



April 2024 Newsletter



Welcome to the summer term and the newsletter for April. We have had a busy first few weeks back at school following the Easter break and we have much to celebrate, especially with the completion of our new outdoor classroom.

Outdoor Classroom

As mentioned above, our outdoor classroom project is now complete! We are extremely pleased with the end product, which I'm sure you will all agree is an excellent addition to the school. The children are extremely excited about the area and have already been having some lessons in the outdoor classroom or listening to stories from the story telling chair. A huge thank you to Artisan Structures for their wonderful craftsmanship and the professional manner in which they carried out the build. I would also like to thank the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk for the grant, without which we could only have dreamed for such a wonderful space to help us facilitate outdoor learning. Finally, thanks go out to Danielle Grummitt for helping to secure the grant. We are currently planning a grand opening event which the whole school community will be invited to, more details will follow soon.





Class 3 Visit to Cambridge Central Mosque

On Friday 26th April, Class 3 visited the Cambridge Central Mosque to support their RE learning. It was an amazing building which really seemed to impress the children and adults. We learnt that it was designed by the architects who created the London Eye. Our guide, Mohammad, explained all about how they use recycled materials and that they use collected rainwater for the washrooms. The children were very impressed by the motion-activated taps! We learnt about the different prayer times, the items on display and that they host over 400 weddings a year!

Comments from the children included:

“The prayer hall is really cool and the other rooms were really impressive.” Hugo

“It was very clean, it smelt nice. I liked the idea of the Mother and Child room.” Isabella

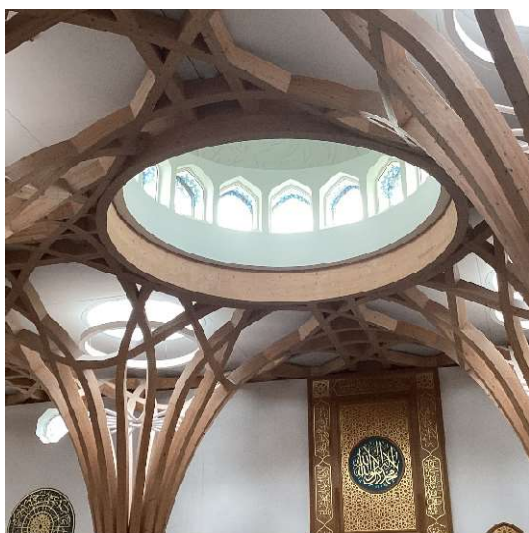
“The Mosque was gigantic! There was a fountain and we had to take our shoes off.” Osian

“The Mosque was fun, and we went onto the balcony.” Matthew W

“I think it was cool because they used rainwater for Wudu (the washing and cleansing ritual that’s completed before praying) and to water the plants.” Katherine

“The Prayer Hall was beautiful. It was great. I would recommend a visit!” Katie

“Amazing. I had to take off my shoes to show respect. I learned so much. I want to go back!” Lorelei



Recorder Tuition

We have arranged for the children in Class 3 to have whole class recorder tuition during the summer term. Daniel Weitz, from Norfolk Music Hub, is leading the sessions and these will run for 12 weeks. The children enjoyed their first lesson and here are some photos of them learning a new instrument.



Outdoor Learning Grant

We have recently been awarded a grant of £220 from Accent Fresh to support our Outdoor Learning Club. A huge thank you to Accent Fresh for their very kind donation. I am sure Mr Cawley has lots of ideas as to how to put this grant to best use!

Music Grant

Speaking of grants, we have also been awarded a £500 grant from Universal Music UK Sound Foundation and we have purchased a whole class set of ukuleles to enable us to offer whole class ukulele tuition across the school, starting from next year. Again, a huge thank you to Universal Music UK Sound Foundation for this generous donation.

Morning Drop Off

As we are now in the summer term, and to help the children to develop more independence, please can the children in Class 2 be dropped off at the field gate and walk to the classroom without parents. Class 1 parents can continue to bring the children to the Class 1 gate. Thank you for your support with this.

Free School Meals

To help support families through the cost-of-living crisis, the Government has been supporting families of children on Free School Meals with monthly food vouchers. This support was due to finish at the end of March, however the Local Authority recently agreed to continue to provide these monthly food vouchers until October. These will be sent out monthly to the parents of children who receive Free School Meals.

Mutual Respect

At Denver Primary, we are committed to providing a safe environment, and to setting a good example by being professional and courteous. Parents and visitors are always welcome at this school, and if you have any concerns we will always listen and seek to address them. Please, however, remember that staff should also be treated with mutual respect and kindness.

Water Bottles

Please remember that children should bring only plain water to school in their school water bottles, and not flavoured waters or juices. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Sun Protection

Now that we are in the summer term, and we hopefully start to see some improved weather, the children will spend more time outside. To help protect them from the sun, please ensure that they bring a sun hat and water bottle to school each day, and that they apply sun cream before coming to school on sunny days. Thank you.

Denver Supertots Playgroup

Our Denver Supertots Playgroup will continue to offer sessions on alternate Wednesdays and Fridays from 9.30 - 10.45am throughout the summer term. All pre-school age children and their parents are welcome to attend for a small cost of £1 each child, with children under 1 being free. A variety of games and activities are planned, with refreshments provided for the adults. The playgroup is jointly run by the school and students from Downham Market Academy. Dates of sessions Supertots will be running throughout this term can be found in the diary dates at the bottom of the newsletter.

Attendance Focus

We are continually working hard to improve school attendance due to the impact that absence from school can have on learning. As part of this work, each newsletter throughout the year has had an attendance focus.

Please remember that, in line with the expectations set out in '[Working Together to Improve School Attendance](#)', fixed penalty notices will be issued if the criteria set out in that letter is met.

To promote good attendance, we celebrate the class with the highest attendance each month. April's attendance figures were as follows:

Class 1	99.8%
Class 2	99.2%
Class 3	97.3%
Class 4	97.7%

Well done, once again, to Class 1 for having the highest attendance for the month of April.

Our overall school attendance so far this year is **95.8%**, which is lower than our target of 97%. Please help us to support good school attendance to ensure the best outcomes for our children.

Holidays

Please remember that holidays during term time **will not be authorised** and may be considered for a Fixed Penalty Notice should the criteria be met (**9 sessions or 4.5 school days of unauthorised absence within a 6 school week period**). An absence request should be completed **before** any holidays or absence are taken and can be accessed by requesting a link from the school office. It is important that we are made aware of children taking holidays

before they are taken, rather than once children are on holiday as is sometimes the case. Our Attendance Policy is available on our school website.

Update from The Friends

Thank you to everyone who supported the Denver Village Yard Sale on Sunday 21st April and the cake sale at school on Tuesday 23rd. We were incredibly lucky with the weather on the Sunday and the village was busy with stalls and prospective buyers. In total we raised just shy of £700 which is an amazing amount. Thank you again to everyone who organised a stall, made refreshments in the Village Hall and provided cakes for the Friends to sell. Thank you also to Papworth Butchers in Swaffham for their delicious bacon and sausage rolls.

The Friends have a few more events organised before the end of the Summer Term including a whole school disco, a movie night and, not least, the annual Sponsored Walk and Obstacle Course on Friday 24th May. More details will follow shortly along with a sponsorship form.

The Friends are always on the lookout for new ideas and new members. If you are interested in helping then please do email friends@denver.norfolk.sch.uk Thanks!

Sports News

Tri-golf Tournament

On Monday this week, a sunny day at last, a group of children in Classes 2 and 3 visited Holy Cross Primary School for the annual cluster tri-golf tournament. There were 8 different activities to practise putting and chipping. All the children really enjoyed the activities, especially when Arthur hit a perfect chip that flew over the edge and out of the field! Congratulations to Edith and Lauren who were awarded medals for being team players and encouraging all the other children.



Forthcoming Events

Crucial Crew Y6 – 3rd May

The children in Y6 will be attending the annual Crucial Crew event at King's Lynn Fire Station this Friday. They will take part in a variety of different scenarios with a focus round safety.

Rounders with Downham Prep – 3rd May

Downham Preparatory School will be visiting us on Friday 3rd May for a rounders development session. This will involve children in Class 3.

KS2 SATs Week – 13th – 17th May

The children in Y6 will be sitting their KS2 SATs from 13th – 17th May. They have all worked hard and are well-prepared. We wish them all the best of luck – just do your very best, you can do it!

Class 1 Learning Café – 14th May

Class 1 will be inviting parents and carers into school for another Learning Café on Tuesday 14th May at 9.15am. Parents and carers will be able to stay in school following drop off.

Messy Church – 20th May

The next Messy Church session will take place in the school hall on Monday 20th May, from 3.30-5pm. Please help spread the word.

Class 1 Visit to Snettisham Park Farm – 21st May

To extend their learning from their 'Things That Grow' topic, Class 1 will be going to Snettisham Park Farm for their class visit this term – more details to follow soon.

Cluster Kwik Cricket Tournament Y5/6 – 23rd May

The cluster kwik cricket tournament for children in Class 4 takes place on Thursday 23rd May. The Class 4 Friday after school club session will be Kwik Cricket based for the next 6 weeks to help prepare the children for this event.

Sponsored Walk – 24th May

Our annual sponsored walk will take place at 2pm on the last day of this half term. We are hoping to include an obstacle course again as it was very popular with the children last year. All are welcome to come and cheer the children on.

Girls' Football Tournament Y5/6 – 4th June

Two teams of girls from Class 4 will be taking part in a girls' football tournament on this date.

Mini Tennis – 6th June

A group of children from Class 3 will be participating in the Mini Tennis tournament at Lynnsport on Thursday 6th June.

Phonics Screen Week – 10th - 14th June

The children in Y1 will be doing the statutory phonics screen to assess their phonics understanding during this week.

Sports Day – 18th June

Our annual Sports Day will take place on the afternoon of Tuesday 18th June, with a reserve date, in case of bad weather, on Thursday 20th June. All are welcome to cheer the children on.

Y1 Active Kids – 20th June

The final session of Active Kids for Y1 takes place on the morning of Thursday 20th June.

Area Sports – 25th June

The annual cluster Area Sports will take place on the morning of 25th June. This will involve children from KS2.

Rounders Match Against Downham Prep – 26th June

We have arranged for our Y5/6 children to take part in a rounders event with Downham Preparatory School on Wednesday 26th June.

Class 2 Visit to Norwich Synagogue – 27th June

As part of their learning about Judaism, Class 2 will be visiting the Norwich Synagogue on Thursday 27th June.

Mini Tennis – 28th June

A group of children from Class 4 will be participating in another Mini Tennis tournament at Lynnsport on Friday 28th June.

Eaton Vale – 1st – 3rd July

The children in Class 4 are looking forward to their residential visit to Eaton Vale at the beginning of July. They will take part in a variety of different outdoor and adventurous activities and I'm sure will make many happy memories.

Class 3 Visit to Norwich Castle – 2nd July

Class 3 will be visiting Norwich Castle on Tuesday 2nd July.

Quad Kids – 4th July

The Quad Kids athletics event for Y5/6 children will take place on Thursday 4th July at Lynnsport.

Art Exhibition – 4th July

We are planning to have an art exhibition on Thursday 4th July. The children will be working hard this term in their art lessons to prepare work for the exhibition. Parents and carers will be invited to view the exhibition after school on this day. We are very much looking forward to this event.

Y6 Transition Morning at DMA – 8th July

Our Y6 children transitioning to DMA in September will have a taster morning at the school on the morning of 8th July. Details about this morning will be provided by DMA.

School Games Festival – 9th July

We will be having our annual School Games Festival on Tuesday 9th July.

Move Up Afternoons – 10th – 12th July

On the afternoons of 10th, 11th and 12th July, we will welcome the new reception intake into school and the whole school will move up to their next year group/class. A meeting for the new reception parents/carers will take place on Friday 12th July at 2pm.

First Aid Training for Y6 – 11th July

We have arranged for First Aid training for our Y6 children on Thursday 11th July. More details to follow soon.

Denver Fun Day – 14th July

Denver Fun Day is taking place on Sunday 14th July. The Friends will be running a tombola stall again this year and the school choir will be performing. We look forward to supporting the local community at this very popular event.

KS2 Production – 16th and 17th July

Mr Lawrence has, once again, written an original play for KS2 to perform at the end of the year. There will be two performances on Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th July, and we are exploring offering a third performance for the community. More details to follow soon.

End of Year Assembly – 19th July

Following tradition, we will have our end of year assembly on the last day of term, starting at 2pm.

And finally...

The summer term is always extremely busy, therefore we have updated the diary dates below to make you aware of the many forthcoming activities and events happening throughout the term.

Dates for your diary- please keep for future reference:

2023/2024

Summer Term

	1 st	Wed	Supertots
	3 rd	Fri	Crucial Crew
	3 rd	Fri	Rounders with Downham Prep Y3/4
	6 th	Mon	School closed for Bank Holiday
	10 th	Fri	Supertots
	13 th - 17 th		KS2 SATs Tests
	14 th	Tue	Class 1 Learning Café
	20 th	Mon	Messy Church
	21 st	Tue	Class 1 Visit to Snettisham Park Farm
	23 rd	Thu	Cluster Cricket
	24 th	Fri	Supertots
	24 th	Fri	Sponsored Walk
	27 th – 31 st		School closed for half term
	3 rd	Mon	Children return to school
	4 th	Tue	Girls Football Tournament Y5/6
	5 th	Wed	Supertots

June 2024	6 th	Thu	Mini Tennis Y3/4
	10 th -14 th June		Phonics Screening Week
	14 th	Fri	Supertots
	18 th	Tue	Sports Day
	19 th	Wed	Supertots
	20 th	Thu	Reserve Sports Day
	20 th	Thu	Active Kids Y1
	25 th	Tue	Area Sports
	26 th	Wed	Rounders Against Downham Prep Y5/6
	27 th	Thu	Class 2 Visit to Norwich Synagogue
	28 th	Fri	Mini Tennis Y5/6
	28 th	Fri	Supertots
	July 2024	1 st -3 rd	Mon-Wed
2 nd		Tue	Class 3 Visit to Norwich Castle
4 th		Thu	Quad Kids
4 th		Thu	Art Exhibition
8 th		Mon	Downham Market Academy Transition (am)
9 th		Tue	School Games Festival
10 th		Wed	Move Up Afternoon
11 th		Thu	Move Up Afternoon
11 th		Thu	First Aid Training Y6
12 th		Fri	Move Up Afternoon
12 th		Fri	New Reception Intake Meeting 2pm
14 th		Sun	Denver Fun Day
16 th		Wed	KS2 Production
17 th		Thu	KS2 Production
19 th		Fri	End of Year Assembly 2pm
19 th	Fri	Last day of summer term	