



# May 2022 Newsletter



Welcome to the May newsletter, and what a bumper month it has been, culminating with a wonderful celebration for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Here is a flavour of the many events and activities the children have engaged with, and a taste of what is to come after half term.

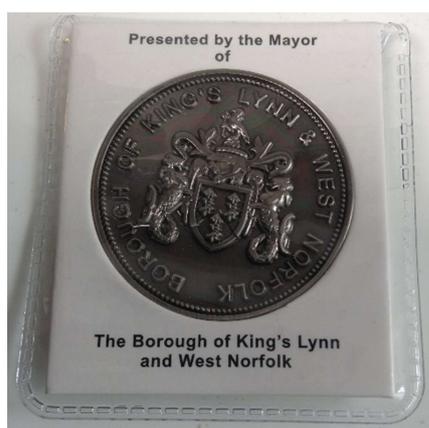
## Queen's Platinum Jubilee/Sponsored Walk

What a busy day it has been today! Not only have we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with an amazing street party, we have also held our annual sponsored walk. It has been truly wonderful getting the whole community together this afternoon and I'm so pleased the weather behaved itself! The street party was only possible because of a £200 grant from the Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, the support from the Friends of Denver School and the many very generous donations of decorations, cakes etc. A special thank you to Mrs Fenn, our school cook, for making the amazing cake (pictured below) or us all to share. We really hope that everyone enjoyed themselves and will have special memories to treasure for years to come.



## Mayor Visit

On 3<sup>rd</sup> May, the Mayor of the Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk visited the school to present each child with a special coin to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Mayor visited our collective worship and the children asked him some very good questions.



### **Fireman Visit**

On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, Class 1 had a visit from Justin Lewis, a firefighter from Downham Market. Justin explained to the children what his job of a fireman involved and they learnt that firefighters do more than just put out fires. Class 1 also had the chance to ask their own questions. The children were shocked to learn that firefighters have to be able to be on call throughout the night and sometimes have to get up at four in the morning to go and help! Justin brought in his uniform to show the children what firefighters have to wear when fighting fires and when working at a rescue. The children all had fun trying on some of his uniform and looking like firefighters ready for action!



### **Food Hygiene**

In a recent inspection of our school kitchen by the Food Standards Agency, I am pleased to say we have once again been awarded a 5 star food hygiene rating. A huge well done to Mrs Fenn and Mrs Ciesielska for maintaining such high standards in the kitchen!

### **Go Green Day**

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May, the Eco-Committee organised a Go Green day in school. The children were asked to come to school dressed in something green to mark this event and they spent the day exploring how we as a school can become more eco-friendly. The children were challenged to bring in a 'waste free lunch', using re-usable containers instead of disposable packaging, and I'm pleased to say they rose to the challenge. This day contributes towards our Eco Schools application. Thank you also for all the unwanted and used batteries you have sent in. We have had a fantastic response and will be sending these off very shortly to be recycled. Below is a photo of the Eco-Committee on our Go Green day and some children with their waste free lunches.



### **Denver Supertots Playgroup**

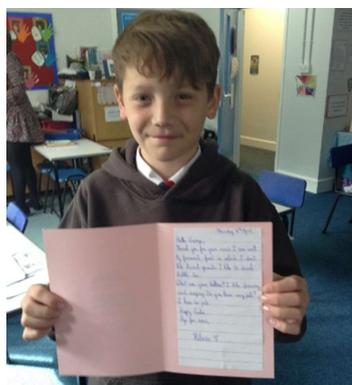
Just a reminder that our Denver Supertots Playgroup runs once a fortnight during term time. Today's session had a Platinum Jubilee theme and the children enjoyed engaging in a range of craft activities. The next session will be on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June. Please help us to spread the word as we are keen to welcome new families.

### **KS2 SATs**

The children in Y6 sat their SATs tests in the week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> May. They all worked very hard and we are extremely proud of their mature and calm approach. Well done to each and every one of them!

### French Pen Pals

Class 4 were delighted to receive some replies to the Easter cards they sent their French pen pals. The children from Saint Victor Primary in Paris responded in English to the questions and information that Class 4 had written to them in French. They shall be working on writing replies in their French lessons.



### Christian Value

Our Christian value for this half term has been **forgiveness** and it has been lovely to see the children recording examples of forgiveness in action in their class floor books. Our new Christian value after half term is **creativity**.

### Mental Health Awareness Week

We marked Mental Health Awareness Week (9<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup> May) in our class wellbeing assemblies. The children discussed what good mental health looked like and how to spot when mental health is being adversely affected. They were taught strategies how to manage this, including signposting sources of support including Childline.

### New ICT Equipment

As part of our ICT Refresh contract which the school pays into over a four year period, we are very excited that our ICT equipment will be updated over half term. The desktop computers in the ICT suite will be replaced by laptops which will be stored on a laptop trolley and transported to each class to be used in both computing lessons and other areas of the curriculum. We are also updating 3 of our interactive whiteboards. This will free up space in our current ICT suite which we plan on transforming into a dedicated library to help promote reading in the school.

## **Attendance**

The Government remains very clear that schools must aim to have the highest attendance possible for all their pupils in order for them to achieve their maximum potential. An attendance below 95% is regarded as persistent absence. Over the course of the year so far (06.09.21 – 20.05.22) there have been a possible 298 sessions, both morning and afternoon. Any child who has been absent for more than 15 sessions or 7.5 days, will therefore fall into the persistent absence category.

We recognise Covid-19 has had a huge impact on attendance this year, although we need to work together to ensure that all children attend school regularly, unless they are too ill to do so, to ensure that their learning is not further impacted. Please remember that holidays during term time will not be authorised.

Our overall school attendance from (06.09.21 – 20.05.22) is 94.4%. Here is a breakdown of attendance figures for each class:

Class 1 – 94.6%

Class 2 – 93.8%

Class 3 – 94.8%

Class 4 – 94.4%

Well done to Class 3 who have the highest attendance figures so far this year!

## **School Policies**

We regularly introduce or update school policies and these are agreed at Governing Body meetings. The following policies were ratified at the recent Governing Body meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> May:

- Admissions
- Code of Conduct
- Looked After Children
- First Aid
- Early Years

These policies can all be found on our school website at:

<https://www.denver.norfolk.sch.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=68>

## **Parent Governor Election**

We have two vacancies on our Governing Body for parent governors and I recently sent out a letter regarding a Parent Governor Election. Being a governor is very enjoyable and worthwhile, and is important that we have parent representation on our Governing Body. If you would like more information on becoming a governor, or have any questions you would like to ask, please do not hesitate to talk to me or one of our current parent governors – Emma Goulding and Amanda Dawson. If you are interested in putting yourself forward for this hugely rewarding role, nominations need to be sent into school by Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Swan Youth Project**

The Swan Youth Project offers support for young people between 8 – 18 years of age and their families with a whole variety of needs. They are based in Paradise Road in Downham Market. They offer Open Access sessions every Thursday 4-6pm during term time where they listen to young people and move forward with their input and ideas. They are a chance for young people to come together and spend time with friends in a positive environment. They have activities going on for those who want to be involved, but essentially they are there to enable conversations, support and friendships. They also offer parent drop-in sessions every Thursday 9.15-11am during term time. For more information, please visit [www.swanyouthproject.org](http://www.swanyouthproject.org)



### **Competition Winner**

Congratulations to Mia in Class 4 who recently won a competition (and a £30 voucher) to design a new logo for the Virtual School. Here is her fantastic logo



### **Sun Protection**

To help protect the children from the sun in the warmer months, 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. Thank you.

### **Out of School Hours Communication**

Please remember that parent/carers can contact the school urgently out of school hours and in holiday periods, for example because of a safeguarding incident, by using the dedicated email address [worried@denver.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:worried@denver.norfolk.sch.uk). If you are worried about something, please do contact the school via this method and a member of staff will get back to you as soon as possible.

## **Friends' Update**

### **Bag2School**

The recent Bag2School collection raised £32. Thank you to all those who supported this fundraiser.

### **Father's Day**

Just a reminder that the Father's Day orders need to be completed online by Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May. Thank you.

### **Spending**

The Friends work extremely hard to fundraise for the school and here is a list of what they have recently funded:

- Bookbags for the new Reception children starting in September
- Ties and prefect badges for next year's Y6
- Coach to Eaton Vale for Class 4's residential visit
- Deposit for the Christmas pantomime 2022

They will also be funding Class 2's visit to Welney Wetland Trust and Class 3's visit to Norwich Castle.

## **Sports News**

### **Kwik Cricket Tournament - 20<sup>th</sup> May**

The members of our cricket club attended the Downham Market Cluster Kwik Cricket tournament on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May at the Memorial Field in the town centre. Although they didn't finish in the top two to be able to progress to the area finals, five of the children were singled out for their talents and earned School Games T-shirts. Summer was deemed the most improved of all the players, Jacob was recognised for good sportsmanship, Thomas claimed the best catch in the competition, Kaylee was the most successful fielder and Edward won his T-shirt for hitting the most sixes and for his excellent bowling. An impressive range of sporting and social skills to be celebrated. Well done to all of the team. We are proud of you! A huge thank you to Martyn Wardle from Denver Cricket Club for running the after school cricket club to help coach the children for the tournament.



### **Dance Club**

Miss de Vanche and Miss Waters are kindly running a dance club this term to help prepare those attending for the SSP Dance Festival on 5<sup>th</sup> July. The children are really enjoying the sessions and here they are in action...



### **Gymnastics Star**

Well done to Ella-Rose in Class 3 who performed extremely well at a recent gymnastics competition. She came 2nd in Vault, 1st for Floor and was awarded an impressive trophy for coming 1st overall. Well done Ella-Rose!



### **Park Run**

Mrs Henden is going from strength to strength with her running and was the first female home in last weekend's Park Run in King's Lynn. Well done Mrs Henden!

## **Forthcoming Events**

### **Phonics Screen – 6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> June**

The Y1 Phonics Screening Check will take place in the week 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> June. The check is designed to give teachers and parents/carers information of how children are progressing in phonics. The check involves the children reading 40 words, some real and some nonsense or pseudo words. The words are all phonetically decodable. If you would like more information about the check, please do not hesitate to speak to me.

### **Multiplication Test Check – June**

The Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) is a statutory check for all Year 4 children. The check consists of 25 times tables questions which are taken on a computer. The children have 6 seconds to answer each question. The MTC must be taken in June and the children will have a practice to familiarise themselves with what to expect. The children's results will be shared in the end of year reports.

### **Eaton Vale Information Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> June**

We have organised an Eaton Vale meeting for parents/carers of children in Class 4 at 3.30pm on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June. It is important that parents/carers attend as we will be covering the activities the children will be doing, the things they need to take and arrangements for children who need medication. The menu will be available so we can ascertain any dietary requirements.

### **The Downham Games – 5<sup>th</sup> June**

The Downham Games are being held on Sunday 5th June 2022 at the Memorial Field, Downham Market, starting at 10am. It is free to enter and there are a variety of activities to enjoy, including football, tennis, athletics, archery and much more. This year, is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the games and the organisers are hoping it will be the most successful yet.



### **Quad Kids – 14<sup>th</sup> June**

A group of children from Class 4 will take part in a Quad Kids athletics festival on 14<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Class 3 Visit to Norwich Castle - 17<sup>th</sup> June**

To support the history curriculum, Class 3 will be visiting Norwich Castle on 17<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Sports Day – 21<sup>st</sup> June**

Our annual Sports Day will take place on the afternoon of Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June, with a reserve date, in case of bad weather, on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. All will be welcome into school to cheer the children on.

### **OMNES Games Ultimate Frisbee – 24<sup>th</sup> June**

A group of children from Class 3 will be visiting Lynnsport on 24<sup>th</sup> June for an Ultimate Frisbee event as part of the OMNES Games.

### **Area Sports – 29<sup>th</sup> June**

The annual cluster Area Sports is back again this year and will take place on the morning of 29<sup>th</sup> June. This will involve a number of children from KS2.

### **Art Exhibition – 1<sup>st</sup> July**

The children are busy working on artwork for the art exhibition on the afternoon of Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July. Parent/carers will be invited into school to see their hard work. More details to follow soon.

### **Eaton Vale – 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> July**

The children in Class 4 will be visiting Eaton Vale in Norwich for their residential visit from 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> July. They will take part in a variety of exciting outdoor and adventurous activities and I know they are really looking forward to this.

### **Welney Wetland Visit for Classes 1 and 2 – 8<sup>th</sup> July**

The children in classes 1 and 2 will be visiting the Welney Wetland Centre on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July. A representative from the centre is delivering two outreach sessions in school prior to the visit. We hope they enjoy their visit.

### **Move Up Afternoons**

On the afternoons of 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> July.

### **End of Year Reports – 15<sup>th</sup> July**

The staff are busy writing end of year reports at this time of year and we aim for these to be sent home on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July.

### **Denver Fun Day – 17<sup>th</sup> July**

Denver Fun Day is taking place on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July. The Friends will be running a tombola stall and the school choir will be performing. We look forward to supporting the local community at this very popular event.

### **KS2 Production**

Mr Lawrence has, once again, written an original play 'Miguel's Mexican Adventure' for KS2 to perform at the end of the year. There will be two performances: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm for parents/carers of children in Years 3, 4 and 5 and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 5.30pm for parents/carers of Y6 and invited guests. The Tuesday performance will be followed by a Y6 leavers' buffet. More details to follow soon.

### **Active Kids – 19<sup>th</sup> July**

The final of the Active Kids festivals for Y1 children will take place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July. The children have really enjoyed the previous two sessions and I'm sure the final one will be just as enjoyable.

### **And finally...**

I hope you all have a lovely half term break and enjoy the many celebrations taking place to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We plan on making a display in school to show how the school community celebrated and would therefore be grateful if you could send in any photos of parties etc.

**Dates for your diary- please keep for future reference:**

### **Summer Term**

June 2022	6 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	Children return to school
	14 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	Quad Kids Class 4
	17 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	Class 3 visit Norwich Castle
	21 <sup>st</sup>	Tue	Sports Day
	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Wed	Reserve Sports Day
	24 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	OMNES Games – Ultimate Frisbee Class 3
	29 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	Area Sports KS2
July 2022	1 <sup>st</sup>	Fri	Art Exhibition
	6 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup>	Wed-Fri	Class 4 residential visit to Eaton Vale
	9 <sup>th</sup> July	Fri	Classes 1 and 2 visit to Welney Wetland Trust
	13 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup>	Wed-Fri	Move up afternoons
	17 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Denver Fun Day
	18 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	KS2 production
	19 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	KS2 production and Y6 leavers' buffet
	19 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	Active Kids Y1
	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Fri	Last day of summer term
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Fri	End of year assembly – 2pm	