



A message from the Head...

Dear Parents,

It has been another exciting week at school with lots going on. Last Saturday our fabulous choir, made up of children in years 4 – 6, competed in the Bedfordshire Festival for the first time - whilst they didn't win, they were absolutely amazing and were told that they sung with passion and gusto! Well done to all of the children who took part.

Also this week we have had 2 groups of children enter the group poetry recital competitions at the festival. Again, this was the first time we have taken part and were the only state school in both competitions. I am delighted to announce that our Year 3/4 team won their class and our Year 5/6 children came third - a huge well done to all of the children who took part.

Have a good weekend,

Denise Burgess



This week's letters home

Reception class – Art morning

SATs – Breakfast morning



THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for your generosity with raising money for our annual pancake race – **we have raised over £2000** which is fantastic. The Friends will be in touch with the final total very soon and we hope to put the money raised towards getting some shade outside for the children in the summer.

Online Safety

National Online Safety this week:

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

With an estimated user-base of 50 million, Yubo (previously known as Yellow) might be the biggest social media platform you've never heard of. Unless, of course, you caught last month's Sunday Times investigation. Read more in the latest attachment from National Online Safety.

If you haven't signed up to National Online Safety already, please take advantage of this brilliant resource by following the link below: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com>

Diary Dates

Next Week – Year 1 music concert (*Don't forget to book your tickets on Eventbrite*)

Friday 18th March – COMIC RELIEF

Please wear something red!!



Bedfordshire Festival of Music, Speech and Drama



Year 3 / 4 - Danielle, Essie, Lexi, Finlay, Lilith, Oisin, Ramsey, Ethan



Year 5 / 6 - Bella, George, Deborah, Ava, Tom, Aaliyah, Zara and Mije



YEAR GROUP UPDATE

Year 6

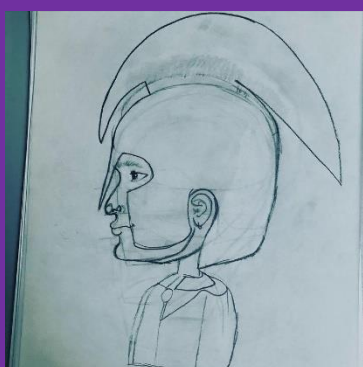
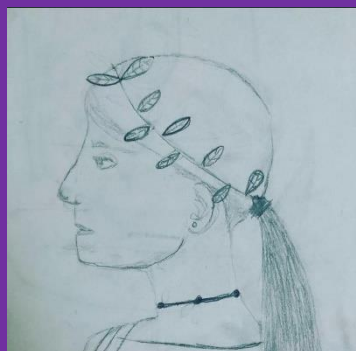
The children in year 6 have been busy learning all about the Ancient Greeks. They have created some outstanding pieces of work linked to the Athenians, Spartans and Greek democracy and are now starting to explore the geographical features of ancient and modern Greece. During their art sessions, the children have been working on creating self-portraits in the style of a Greek soldier. They are absolutely phenomenal and they've taken such care at each stage of the process. They are so close to being such high quality finished pieces!

We are currently working towards our fabulous finish which will be a Greek banquet. One of our key concepts is tradition and we are aiming to create a truly traditional Greek experience. As part of the fabulous finish day, the children will be performing Greek myths in our very own Greek theatre, presenting their art (their written myths showcased using artwork) and having a Greek banquet. We have organised a local Greek catering company to provide our children with traditional Greek food to eat on the day.

As well as the work for our exciting project, the children have also blown us away with their effort, attitude, drive and commitment towards their SATs. The sheer amount of dedication and determination each and every child shows during the practise weeks to do the best they possibly can, is nothing short of inspiring.

Well done Year 6 – keep up the fantastic work!

Mrs Allen



SPORTS UPDATE

Sports events next week:

Tuesday 15th March –
Year 5&6 Handball
tournament
3:15pm - 4:15pm
Great Denham

Wednesday 16th March -
Year 5&6
Mixed Athletics training
3:15pm - 4:15pm
Great Denham

Thursday 17th March –
Year 3 & 4
Girls Basketball league
3:30pm - 5:30pm
Westfield Primary

Friday 18th March –
Year 5 Netball tournament
1-4pm
Bedford Girls School

Physical Education (PE)

Year 1 have focused on invasion games in their lessons, where they have been working in pairs to develop their passing between each other and understanding who to and when to pass the ball.



School Sport

Year 5&6 Girls Basketball League

The energy, effort and desire to succeed in this team has meant that they have been impossible to beat in the league. Their unbeaten run continued this week as they played their very best performance as a team. Congratulations girls, you thoroughly deserve your first place achievement, we are all so proud of you.

Team: Alice, Anaya, Ava, Deborah, Grace, Kayla, Naima, Sienna, Summayah & Zuwena

Year 6 Netball Tournament

We took a Girls 7 a-side team and a Mixed 5 a-side team to this tournament and what a success it was!

The 7 a-side team

The girls played strongly from the first whistle, showing an excellent ability to attack quickly and defend well. They progressed through their group games, to the semi-finals where they played Bedford Girls A team. Unfortunately, they lost, but were very excited to play for 3rd and 4th place. Despite showing great determination they just missed out on 3rd place. Congratulations girls - they should be extremely proud of how far they've come this year, 4th out of 14 schools is amazing.

Team: Amelia, Anaya, Ava, Florence, Kayla, Madi, Naima & Zuwena

The 5 a-side mixed team

The team of girls and boys played High 5 netball, which included the normal netball rules, with two less players and a new rule of every player rotating into a different position at half time. The team improved their performance as the competition developed and they grew in confidence the more they rotated. Successfully they made it to the finals, losing to a very strong Scott Primary. Congratulations to the team on such a fantastic achievement.

Team: Afrin, Amber George, Mo, Ola, Summayah, Tobi



Year 5&6 Mixed Handball tournament

This tournament was an exciting opportunity to put into practise all the new rules and skills learnt from last week's training session. As always, both teams played with determination, improving their individual and team performances in every game. Well done to Team A for finishing in 2nd place and Team B for finishing in 5th place.

Team A: Ken, Summayah, Thomas, Tobi, Yusuf, Zuwenia

Team B: Alice, Ayesha, Bandile Charlie, Joe-Joe, Kayla & Mo

Year 4 Multi-sport festival

Perseus attended this exciting festival at Westfield, organised by the school sports partnership and run by Biddenham sports leaders. The children participated in one of three events; Athletics, Inclusive sports (Curling, Archery, Sitting Volleyball) and Scoreball. Children who participated in the Athletics and Inclusive events rotated around stations in a non-competitive manner. However, the scoreball teams played in a competition, where they won all of their games. both teams successfully finished in 1st place. Congratulations to Perseus for showing all of our school values and the score ball teams for their amazing achievements!



Physical Activity

Sustrans Big walk and wheel 21st March -1st April 2022

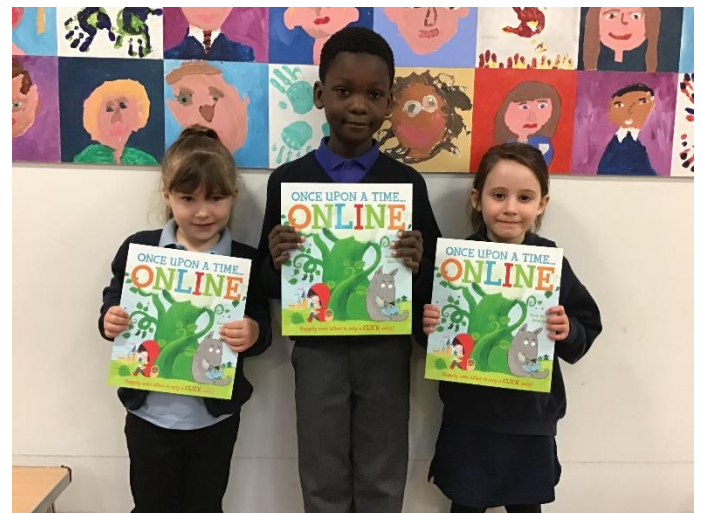
We have 10 days to go until the launch of this exciting challenge and the countdown is on! During the two-week challenge schools compete to record the greatest number of pupils walking, using a wheelchair, scooting and cycling to school, whilst learning about the benefits of active travel along the way. So if you live close to school and normally drive, maybe you could be persuaded to join in with the challenge and see what we can achieve together!



Safer Internet Day Competition Winners

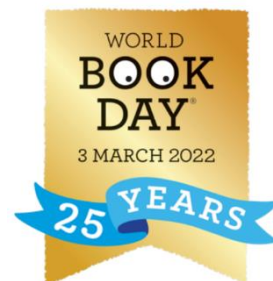
Our children put great effort into their entries recently for the Safer Internet Day competitions. Each year group had a different challenge, some to design an online Avatar, some to create a new level in a game to help you learn about staying safe online and some created online safety superheroes with special super powers to help you stay safe!

It was a really hard competition to judge but here are our very deserving winners! Well done!



World Book Day Photos – 3rd March 2022

There were so many brilliant costumes for World Book Day last week that we just had to share some more photos with you. Everyone made such an effort and we really enjoyed finding out who you were all dressed up as on the day.



Awareness days and religious festivals

18th March – **Comic/Sport Relief**

21st March – **Mothering Sunday**

Birthdays – Non-school uniform

Here at Great Denham Primary we try to encourage all kinds of celebrations and sharing amongst friends where we can, but you may remember that a couple of years ago at the start of covid we changed the rules around sharing out sweets and cakes on the children's birthdays due to covid, and so had to put a stop to this.

The change to wearing non uniform for a child with a birthday has worked really well over the last 2 years and it has been lovely for the children and staff to receive birthday good wishes from children and staff around the school, so we will be continuing with this and not allowing birthday sweets and treats to return.



Masking Workshop

Tuesday 22nd March – 6.30pm

Masking is the attempt by an individual to hide their struggles so that they can fit in. This might be a person with hearing difficulties using lip reading but not letting on to the other person what they need, such as clear sight of the person's face. Or another example would be someone with autism who struggles with eye contact hiding this difficulty by watching someone's eyebrows. There are many examples of masking, and many reasons why people mask, this session will explore why people mask and the perils and positives of doing so. Parents and professionals will go away understanding how they can support a child or young person to know when masking is necessary and when and how to let go and be their true self. Masking is exhausting and can have a long term impact on mental health. This needs to be understood and supported.

Come and join us if you would like to know more or if you feel your child maybe masking. [BOOK HERE](#)





**Parents and Carers of
Great Denham Primary
are invited to...**



Mothers' day Coffee Morning

**We will be holding a coffee (or tea) morning
every 2 weeks from 8.45-9.45am, our next
date is...**

Monday 21st March



**Members of the Early Childhood
Partnership, who run free weekly sessions
for babies and pre-schoolers, will also be
joining us.**



**Come and join us to make new
friends, share ideas, challenges, tips, ask questions
and offer advice in a friendly environment.**

**You don't need to book, just turn up at any time
within the hour and stay as long as you want!
Please come and join us for a drink, cake and a
chat, we would love to see as many of you as
possible!**

**Please come into school via Greenkeepers Road gate
(next to the MUGA) and head to the Milky Way room.
(Emma will be on the gate and able to point you in the right
direction.)**

**Ruth Preece (Assistant head for inclusion)
Emma Gooch (Family support worker)**



NEURODIVERSITY IN A MULTICULTURAL WORLD



After the success of our previous events, Jannine from ADHDwise will be running another workshop on the challenges, and stigma around neurodiversity (neurodiversity can be Dyslexia, Autism, Learning Difficulties or any other type of special need or disability) in a multicultural world.

This Webinar will focus on children and young people.

This is open to anyone who would like to join, everyone is welcome. We would love to hear *your* views too.



Join us at this online workshop
Tuesday 8th March at 6.30pm

Book via Eventbrite or email
communications@bbpcf.org.uk

Click Image to book

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

We are now on Facebook and Instagram as well as Twitter. Please follow us to keep updated with the latest school news and activities.



@greatdenhamprimary



@greatdenhamprimaryschool



@greatdenhams



LOCAL EVENTS & ADVERTS



Holiday Activities and FOOD Programme

HAF is back! This Easter, Bedford Borough Council is funding an exciting range of **FREE activities** for children and families on **income related free school meals**.

Places are limited and so booking is essential, eligibility will be checked before bookings are confirmed.



Visit the Bedford Local Offer website for more information:
<https://localoffer.bedford.gov.uk/hafeaster22>

Website & bookings will be live from Friday 4th March, 12pm.



CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE PE AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY CONFERENCE

Workshops include:

- Concept Curriculum
- Deep Dive in PE
- Creating an Active and Engaging Playground
- Quidditch
- EYFS -Boosting Communication, Language and Literacy through Movement
- Mini Muay Thai
- Supporting all your pupils in developing a physical activity habit

Early Bird Rate - £175pp for bookings made by 18th March

To register your place head to www.teambedsandluton.co.uk/cyp-conference

WEDNESDAY 18TH MAY 2022

Center Parcs, Woburn Forest

Or scan QR code



JOIN IN THE FUN AT OUR

Easter Camp

Ages 3-14

THE BEARS
SPORTY SCHOLARS








Tennis Cricket Go Karts
 Nerf Football Easter Hunt
 40 ft Maze, Dance, Gymnastics & More! (select locations)

Week One: 4th-8th April Week Two: 11th-14th Week Three: 19th -22nd

Banbury / Bedford / Brackley / Flitwick / Milton Keynes

9-3:30pm / 10-5:30pm / 8-4pm / 8-5:30pm / 10-2pm from £18 per day

Activities: Specialising in Tennis, Cricket, and Football plus an introduction to a wide variety of other sports and activities like Go Kart, Zorbs, Nerf, Laser Tag, 40ft Inflatable Maze. Throughout the day children can choose their themed activities depending on who is feeling adventurous, or maybe on the creative side!

Food Options now Available to add on to your booking

 **SPORTY SCHOLARS**

BOOK NOW: www.sportyscholars.com Tel: 07511194319



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