

13th December 2019

News from the Office...

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all! It has been lovely to settle back into routines and hear about the Christmas holidays.

The first two weeks back to school have certainly been busy ones and we have been really impressed with the way children have settled and the amazing attitudes to learning they have all shown so far.

Parents Evening

It has been lovely to see so many parents at our parent evening, the staff have all enjoyed sharing your child/rens progress with you.

The Club@Dean Valley

Mrs Mackenzie and our team of play workers continue to work hard to make Club a fun place to be with a range of activities which happen every week. We have noticed of late a huge number of adhoc bookings, whilst it is great to have so many children attending and having fun it is causing some problems with staffing for us. When numbers go up we have to increase the number of staff and when they places are then cancelled at the last minute we still have to pay the staff which makes refunds very difficult. As a school club we want to be flexible with the service we provide but it is a business and a business which supports school with a number of extra resources as it is run in-house so please help us by giving as much notice as possible when booking or cancelling places. Thank you.

Budget

Schools continue to face difficulties with budgets and creative use of budget and resources is most certainly in place here at Dean Valley (and in almost all schools around the country). The PTA have worked really hard to raise funds which will be going towards Forest School provision, new reading books and developing the range of playground markings which will give mores scope for children at playtime and lunchtime. If you have any ideas which you would like to put forward to raise further funds or a spare hour or two to listen to readers, help with gardening, allotments or with Forest School learning then please let either myself or your child's class teacher know.

Forest School Fundraising

The success of the gin night and the Christmas fair has meant that we have raised £4000 of the £5000 target for our Forest School project. We have now sourced a Forest School practitioner to come in and will be implementing an afternoons Forest learning every week, we will focus on one class per half term so that we are building learning in skills over time.

Toilet Twinning

A huge well done to our amazing Rights Respecting Rangers for their hard work at the Christmas fair running their own stall with a range of activities relating to toilets! They raised a huge amount of money and have now sent this to Unicef to build a whole toilet block! Thank you to everyone for supporting them.

Clubs

Club letters have gone out and you will hear shortly which clubs your children have secured places at.

The timetable and pick up points are clearly displayed inside this weeks news letter.

Trips

This term the trips which will be happening that we know of so far and there approximate costs are:

KS2 Theatre Trip— paid

Young Voices—paid

Y1—Nantwich—£10 February

Reception—Reese heath £15 February

Year 3 and 4—beginning March trip approx. £15

Have a lovely weekend!

Kind regards,

Vicky McPherson



Dates for your diary

High 5 Netball Tournament 21th Jan

KS2 Theatre trip 24th Jan

Chinese New year lunch 28th Jan

Yr 3 Music festival Rehearsal 31st Jan

Young Voices 31st Jan

Cheshire East Music Competition (Orchestra) 3rd Feb

Football v Whirley (away) 5th Feb

Y5 Road Safety Talk 10th Feb

Yr 3 Music festival Concert 12th Feb

Yr 5 Drama Workshop @ Tytherington 12th Feb

Valentines Day lunch 14th Feb

School closes 14th Feb

INSET day 24th Feb

Children return 25th Feb

Attendance

The class with the best attendance for the last two weeks is Year 4—well done!

Absence in term time creates gaps in children's learning which can't be caught up. Each week of learning is valuable in building up knowledge and experiences.

What does the law say about attendance at school?

The law requires all children between the ages of 5 and 16 to be in full time education. As the parent/carer of a child of compulsory school age it is your duty under Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 to ensure that your child attends school regularly.

- 5 minutes late each day means three whole days lost each year
- 17 days missed from school each year equates to a whole GCSE grade
- Attendance affects learning
- Attendance affects future outcomes
- Attendance affects wellbeing and a sense of belonging

Whole School Attendance
97.2% (target 97%)

Class	Attendance	Lates
Reception	95.9%	4
Year 1	97.4%	15
Year 2	97.4%	10
Year 3	97.7%	1
Year 4	97.7%	5
Year 5	96.9%	5
Year 6	97.6%	3

2020 Dates for your Diary

24.1.20—New Vic Theatre trip KS2
 28.1.20 Chinese New Year Lunch
 31.1.20 Young Voices
 3.2.20—Cheshire East Music Competition (Orchestra)
 10.2.20 Road Safety Talk Y5
 12.2.20 Y3 Music Festival Concert
 14.2.20—HALF TERM
 24.2.20—INSET
 25.2.20—Children back
 3.3.20—Y1 trip to Nantwich Museum
 3.3.20 Reception trip to Reeseheath college
 5.3.20 World Book Day—bring your favourite book to school day

Playtime Snacks

Please can we remind you that snacks which are coming into school for playtime should be healthy fruit snacks. We have seen a number of chocolate bards and packets of crisps and cereal bars appearing again.

We have a number of children with allergies so no foods with nuts are allowed in school at all.

No chocolate spread should be used in sandwiches either due to healthy eating ethos and how many contain nuts.



Dean Valley Gymnastics Team

On the 14th of December 2019, the Dean Valley gymnastics team competed at Alderly Edge School for Girls in a floor and vault Christmas competition.

There were 67 gymnasts all together which were competing in this competition. There were 5 groups in this competition.

The students at Dean Valley only competed in 4 of them named Angles, Presents, Candy canes and Reindeers. 11 dean valley gymnasts competed, their results were...

By Lottie and Florence



	Floor	Vault	Overall
Florence	1st	2nd	2nd
Beth	2nd	2nd	1st
Lottie	4th	9th	7th
Constanca	3rd	5th	4th
Bea	5th	4th	5th
Celia	2nd	6th	3rd
Lola	3rd	1st	1st
Brooke	4th	2nd	3rd
Tasmin	4th	5th	5th
Polly	5th	4th	6th
Tianna	4th	7th	4th

Reading

This term we will be focussing on reading across school, this is an area we have identified in which we would like to develop our resources, library areas, knowledge of books and their authors and to raise the profile of reading for pleasure.

As a school we work hard to provide a wide variety of reading opportunities both within learning and in order to encourage children to explore and enjoy reading.

Children access reading through a range of activities: guided reading, active reading, class book at the end of the day, reading libraries and of course individual reading to teachers and our team of parents, grandparents and other members of the community who offer their time.

In order for children to improve, develop their cultural capital and be exposed to a range of genres, vocabulary and both fiction and non-fiction books we need your support by reading often and widely at home. Reading mileage needs to be as high as possible—the more children read the more fluent and confident they become.

The texts linked to assessments are becoming longer and sustaining momentum and concentration is important.

Please watch out for our new reading diaries for Year 1 and 2 and Year 3 and 4, they will be coming home soon and like in Reception we would ask that reading comments are written by parents each time you read and as often as possible.

This is important as sharing information about how your child is doing—both positives and areas they have found difficult really benefit the teachers. It also helps staff to know when books need to be changed.

When looking at and reading books it is important to talk to your children about the pictures, making inferences about what you can see, who characters are and predicting what might happen. When reading the text asking questions about the content of the text, vocabulary meaning and predicting what may happen further on in the story from what we know already.

As your children learn to read it can sometimes feel that the books are a little easy, however the books are matched to ability and will offer the correct level of challenge. It is important that children understand the concepts of the story, vocabulary and can discuss what has happened and retell the story. It is fine for them to read a book more than once in order to build confidence and understanding of the story.

We are going to hold a reading evening on the Thursday 27th February at 6:00pm we will be sharing resources and ideas to support reading at home, including booklists for year groups and doing some demonstrations based around phonics, active reading skills and comprehension of what we read. There will be a range of activities for you to have a go at and children's presentations too on our reading environment and how we would like to develop it.

We will send out further information shortly as well as a reply slip so that we can provide a range of refreshments.



CLASS OF THE WEEK

Y2 and Y6

For fantastic focus and attitude to learning



Messages from Staff

If you would like to take part in the weekly raffle for children having a school lunch on Fridays, please send £2.40 for the Friday lunch in a named envelope to the office on Mondays.

Please can we remind you to book your child's school lunches in advance (even if it is first thing in the morning on the day they need one) as this way we always have plenty of food to feed everyone! The lunch menu is displayed in the kitchen and on the website should you need to see what is on offer.

Fruity Friday parcel have been won by Finley in Reception and Alfie in Yr. 3

The treasure Chest have been opened by Lenny in Yr. 1 and Bessie in Yr. 5

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DV STARS

	Child of the Week	Rights Respecting Award
Reception	Henry—Wowing Mrs Dumbleton with his learning and attitude Erin—Writing a fabulous story	Barney—Sharing his knowledge so beautifully to his peers Lily—Always working hard
Year 1	Tilly—Returning to school showing super resilience and determination Arthur and William—Amazing effort with all of your work	Kian—Respecting his right to an education for working hard in every session Nathan—Fantastic dedication and attitude to learning
Year 2	Eleanor—An outstanding attitude which shows in your work Oliver MB—A great attitude towards all his learning	Ella—Respecting her right to learn and showing super resilience Noah—Working hard developing his talents
Year 3	Rory—A fantastic start to the new term and 2020. You have produced lots of amazing work Joe D—A fantastic attitude to school and learning. It is lovely to see	Amelie—Respecting everyone's right to learn by being a great team member Vinnie—Respecting his right to learn by listening well and focusing on his work
Year 4	Peyton—Starting the new year with an outstanding attitude to her learning Lucy—Developing her confidence and sharing her interest with the class	Tianna—Respecting her right to learn by being positive and resilient when facing challenges Jazz—Showing a really positive attitude towards her learning and by developing her understanding at home
Year 5	Alfie—A fantastic attitude to learning, what a great start to 2020! Evie—Super dedication to spelling. What a great effort	Jasmine—Respecting her right to learn and showing a super attitude Jess—Respecting the rights of others by helping their learning in Maths
Year 6	Dillan—Working exceptionally hard—you are producing a fantastic standard of work Lottie—For her focus and determination to succeed. Lottie is also extremely helpful and Year 6 are lucky to have her	Flo M—Exceptional work and dedication Oscar—A fantastic attitude to work Charlie P—Great progress in his confidence and is producing some incredible work
Mrs McPherson	Milo (Yr 4) - A fantastic return to school showing determination and focus in his learning and progress in writing. Keep it up! Erin (Rec) - Showing such an amazing attitude to learning and writing a fabulous story which you shared with confidence	Dee (Yr 4) —Respecting her right to an education, overcoming challenges which can make life difficult and showing what a superstar she is Seb (Yr 3) - Respecting his right to learn by working incredibly hard, making good choices in school, always doing the right thing and respecting his peers
TheClub@DV	Naomi (Yr 2) - Respecting her right to play in a nice environment and including others in her play, making it an enjoyable experience for everyone Dougie (Yr 2) —Having super listening ears and following instructions, following the Club Charter. Keep it up, you have been a star!	Sophie (Yr 6) —Being kind to a new member of Club, making her feel welcome, being helpful and a super role model Issac (Rec) —Being super respectful of the Club setting, always following the Charter and inviting others into his play space