



June 2021 Newsletter



As we rapidly head towards the end of the school year, we are by no means slowing down in school, in fact quite the opposite! June has proved to be a very busy month, as you will see in this newsletter. We, like you, were very disappointed that the lifting of restrictions was delayed earlier in the month as we have really missed welcoming you into school. This newsletter therefore includes a wide range of photos to give parents a real flavour of what has been happening in school since half term.

Cycle Shelters

As you many have already spotted, our new cycle shelter project was completed over the weekend. As from tomorrow, the children, should they wish to, can cycle to school and make use of the new facility. We request that **all** children cycling to school wear a cycle helmet for their own safety. The children should bring their bikes through the old field entrance and walk them across the field to park in the shelters. Our school site is securely locked throughout the school day, therefore there should be no need for the children to lock their bikes, although they can do so if they wish. No bikes should be left on the school site overnight. Please be aware that the school's responsibility for the children choosing to cycle is only whilst they are on the school site. Speaking to the children this week, I know many of them are looking forward to being able to cycle to school and we hope that the new shelters will encourage them to be more active.



Eaton Vale

Our Y6 children had a fantastic time when they visited Eaton Vale Activity Centre this week. Although they couldn't experience the residential package initially planned, the children still had the opportunity to take part in a full range of outdoor and adventurous activities including: air rifles, teambuilding, low ropes, pedal go-karts, canoeing, bush craft, Jacob's Ladder, trapeze and Egbert's Escapades. Thankfully the weather was not too unkind to them and they managed to get away without the downpours we had feared! You can see from the

photos that they really enjoyed themselves and I know they will have many special memories to look back on. Here are some photos of the children in action...



Class 2 Flying High

The children in Class 2 have been learning about the history of flight this term and we were very fortunate to have Steve York come into the school to help bring the children's learning to life. Steve brought in his model aeroplanes and talked to the children about the different parts and how they helped the plane to fly. He then gave a demonstration with one of his planes and the children watched with great delight and enthusiasm. The children learned a great deal and really enjoyed the session. Thank you to Steve for giving up his time to share his love of planes with the children.



School Garden

Our wellbeing gardening group have been really excited to see the fruits of their labour this month as more and more of the produce they have planted is ready to harvest and eat. Here you can see some of the children proudly showing off their impressive broad beans. They have also been working hard on the Blue Peter Green Badge Challenge, making individual and group pledges to contribute towards this. Mrs Collins has done a fantastic job with establishing the school garden this year and the children should feel really proud of what they have achieved.



CSI Day

At this time of year, Downham Market Academy usually organise a Y5 Taster Day for the children of feeder schools. Unfortunately, due to the current restrictions, they were unable to welcome the children to the site. Instead, they organised a Crime Scene Investigation event and sent resources to the feeder schools to deliver within our classrooms. During the event, the children worked through different reading, science, maths and writing tasks to solve the mystery of who stole the calculators from the maths classroom. The activities included finger printing and chromatography. Class 4 had a great time and the mystery kept them guessing right to the end!



Here's what some the children thought of the day:

- 'It put a smile on my face.'* Jack
'I felt like Sherlock Holmes for the day.' Roman
'Very entertaining and full of suspense.' Sam
'It was amazing and educational.' Logan
'It got my brain thinking.' Joseph Bu
'I really enjoyed it because we never knew until the end.' Archie
'It kept us interested.' Harry
'Enjoyable for everyone, including the teachers.' Laura

Prickwillow Museum

Last year, the Year 1 children who were then in Class 2 all entered a competition run by the Prickwillow Engine Museum. These children have all been invited to a special event at the museum on 4th July where winners of the competition will be presented with their prizes. We hope they will enjoy themselves.

Vaccinations

We have been asked by the Local Authority to help promote the vaccination rollout in Norfolk. Please see the attached letter from Norfolk County Council to find out more information about vaccinations and their importance.

Class 3 Anglo-Saxon Afternoon

This term Class 3 have been looking at Anglo-Saxons, Picts and Scots. On Friday 18th June they enjoyed an Anglo-Saxon afternoon based around this time period. They created their own Pict standing stones and looked at the Ogham writing system that had been used by the Picts. They also tried some Anglo-Saxon riddles and had a Merels competition to find the best player in the class. Here are some photos of their Pict standing stones.



Great British Spring Clean

At the beginning of June we engaged with the Great British Spring Clean event and organised a litter pick around the village of Denver. We borrowed a community litter pick kit from Norfolk County Council and small groups of children went out around the school grounds and Denver village to pick up as much litter as they could find. A huge thank you to two of our school governors, Amanda Dawson and Emma Goulding, for giving up their time to take the children litter picking. The litter pick contributes towards our efforts to become an eco-school.



Uniform

Just a reminder that children should only wear trainers on days they have PE. School shoes should be worn on all other days, thank you.

Eat Them to Defeat Them Campaign

Since half term, we have been engaging with VegPower's 'Eat Them To Defeat Them' campaign to encourage our children to eat more fruit and vegetables. The campaign started with tomatoes and there was excitement in the air when ITV Anglia News featured the school in a piece on the campaign. Jack (Class 2) and Joshua-Jon (Class 3) both gave excellent interviews to the reporter – well done boys, we were so proud of you both! If you missed the news on that day, a video can be found on the school website.

Summer Reading Challenge

Last week, we sent out information about this year's Summer Reading Challenge, the theme of which is Wild World Heroes. The Summer Reading Challenge is a great way to help your child to keep up with their reading during the long summer holidays and nurture a life-long love of books with all the benefits that brings. Regular reading and participation in the challenge can really help to maintain literacy levels and make a difference to children's reading levels. To find out more information about the challenge, please contact your local library or visit: www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries. We hope that many of our children will engage this year and look forward to hearing about the fun they've had whilst doing so.

Summer Reading Challenge 2021

**WILD WORLD
HEROES**

Presented by The Reading Agency.
Delivered in partnership with libraries.

Craft Club

Miss Palmer did not stay away from school for long as she has been back every Wednesday to run an after school craft club, with a focus on upcycling. The children have been creating bird houses using items such as old wellies and teapots, which I'm sure you will agree are pretty impressive. These will soon go up around school and hopefully will attract some new visitors to our school grounds.



Friends' Update

Sponsored Walk

The children all took part in the Sponsored Walk before half term and we are pleased to announce that the total raised so far is £608.50. This is always a popular event with the children and this year was no exception. If anyone has not yet returned their sponsor money, or would like to make a donation, it is not too late do so – this can be done directly to the Friends.

Bags2School – Friday 2nd July

The next Bags2School collection is this coming Friday, 2nd July at 9am. By getting involved in our Bags2School collection you have the opportunity to have a good sort through wardrobes and cupboards to clear out any unwanted textiles including shoes, hats, belts, and soft toys. Please bring your bags to the front of the school by 9am to ensure collection.

Non-School Uniform Day - Friday 9th July

The Friends have organised a non-school uniform day on Friday 9th July. Rather than asking the children to bring in a donation of £1, if you are able to, please donate a tombola prize (for the Denver Fun Day) in return for the children wearing non-uniform. Please bring the tombola prize on the morning of 9th of July and leave in the collection area by school gate at drop off.

Denver Village Family Fun Day - Sunday 18th July

The Friends of Denver School will be running a tombola stall at the Denver Village Family Fun Day on Sunday 18th of July from 10am. All money raised will go towards funding the pantomime visit, school trips, coaches, resources and much more. If anyone is available to help run the stall on the day, please speak to Saffron's mum, Michelle. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

Name Labels

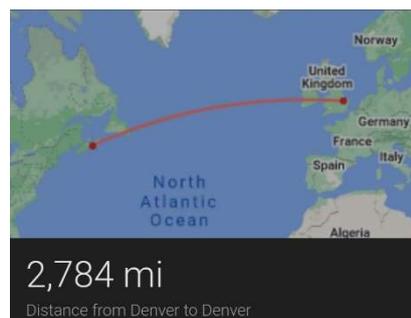
The Friends have partnered up with Stikins to take advantage of their offer of wash and dishwasher proof stick on name labels offer. For every order placed quoting fundraising number 36218, the school receives 30% commission. Labels can be ordered online at www.stikins.co.uk or by phone and have multiple uses including clothes, shoes and lunchbox items. Prices start from £6.80 for 30 labels with same day despatch. More information will be sent home in book bags later this week.

Class Photographs

The Friends will be taking class photographs before the end of term and selling these as a fundraiser. More details will follow soon.

Denver, Norfolk to Denver, Nova Scotia Fundraiser

The Friends will be organising a Denver, Norfolk to Denver, Nova Scotia fundraising effort to raise money for some outdoor gym equipment. We want the children to walk, skip, run, hop, cartwheel, cycle the 2,784 miles ... more information will be coming out from the Friends in the next couple of weeks.



Sport Update

Sports Day

We were so pleased to hold our annual sports day on Tuesday 22nd June, with all children participating in traditional races within their class bubbles. There was a very positive atmosphere out on the school field, with the children having fun and showing good sportsmanship. Thank you to all those who helped to ensure the smooth running of the event; the Y6 children really were excellent sports leaders. So now down to the results which were as follows: 3rd place went to the red team with 198 points; 2nd place went to the blue team with 210 points; and 1st place went to the white team with an impressive 257 points. Well done to all the children, with particular congratulations to the white team.





Football Star

Sonny in Class 3 plays for Norwich City and Cambridge United football teams. He is doing very well and was lucky enough to play for Cambridge against Manchester City at the Etihad training ground last weekend. Cambridge won 2-1 in one of their games and lost 4-2 in the other. Well done Sonny!



Active Kids

The Y1 children visited Lynnsport this week for an Active Kids Festival. They took part in a range of multi skills activities, including long jump, slalom, football skills, javelin and a snake race. All the children participated really well and had fun; it was lovely to see them able to attend a competition in person, rather than engaging in a virtual event.



Multiskills with Class 1 and Class 2

Throughout this half term, Sam from NCSF (Norwich Community Sports Foundation) has been coming into school each Friday afternoon to deliver multi skills PE lessons to Class 1 and Class 2. The children have really been enjoying these sessions, as developing their skills in a range of activities.



Forthcoming Events

Although we only have a few weeks left at school now for this academic year, there is a great deal to fit in. Please put these dates in your diaries.

Reports – 9th July

Annual reports will be sent out on Friday 9th July. This year, partly due to the pandemic, we have changed the format of the reports to make them more succinct and to clearly highlight to parents attainment, progress, effort and future targets. We hope that you will find the new format informative and we welcome your feedback. We ask that all parents sign and return the feedback sheet by Friday 16th July and include any comments you wish to make.

Parent Consultation Evenings – 14th and 15th July

Parent Consultation Evenings will take place via Teams on Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th July. We have allocated different days for each class to book appointments to make it more manageable for Miss de Vanche in the office. The class teachers will then send out joining links to the children's Teams account when times have been confirmed. Telephone appointments can be arranged if necessary, although please understand that we do not have the capacity to make multiple telephone calls at the same time. I will be available on both days for anyone who may wish to make an appointment with me, either via Teams or a phone call.

New Intake – 16th July

The new Reception intake have been invited to spend the afternoon in school on Friday 16th July. There will also be a meeting for the new parents outside on the field at 2pm. We are really looking forward to meeting the new Reception children and welcoming them to our school.

Denver Fun Day – 18th July

We have had confirmation that the Denver Fun Day will be taking place on Sunday 18th July. The school choir will be performing between 12.45 and 1.15pm, therefore please can they

arrive at 12.30pm to prepare for their performance. The Friends of Denver School will also have a stall. We hope to see many of you at this popular community event.

KS2 Performance – 19th July

The KS2 performance of *The Animals of Wensley Wood – The Curse of the Badgered Bottom* will be recorded in school and made available to watch via Teams. Mr Lawrence will also be filming the show for a DVD which will only be available to purchase through his performance company, Kakapo Arts Ltd. The DVD will also contain extras such as behind-the-scenes footage. The children have been working extremely hard in rehearsals and are really looking forward to performing to you.

Y6 Leavers' Picnic – 20th July

To say farewell to our Y6 children, we have arranged for a Leavers' Picnic on Tuesday 20th July from 3.15-4.30pm. The children can each bring their own picnic and enjoy spending time with their friends. Should restrictions be lifted on 19th July, parents of our Y6 children will be welcome to join us.

End of Term Assembly – 21st July

We plan on having an end of term assembly at 2pm on Wednesday 21st July, the last day of term. Each class will join via Teams and parents will be able to join via their child's Teams account. End of year awards will be presented and we will say goodbye to our Y6 children. The assembly will last approximately 30 minutes and will therefore allow parents plenty of time to get to the school for the end of the day. We hope that many of you will be able to join us.

And finally...

I know that many of you have been disappointed to not be able to share the end of term events with us and I would like to thank you all for your understanding. We really are hopeful that in September we can welcome parents back again to bring the school community together. We will again share more photos of the end of term events in the July newsletter and we hope you will all join us for the end of term assembly. In the meantime, stay safe and take care.

Dates for your diary- please keep for future reference:

Summer Term

July 2021	2 nd	Fri	Bag2School collection
	9 th	Fri	Reports to go out
	14 th – 15 th	Wed-Thu	Parent Consultation Evenings
	16 th	Fri	New intake afternoon
	18 th	Sun	Denver Fun Day
	20 th	Tue	Y6 Leavers' Picnic
	21 st	Wed	Last day of summer term End of term assembly – 2pm