



# Deanwood Dispatch

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



Term 6 – July 2023

## CLASS NEWS – TERM 6

### Deanwood Nursery

We have had a busy and exciting summer term in Nursery! We've been learning about rainbows and colour. This theme has inspired us to make rainbow water bottles, make rainbow mosaics and we even painted huge rainbow boxes.

We have talked about how we are all different and how important it is to celebrate these differences.

Our children continue to be interested in 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and have had many bear hunts of our own in the garden! We have enjoyed tweaking this story and going on dragon hunts and travelling through slimy swamps in our imaginations.

We have loved exploring different foods during snack including our 'Pizza Party' and making a fruit



salad too!

It's been exciting to try new flavours and help prepare food too!

We say goodbye to some of our children this summer

who are moving to Reception classes. We wish them luck in their new adventures and we will miss them very much! We are looking forward to welcoming back our younger children in September! Have a wonderful summer break!

### Pine Class

We have had lots of fun and learning opportunities this term. We have retold 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' story and written our own versions of the story. We have asked many questions about our topic minibeasts and have discovered the answers. For maths some activities have been based around sharing items equally and investigating number bonds to ten and doubles this term. We have taken pleasure in and improved our thinking skills whilst being involved in problem solving activities that have been mathematical and scientific. For example, when finding out which boat would hold the most treasure.

We have worked hard on our sporting skills and took part in our first Sports Day showing great resilience and sportsmanship.

Pine Class have been discussing all our achievements this year and talking about what will happen in September. The children thoroughly enjoyed spending time with Miss Manewell and Mrs Woods on their transition day and are excited to go to Maple Class. The term is not finished yet however and we have our disco and our end of year party to look forward to!

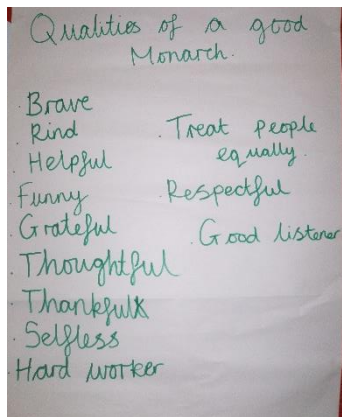
I would like to thank all parents for supporting their children by reading and completing homework with them. Encourage your children to keep reading and writing through the summer holiday and then they will be in the best place to start Year 1.



Have a great Summer Holiday! \_\_\_\_\_

## Maple Class

In term 6, Maple Class have enjoyed learning about Kings and Queens! In History, we have looked at past and present Kings and Queens and compared them. We took the momentum of the King's Coronation and refereed to this in our work this term – Maple Class were very knowledgeable about Queen Elizabeth II and our current King – Charles III. We were keen to learn about the mystery that surrounded King Richard III and we learnt some very interesting things about him. We learnt about the role of a Monarch and the qualities that make a good Monarch. We thought about what rules we would bring in if we were Kings and Queens! We created our own family trees and even started to discuss Roman Numerals!!



In Science, we have been exploring everyday materials through the discussion of holidays. We spoke about what we would pack if we went somewhere cold or hot, the importance of sun cream and sun glasses, and made anti-littering posters after a discussion about pollution on the beach. We identified different materials and have investigated their properties.



In Maths, we started the term looking at number and place value to 100 and got creative with our 100 squares! We have been enjoying practical topics such as Money and Time.

Maple Class enjoyed sports day and our end of year party!

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

## Oak Class

This term, 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, applying 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, we had a wonderful time together at Riverside Country Park, carrying out our minibeast studies, pond dipping studies and scavenger hunts.

Thank you 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

It has certainly been a very busy end to the year! We have had a really enjoyable term with lots of memorable moments!

We have continued to learn the recorder and can now play almost an entire piece using the notes B, A and G.



We also took part in a 'Brick Builder' DT challenge week. During this week we studied bricks in many different ways including making bricks from recycled paper. In maths, we explored tessellating patterns for a wall design and made 3D bricks using shape nets.



In our topic, we have continued to learn about natural disasters in our 'Extreme Earth' topic. We were fortunate enough to be able to visit the Natural History Museum in London to learn more about our planet including linked to our science on rocks and fossils.



We have really enjoyed our time in Year 3 and our teachers are really proud of all we have achieved this year.

We are looking forward to Year 4!

## Willow Class

**Wow!** What a busy term Year 4 has had! Beginning with an immersion day, taking us to Ancient Greece, we dressed up as Gods and Goddesses and explored books, finding some facts of who the Ancient Greeks were and how they lived. We all enjoyed tasting some of the national dishes.



**Congratulations** are in order for all of the hard work put into practising their times tables. Willow Class smashed it, with every child making fabulous progress in the MTC tests.

**Year 4** explored architecture in Art/D&T, and how Ancient Greece has influenced modern day architecture. This linked in perfectly to our whole school Art Builders Week, where each class from Nursery up to Year 6 produced work, leading to a beautiful collaborative installation; **Deanwood's Brick by Brick Project**.



**In Science Week** Willow Class explored crime scenes and experimented with chromatography, discovering how individual pens are made up of different colours. They also explored their own fingerprints, finding out which type of pattern their unique prints have.



**With** Year 3, we went on our school trip to The Natural History Museum, which linked in nicely with our previous learning about 'Extreme Conditions'. The children were able to explore information around earthquakes, volcanoes and how Earth has evolved over time. It was a busy but lovely day and we would like to give a special thank you to Miss Rumjaun for organising and for our parent/carers helpers for their support, making the day a great success for the children.



**Finally**, this leaves us saying, a big 'Thank You', for all of the support for this academic year and a heartfelt 'Good Bye' to Year 4, wishing them all the very best as they progress to Year 5. Enjoy a fun-filled and restful summer break, with the very best wishes from Mrs Turner and Mrs Russell.

## Hawthorn Class

This term our topic has been Brazil and Carnival. We have enjoyed learning all about Brazil and the Amazon Rainforest. The class have learnt lots of facts about the animals and culture within Brazil and the children created some brilliant information leaflets to share their knowledge.

During Maths, we have been learning about decimals and more recently we have moved onto angles. The children have been learning how to use a protractor to measure angles and to draw angles themselves.

Our project this term was to design and create our own Brazilian mask. The children learnt about the vibrant designs and colours at a carnival and then recreated this in their own designs.

In PE, the children have become budding golf experts. So, your children may be asking to swap their marbles in for golf balls!

In writing we have been writing about a group of children that got lost in the Amazon Rainforest and the children had to decide if they made out it back safely home. This was their final writing piece of the year and it was amazing to see the improvement that they had all made from the start of the year.

Hawthorn Class have made a tremendous amount of progress this year and they should be extremely proud of themselves. Both Mrs Down and myself have really enjoyed teaching them and seeing them grow into inspiring individuals.

I would also like to thank you as parents, as you have been extremely supportive. Without the support of you its not always possible to create an engaging curriculum. Thank you for always being on hand when required.

We hope that you have a relaxing summer break and we wish all of the students every success going into Year 6.

Mrs Smith and Mrs Down

## Elm Class

Elm Class have had a very busy final term at Deanwood. Earlier in the term some of the class completed Bikeability, learning how to safely cycle on the road. Most of the class also walked to St Paul's church in Parkwood to take part in a workshop around Secondary readiness. We have spent lots of the term thinking about how to be ready for secondary school, including looking at uniform and behaviour expectations.



The year 6 residential at Carrotty Wood also took place this term. Those who attended had a brilliant time. We took part in archery, climbing, raft building, peddle carts, swimming, backwoods cooking, low ropes and high ropes. As well as the activities, they also helped with laying the table for meals, washing up and keeping the lodge tidy. I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Daffin and Mr Ingham for all of their help, I couldn't have organised and run the trip without them!



We have spent most of the term preparing for our production. The whole class have worked really hard to learn their lines and the songs. We are really excited to perform for the school and those family members coming to watch.

## Lunchtime



What a lovely term 6 we have had at lunchtimes, the children have been thoroughly enjoying the sunny weather on both the playground and field.

The highlight this term being the family picnic after Sports Day which went incredibly well and was a lovely atmosphere.



Last week we had a little taster session for the Nursery children who will be starting in Pine class in September. They lined up in the dinner hall to collect a tray and cutlery then sat down and practiced cutting with play-doh. They were then taken onto the playground for a little playtime.

Finally, we would like to say a very big thank you to all of our year 6 playleaders for their help and playground support this year, have been superstars and will be missed!

Wishing you all a fantastic summer break and will look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.



## Extension 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.

This term we have been working on personal portraits and among all the other arts and crafts and games.

We also are still sticking to majority rule so the children get to choose what they want to do with their time.

Can we also remind all that if your children are coming to kids club they need booking in on Arbor or we will not know they are in.

We are also taking donations please for clothes as ours have gone home but not come back Kind regards.



## Deanwood PTA

Thank you very much to everyone who came to the summer fayre and to staff and parents who helped run stalls. We made just over **£900!**

Some of this will be used for general fundraising and some will go towards the reading garden in memory of Mr Slack.



In June we had our Father's Day Shop, which was very busy. The children enjoyed coming along to choose their gifts, it's always nice to see them putting so much thought and care in to what they buy.

Also this term, we had a second-hand uniform shop, provided refreshments for the Year 6 Production and we held our end of term discos, we hope everyone had a great time.



Some dates for your diary:

- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September, Lunchtime bookshop for the children.
- Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September, Bag2School clothes collection.
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September, Macmillan Coffee Afternoon.
- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 9am, PTA Annual General Meeting.

**Thank you for your continuing support.**

We look forward to seeing you at some of our PTA events next year.

## 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



Mrs E Russell



Miss J White

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 – 4pm

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, the Year 6 production and the Summer Fayre. It has been lovely to be able to open our doors fully to family and friends again this year after the disruption of COVID. I know just how much the children appreciate having support at these events.

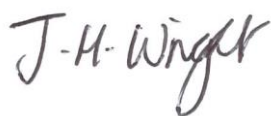
I'm sure you will all agree that our PTA have done an absolutely sterling job this year with numerous events taking place throughout the school year. As a school, we are eternally grateful for all that they do. However, I am aware that numbers on the PTA are dwindling and that it is often just a handful of people who offer support. As all of the PTA events rely on parent helpers, I would urge you to contact the PTA via the school office if you think you would be able to offer any support. Unfortunately, events will not be able to take place if parents are not available to help so please have a think about whether you might be able to offer some time.

In staffing news, we are sad to be saying goodbye to Miss Currier at the end of this year. I know that Miss Currier 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. We will also be saying goodbye to Mrs Riddington who joined us in Term 5 to give us additional staffing capacity. I would like to thank her for all that she has done to support Deanwood in the last two terms. On a more positive note, we have been pleased to welcome Mrs Cook back from maternity leave. I know that the children and staff have enjoyed seeing her around school again over the last week.

I'm sure you would all 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.

And finally, it would be remiss of me not to make mention of Mr Slack as we come to the end of the school year. I have been absolutely overwhelmed by the way that the whole Trust community have come together to remember him. Mr Slack's family attended the Trust Awards on 30<sup>th</sup> June where his wife collected a Lasting Impact Award on his behalf. I am sure that you will all agree that this was very well deserved and a fitting tribute to such an amazing man. I have absolutely no doubt that Mr Slack would be extremely proud of all of the children and staff at Deanwood for the amazing resilience that they have shown over the last few terms. I miss Ollie every day but I know that his legacy will live on and I cannot wait to make a start on the memorial Reading Garden that the Trust community have been raising funds for. I will be sure to keep you informed of plans as they unfold in the forthcoming terms.

I look forward to welcoming your children back to school on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September**.



Mrs J. Wright  
Head of School