



A message from the Head...

Dear Parents,

It is lovely to see our children in their yellow today supporting the Wishbone day - thank you for supporting this event, we really appreciate it.

Next week is national SATS week for our children in Year 6. After the disruptions of the last 2 years, this is the first official SATS since 2019 where the children will take new 2022 papers. We wish all of the children good luck for next week, they have worked so hard to 'catch up' this year and we know they will do themselves proud!

Have a lovely weekend.

Denise Burgess
Headteacher

This week's letters home

All – Theme Day Lunch

Year 6 – Multi-Sports

Phoenix – Summer Term Swimming

All – Request for Cooking Equipment

Lyra – Class Update

Diary Dates

Monday 9th May – SATS Week – Y6

Tuesday 10th May – Reception Walk to the river

Friday 13th May – Reception Swimming (Cassiopeia)

Please note that Head boy & girl presentations are on Tuesday 7th June and not Thursday as stated in the recent diary dates. You can view these again on our [homepage](#)

Online Safety

National Online Safety this week:

What parents need to know about Loneliness Online (see poster attached to email).

Whether it's their family, friends or teachers, children are almost always surrounded by people – so the possibility of them feeling lonely doesn't naturally occur to us. Our #WakeUpWednesday guide presents young people's own tips on how digital tech can help to beat the loneliness blues.

If you haven't signed up to National Online Safety already, please take advantage of this brilliant resource by following the link [HERE](#)

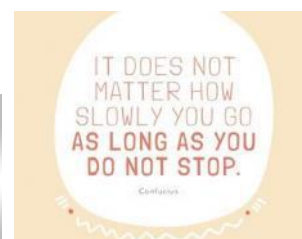
Life Skills

This term our life skill is aiming high and being resilient. Each of our life skills has a character linked to it - and for this life skill it is our well-loved friend, Waddles! Waddles is a penguin who represents not giving up and being resilient and the children love earning waddles points in class!



Values

This half term we are focusing on our school value of determination. We will be looking at this in a focus in assemblies this term as well as learning and listening to some songs linked to showing determination. If your child does something outside of school where they have really shown the value of determination please do feel free to share this with us either through your child's class teacher, our twitter, or through our email account!



Oops....

We realised that our Values of the week weren't quite right last week. Please find out below who was awarded a values award and star of the week for WC25th April and WC2nd May.

Our star of the week awards is an opportunity for our teachers to give great praise to the children who show hard work, determination and enthusiasm amongst other things, to the children who really stand out that week. Values awards are also given out each week to children who show us how they live by the Great Denham Primary values.

Read on below to see who got the awards this week.

WC25th April Awards



STAR OF THE WEEK AWARDS

Little Stars	Riley	Pavo	Lauren	Pegasus	Hirah	Vela	Mollie
Cassiopeia	Araya	Cygnus	Thomas	Eridanus	Anayah	Lyra	Deborah
Tucana	Marcus	Volans	Alaa	Andromeda	Xari	Phoenix	Amber
Orion	Penelope	Delphinus	Marlo	Auriga	Abid	Circinus	Sophie
Aquila	Jaziel	Serpens	Jodie	Perseus	Jacob		



VALUES AWARDS

Little Stars	Theo	Pavo	Leo	Pegasus	Levelle	Vela	Leo
Cassiopeia	Emilis	Cygnus	Lilah	Eridanus	Harry W	Lyra	Tommy
Tucana	Jannelle	Volans	Mohsin	Andromeda	Dominic	Phoenix	Chloe
Orion	Aiden	Delphinus	Ellie	Auriga	Carys	Circinus	Rylee
Aquila	Lara	Serpens	Mariam	Perseus	Euan		





STAR OF THE WEEK AWARDS

Little Stars	Logan	Pavo	Kieran	Pegasus	Grayson	Vela	Rowan
Cassiopeia	Seb	Cygnus	Phoebe	Eridanus	Matilda	Lyra	Jemima
Tucana	Ariyan	Volans	Freya	Andromeda	Maddie	Phoenix	Bella
Orion	Emilia	Delphinus	Harriet	Auriga	Summer	Circinus	Yusuf
Aquila	Sara	Serpens	Sebi	Perseus	Ehsan		



VALUES AWARDS

Little Stars	Chiara	Pavo	Teigan	Pegasus	Anaya	Vela	Grace
Cassiopeia	Harry	Cygnus	Madeleine	Eridanus	Adele	Lyra	Sabil
Tucana	Emma	Volans	Morire	Andromeda	Luke	Phoenix	George
Orion	Conor	Delphinus	Nesonna	Auriga	Tyler	Circinus	Ophelia
Aquila	Jaxon	Serpens	Isla	Perseus	Mason		



Pride in Great Denham – pupil applications

Before the pandemic one of our pupils, who has now left, set up something called 'Pride in Great Denham' which was a group of children who wanted to go above and beyond to keep our school community looking its best at all times and improve our school environment.

Mrs Swanepoel has invited children in Year 1 - 6 to write a letter to her if they would like to be considered for a role in 'Pride in Great Denham' and either bring it in to Mrs Swanepoel or upload to their seesaw account and let their teacher know.

If your child would like to be part of this group their application letters need to be in by Wednesday next week (11th May)!

YEAR GROUP UPDATE

Year 4

We have been feeling extremely courageous and adventurous over the past couple of weeks! Whether the children have been at Grafham Water or here in school, they have been developing their ability to work as part of a team! Some of the amazing activities that they have experienced are: mountain biking, pond dipping, archery and even racing up a climbing wall! It is during these activities that you see each child challenge their perceptions of their abilities and surpass these, achieving a sense of self belief! I am so incredibly proud of them all, what a wonderful bunch!

However, the excitement continued as we jumped straight into our Stunning Start for our next project. We have immersed ourselves in a range of activities linked to the experiences of Robin Hood! The children explored the sounds of nature to compile descriptive language, created their own art linked to Andi Goldsworthy and even attempted to steal the Sherriff's Gold. We are looking forward to finding out more about this well-known legend, as we explore how can we make a legend live on?



SPORTS UPDATE

Tuesday 10th May

Year 5 & 6

Girls cricket league

Westfield, 3.30pm – 6.00pm

Wednesday 11th May

3:15pm - 4:15pm Year 4&5

Girls Netball training

CANCELLED

Wednesday 11th May

3:30-5:30 Year 6 Girls

Rounders match at Brickhill
Primary, 3.30pm – 5.30pm

Thursday 12th May

Year 4 & 5

Boys Football training

3.15pm – 4.15pm

School Sport

Year 5&6 Boys Cricket teams v various schools

This week both the year 5 and 6 teams played with more confidence which saw an improvement in their overall team performance when batting and fielding. Well done to both teams for competing in a tough league. Congratulations to the year 6 team for progressing through to the finals on Tuesday 24th May.

Year 6 Girls Rounders team v Westfield

The girl's hard work in their training session this week payed off as they put in a great performance. The match was exciting and evenly matched with us losing by just half a rounder. Well done girls!

Year 3&4 Multi-sports festival

Well done to the children who attended this multi-sports festival which saw them participate in either Qwik cricket, Rounders and Tri-golf. Fun was had by all in the sun shine! Congratulations to the cricket team who won their tournament and have made it through to the district finals in June!



Worry Monsters – Thank you

Our family of Worry Monsters is growing and they are our go-to to help ease some of the children's worries here at GDPS. They are proving to be very popular at the moment and we can see why!

We are very grateful to a handful of wonderful parents and volunteers who have made these for us free of charge and would like to say a very big THANKYOU with a very special mention going out to Sarah Jones and Lizzie Carey who are mums of children in our school.

These worry monsters will help to support all of the children here at Great Denham Primary School.

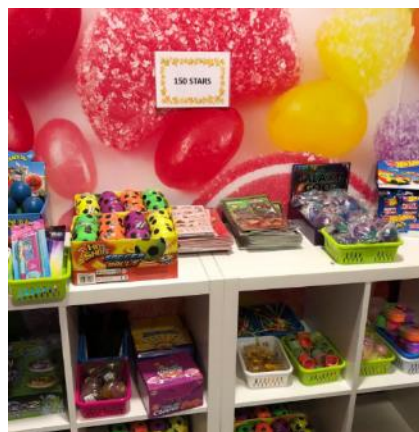


Poem

*I am your worry monster
I'm always here for you
So when a worry pops in your head
I'll tell you what to do
Just get a piece of paper
draw, or write it down
Pop the paper in my mouth
I'll take away your frown!
I'll eat up all your worries
and keep them safe in me
Until you feel like talking
as sharing is the key
to get rid of your worries
(Most won't like the light of day)
Share them with the ones you trust
and watch them fly away!*

Reward Shop

As you may be aware this year we opened our very own special reward shop! This shop is every child's dream and every parent's nightmare and is full of slime, bouncy balls, stretchy men to name a few! The shop opens termly for children to choose a prize when they achieve 75, 150 and 200 stars. **The shop will be open next on Friday 13th May!**





Parent/ Carer Workshop

The First Steps to Supporting an Autistic Individual, and those Pursuing a Diagnosis

Monday 16th May 2022 | 6:30pm - 9pm

£5 per person

This will be a relaxed session, specifically for parents and carers of children who are undiagnosed, newly diagnosed, or going through the diagnostic process. The session will consist of a talk on Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC), an opportunity to hear from and share with other parents and carers, and gain information about local support and services.

LIMITED NUMBER OF SPACES AVAILABLE

To book:

☎ 01234 214871

✉ enquiries@autismbeds.org

zoom Online training
The training will be online, using Zoom. Once booked on, we will provide you with the details to join.



Carers in Bedfordshire is a registered charity. We are here to help unpaid carers of all ages, right across Bedfordshire including, **Young Carers**

Am I a Young Carer?

A young carer is someone who looks after someone in their family, who couldn't cope without their support.

You might not realise it, as you are just doing what you do for a family member, but you are known as a carer.

At Carers in Bedfordshire we support Young Carers from ages 4-24. We also support sibling carers who care for a brother or sister

What do you do to look after them?

- Helping with cooking, cleaning and shopping.
- Helping with physical care, such as helping someone out of bed.
- Emotional support, including talking to someone who is distressed.
- Helping to manage the family budget or collect prescriptions.
- Personal care, such as helping someone dress.
- Helping to give medicine.
- Helping someone communicate.

What we can do to help support you?

- One to one support
- Wellbeing Practitioner
- Help at School
- Information, advice & guidance
- Clubs, workshops & groups
- Carers Grant
- Carers Card
- Social Media Groups

Professional Referral

If you are a registered professional (GP, Health & Social Care Staff, Hospital Staff or work in a School or College)...

Head to our website to refer a Young Carer

<https://carersinbeds.org.uk/who-we-help/professionals/>

Parent Referral

If you are a parent of a Young Carer...

Head to our website to register your child/young person as a Young Carer:

<https://carersinbeds.org.uk/register/>

Please feel free to contact the Young Carer Team on 0300 111 1919 or email young.team@carersinbeds.org.uk