasts'. We thoroughly enjoyed going on a minibeast hunt around our school field. We found lots of exciting and beautiful bugs. Our outside area was transformed into a minibeast investigation lab. We enjoyed looking for different minibeasts in the environment, discovering where they live and looking at them closely with magnifying glasses. We also designed and created some bug houses in our outside area.

In phonics, we have been learning how to read different words in Phase 4. We have also been learning some new tricky words and have made great progress.

In maths, we have been learning how to double, halve and share quantities. We used a variety of objects to complete this. We have also been learning about odd and even numbers to 10. The children have worked really hard on this and should be really proud of themselves!

Overall, we have thoroughly enjoyed our time in Pine Class and we are looking forward to all of the adventures that await us in Year One. Enjoy your summer holidays!!



## Maple Class

In term 6, Maple Class have enjoyed learning about Kings, Queens and Castles! We have focussed our writing on a story called 'The Queen's Hat'. The children used their prior knowledge of London to enhance their writing. We had a lot of fun using our imaginations to plan and write our own story about The Queen.



In Science, we have been exploring everyday materials. We have identified different materials and have investigated their properties. This was extremely helpful in supporting us in our DT work as we have been looking at castles and planning what materials we would need to make our own.

In History, we have enjoyed looking at past and present Kings and Queens and comparing them. We took the momentum of the Jubilee and hit the ground running with this topic at the beginning of term – Maple Class were very knowledgeable about our current Queen! We were hooked on the mystery that surrounded King Richard III and we learnt some very interesting things about him. Some children even used him as a character in their stories.

In Maths, we have been enjoying practical topics such as fractions and geometry. The children learnt about quarter, half and whole, and learnt about the language used to describe different turns and positions. We finished with number and place value to 100 and got creative with our 100 squares!

Maple Class came to school dressed in rainbow colours to support our NHS and we had a great time during our very first sports day! We also had a fantastic time on the bouncy castle at our end of year party!

We wish you all a safe and happy summer holiday and wish you all the best for Year 2!

## Oak Class

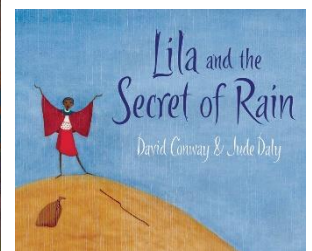
Oak Class have been learning all about 'Africa'. We have worked together to look at Kenya's rivers, mountains, currency and nature reserves. We have used compass directions to explain how to locate places on a map and explored the 'Big Five' by creating our own fact files.

In RE and PSHE, we have learnt about 'beginnings and endings' and 'growing and changing' respectively. We have explored how to mark or celebrate new beginnings such as Vaisakhi, the Sikh new year and Christian baptisms.

Our English lessons have enabled us to carry out some cross-curricular work regarding the topic of Africa as we read '*Lila and the Secret of Rain*'. Oak class have been remarkably busy writing descriptive pieces using expanded noun phrases, using inverted commas to write speech, role playing scenes from a text and using story maps to inform their own retelling of a familiar story.

Finally, the children have explored how to decompose a game to predict algorithms and have explored art through different mediums by using pastels, paints and shading techniques to produce African landscapes and animal silhouettes.

Thank you, once again, to all parents for your support through a year of growth and change. I wish everyone in Oak Class the best of luck in Year 3 and look forward to seeing how they transition successfully into KS2.



## Cedar Class

This year seems to have flown by! First of all, I would like to thank all the parents and carers who have been extremely supportive throughout the year with the children's home learning. The children have worked very hard and there is much to be celebrated in both their maturity as well as their academic achievements.

We have been very busy this term. The term started with Sports Day whereby the children were fantastic – particularly with the Traffic Race. In addition to this, the children thoroughly enjoyed watching the Year 6 production as well as the end of year pantomime.

This term, we have enjoyed learning about Extreme Earth. We have become experts in natural disasters. The children wrote amazing disaster stories. As well as this, they have erupted volcanoes, created tornado pictures as well as learning about the, "Great Wave" by Hokusai.



We have thoroughly enjoyed working with Cedar Class this year. They have worked incredibly hard and made fantastic progress. We hope you all enjoy the summer holidays and we wish the children a smooth and successful transition into Year 4 in September.

## Willow Class

We have had an exciting final term in Willow Class. In science we have been learning about sound, how it travels and how our ears allow us to hear. We even made our own pan pipes to learn about pitch.

In art we have been looking at sculptures and the sculptors that made them. We particularly enjoyed looking at a Nigerian artist called Sokari Douglas Camp who created a sculpture of slaves with quotes following them. We made our own version using words to describe us, then we became the statues.



In history we have been learning about the Ancient Greeks. We understand all about the Trojan War, Alexander the Great, Athens vs. Sparta and we celebrated our topic by having Greek Day which was loads of fun.



As a final note from me, I would like to say how much of a joy it has been teaching Willow Class this year. I have loved every moment of getting to know them and seeing them grow and learn every day is what makes me job worthwhile, especially being bundled with pride after winning at sports day 😊. Thank you for all your support throughout the year, I wish Willow Class every success in Year 5 and I will miss them terribly when I start my new school.

From Mrs Russell and I, have an amazing summer; enjoy every moment 😊

## Hawthorn Class

I can't believe we have reached our final term together! Our theme for this term has been Brazil. We have learnt how to identify North and South America on a map. This then followed onto the children discovering that the Northern and Southern Hemispheres are the two sides of the Earth either side of the Equator. We looked into the Amazon rainforest and studied the different layers and which types of animals would live there. The children had fun learning about Carnival and creating their own version of a carnival mask. This was our DT project for the term.

In Maths, we have been looking at decimals, properties of shape and position.

The children have written amazing adventure stories about a journey over the Amazon and how their plane crashes into the Amazon jungle.

In PE we have been learning about Tri-Golf. I was certainly impressed with the ability of the children and how easily the children were able to adjust moving from the drivers to the putters. On that note I'll leave you with a joke:

*Why did the child have to change their socks?*

*Because they had a hole in one!!!! 😊*

I just want to take this opportunity to thank you all for being such an amazing support network. It has certainly made both mine and Mrs Down's job easier knowing that if we have had a problem you have all been approachable. I have loved coming to work each day. Enjoy the summer holidays and we both wish everyone all the best in Year 6.



## Elm Class

Year 6 have been working extremely hard in this last term at Deanwood. Most of our work has been on the production; the children have worked incredibly hard in learning their lines, performing the songs and remembering all of the actions. We have performed to the whole school, and then to our parents twice, who thoroughly enjoyed it; we have also been filmed ready for a DVD to be made. The children did fantastically well and it was a joy to see them perform 'Treachery and Traitors Quay'— well done Year 6!

In class, we have completed a number of projects this term. We made picture books, based on the 'That's not my' books which young children read. In pairs, the children made the books and then took them to Nursery and Year R and read to them.

We also designed our own theme park and holiday destination. This involved market research, calculating costs and then presenting our ideas to the rest of the class.

It has been a pleasure teaching Year 6 this year. I know what we are all incredibly proud of every single one of them, and we wish them the best of luck in their new schools.



## Lunchtime



This term has been a busy one. The KS1 children have enjoyed using the new equipment installed on the playground, lining up and waiting their turn they have shown great patience. We also had some wonderful creative and imaginative play encouraged by our year 6 playleaders who have done a fantastic job, they will be missed.



We enjoyed our first sports day since 2019 this term where the children got to enjoy a picnic with their family on the field afterwards, years R, 1 and 2 have never experienced this and was lovely to see everyone enjoying themselves.



Finally, we wish all the best to year 6 who are leaving us to start secondary school this term. Wishing you all a lovely summer and look forward to welcoming the new Reception class and everybody back in September.



## Extended Services

### Breakfast & After Schools Club

Breakfast club runs from 7:30am till 8:30am Monday to Friday with children receiving a healthy breakfast if required before they are taken to their classrooms.

The After-School Club is open Monday to Thursday from 3:30pm until 6pm when the school closes its main gates.

Bookings for either club can be made online via your child's Arbor account.

Regrettably we can only offer places to school aged children.



## Deanwood PTA



Finally, we are able to get up and running again from September.

We have some dates for your diary: Term 1:

### **Term 1:**

#### **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September**

Disco 1 for Years R, 1 & 2

Disco 2 for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6

#### **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2:30 – 3:30pm**

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon



#### **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 8:45am**

PTA Annual General Meeting

### **Term 2:**

#### **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 3:30 – 5pm**

Christmas Fayre



**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December**  
Children's Christmas Shop

If you are interested in joining the PTA or helping at events, or just want to find out more about what we do, please come along to our **AGM on 12<sup>th</sup> October.**

Details of events will be available nearer the time.

**Thank you all for your patience and continuing support!**

## Safeguarding

At Deanwood Primary School, we recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you have concerns about a child, please ask at reception for a one-to-one discussion with:



Mrs J Wright



Mr O Slack



Mrs E Russell

Designated Safeguarding Leads

## Website

Please visit our new website [www.deanwood-that.org.uk](http://www.deanwood-that.org.uk) for information on events happening at the school and any letters that have been sent home. If your child is absent from school please check the website for any letters or latest news you may have missed.



## School Office Hours

The school office is now only open between the following hours.



Monday	8am – 4pm
Tuesday	8am – 4pm
Wednesday	8am – 4pm
Thursday	8am – 4pm
Friday	8am – 3:30pm

Contact by phone: 01634 231901 or  
Email: [office@deanwood.medway.sch.uk](mailto:office@deanwood.medway.sch.uk)

We will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued support

## Head of School's Review of Term

I can't believe that we have come to the end of another school year! However, I think this is a perfect opportunity to take the time to reflect on what has been a very successful last term.

Firstly, I would like to thank all of our children for how hard they have worked this academic year. It was an absolute honour to read all of the children's school reports and to hear so many positive comments being made about our learners. They should all feel really proud of themselves!

Particular highlights for me this term were Sports Day and the Year 6 production. It was lovely to be able to welcome friends and family back into school again to share these experiences with us – something which we have all missed throughout the pandemic. We are hopeful that "normal service" will resume fully next year and Mr Slack and I have met with the PTA and agreed some dates with them. In order for these events to take place, the PTA rely on parent helpers so, if you are able to offer any support, please contact them via the school office.

The inaugural Trust Awards Ceremony for staff was held on 7<sup>th</sup> July. Nominations for this were invited from the whole school community. Four members of staff at Deanwood were shortlisted for awards: Mrs Down, Mrs Cavell, Mrs Smith and myself. I would like to congratulate Mrs Down, Mrs Cavell and Mrs Smith for being runners up in their categories. The nomination forms make for lovely reading and I know they have enjoyed reading them. I was also very proud to be given the Professional Growth Award. Whilst this was an individual award, there is no doubt in my mind that I wouldn't have been able to achieve this without the wonderful support I have received from the team at Deanwood so I would like to extend my thanks to all of the staff who have supported me over the last two years in particular.

In staffing news, we are sad to be saying goodbye to Miss Peake at the end of this year. I know that Miss Peake has had a positive impact on the lives of many of the children at Deanwood and I am sure you would like to join me in wishing her well for the future. Mrs Turner will be joining us in September as our Year 4 teacher and I know the children enjoyed getting to know her on their transition day last week.

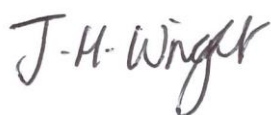
We have been pleased to welcome Mrs Chapman into school over the last few weeks. Mrs Chapman will be joining us as Year R teacher in September to cover Mrs Cook's maternity leave. I know that the children, parents and staff have been enjoying having the opportunity to get to know her whilst she has been in school supporting with transition sessions.

We are also saying goodbye to Mrs Taylor who has been leading in Nursery since Miss Webber went on maternity leave. I would like to thank her for her hard work over the last two terms. Until Miss Webber returns from her maternity leave, Gemma Warren will be taking on the role of Lead Practitioner in Nursery, supported by Jane Morris, Carrie Wade and Miss Toombs who will be moving from Year 2 into Nursery for the remainder of the maternity cover period. I am pleased to report that we have appointed Mrs Knight to the post of Year 2 Teaching Assistant for the remainder of the maternity cover period.

And finally, I'm sure you would like to join me in saying a massive "thank you" to all of the staff at Deanwood for their hard work and dedication and to wish them all a well-deserved summer break.

I look forward to welcoming your children back to school on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September**.

Mrs J. Wright



Mrs J. Wright  
Head of School