

Danson Primary School Newsletter

Head Teacher's Notice Board

Dear Children, Mums, Dads and Carers,

We have had a jam packed half term and it seems to have gone so quickly!! I look forward to sharing below just a little snippet about what our wonderful children have been up to.

Parents' Evening

First and foremost, it was a pleasure to see so many of you at Parents' Evening last week. It was lovely chatting to so many of you about how your child has been progressing this year and what they have enjoyed in their learning so far. Many thanks to our Pupil Leadership Group for ensuring everyone got to their correct destinations.

PTA Movie Night

It was a pleasure to see our assembly hall in action for our first PTA event in several years!! The children had an absolute ball but none of this would have been possible without the amazing work of our PTA, parent volunteers and Mrs Stevens in the office, you are all superstars!! We can't wait for our next summer event! Parents, it's never too late to join the PTA team, the more people we have the more we can do!

Year 3 Spring Sing

On Tuesday, Year 3 welcomed parents and carers to enjoy their Spring Sing, featuring uplifting songs and poetry performances by Barfield, Brunel, and Kapoor classes. Barfield embraced Bob Marley's "Three Little Birds," Brunel captured the essence of spring with The Beatles' "Here Comes the Sun," and Kapoor electrified with Electric Light Orchestra's "Mr Blue Sky." Alongside these melodies, each class presented springtime poems and sung shared songs which were thoroughly enjoyed by all of the parents, carers and staff.



Year 4 Spring Sing

In our recent Year 4 production, Spring Sing, every class was buzzing with excitement as they were eager to showcase their talents for the arrival of the new season. It was amazing to see our year group come together and looking forward to the warmth of the sun and the excitement of the upcoming days! The enthusiasm of our Year 4 pupils was evident as they serenaded us to songs with such enjoyment, accompanied by lively actions. Each class then recited a beautiful poem as well as some harmonious singing which filled the entire hall, filling every corner with the spirit of spring. The performance was a resounding success, which was thoroughly enjoyed by both students and parents alike. Well done to all involved!



Nightingale Class Assembly

On Thursday 22nd February, Nightingale Class delighted their audience with a journey back in time to 1666 and the Great Fire of London. They demonstrated their fantastic historical knowledge about the key events and managed to link it to so many other areas of their learning including using expanded noun phrases in English, commutativity in maths and fire safety in PSHE. They gave a brilliant performance of 'The Great Fire of London' song. Following this, we changed location to the northern and southern hemispheres and their text 'Poles Apart'. The children read some of their writing describing Mr White, the polar bear and the setting using some great vocabulary and shared their impressive artwork of polar landscapes using different mark making techniques, including cross hatching and stippling. Well done to Nightingale Class, Mr Alexis and Miss Raison for such a wonderful class assembly showcasing all of their learning.



Year 1 Class Assemblies

During the last half term, Year 1 have treated us to some fantastic class assemblies, demonstrating all their fantastic learning since the start of the year. They impressed us with their directional language knowledge learnt in computing and told us all about toys from the past and how they have changed. In science, they explained which material would protect Humpty Dumpty the best. Moving into the Spring Term, the children showcased their brilliant story writing and all the hard work they had completed in maths. To conclude the assemblies, Robin Class gave a wonderful performance of 'Three Little Birds'. Sparrow Class gave a terrific performance of 'Roar' and Owl Class brilliantly performed 'Count on Me'. Owl Class, Sparrow Class, Robin Class and all the teaching staff in Year 1 should be extremely proud of their achievements and super assemblies. Well done!



Year 6 Maths Enrichment trip to Bexley Grammar School

Our year 6s had the golden opportunity to experience an enlightening Maths Masterclass workshop at Bexley Grammar School by guest speaker Michael Fletcher. Michael is a member of the Royal Statistical Society and he advises game shows regarding the probability of someone winning. Michael captivated minds with real-world application of probability and game theory, using nostalgic game-shows and humour. The children had the opportunity to explore the fascinating world of game theory! Michael used gameshows to illustrate various experiments and scenarios based on probability. The children left the workshop with a deeper understanding of how maths can improve one's game-playing skills and how we can use probability in the real world. It was such a fantastic experience for us to attend. Many thanks to BGS for inviting us!!

NSPCC Assemblies and Workshops

During this half term, the children have participated in the NSPCC's Speak out Stay safe programme. This is a safeguarding programme to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly way. They are taught to speak out if they are worried, to either a trusted adult or Childline. KS1 and KS2 watched an online assembly, which delivered the above messages in a fun and interactive way with the help of the NSPCC mascot Buddy as well as special guest appearances from Ant and Dec. Following this, the children in Years 2, 5 and 6 had the opportunity to reinforce this learning in further, engaging and interactive workshops delivered by an NSPCC volunteer.



If you would like to find out more, please visit <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services/speak-out-stay-safe/>.

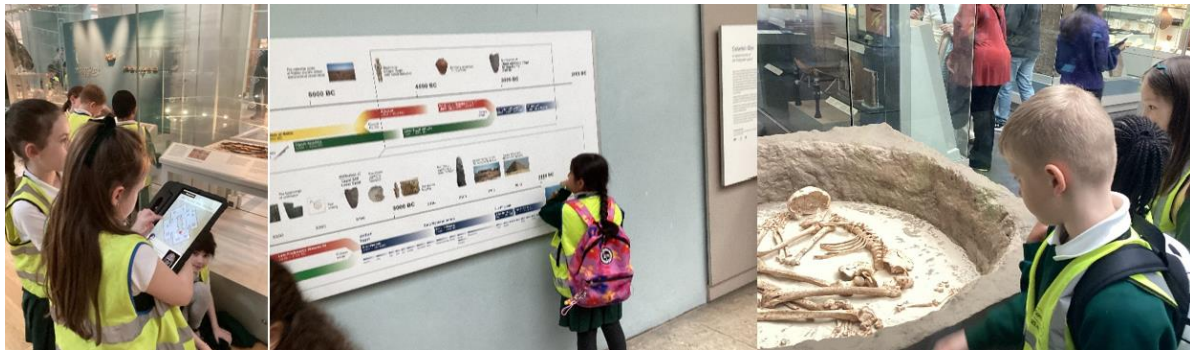
Bexley Music Festival

On Monday 25th March our choir very excitedly took part in their first Bexley Music Festival at Fairfield Hall in Croydon. After weeks of rehearsals and lots of hard work, we were all very excited to sing with the other children in the massed choir, as well as celebrate the musical talent of lots of other children across the Bexley borough. In the morning, we had a rehearsal with all of the other schools, we were initially very nervous when we realised the size of the venue, but we were also very excited to perform together for the first time. We have spent lots of time learning our songs; 'Mr Blue Sky', 'Bring it all back', 'Fight song' and 'Sing'. Thank you to Mr R for teaching us all of the songs and preparing us for our debut performance. We are so excited to learn more songs and progress as a choir. We look forward to singing for you soon! If you would like to watch our performance, you can do so here : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PjG1SCIf7k>



Year 4 Enrichment Trip

Year 4 had a great opportunity and went to the British History Museum to recall facts about our topic on the Ancient Egyptians. The children were able to look at artefacts and develop their knowledge and understanding of how the Egyptians lived. They really enjoyed this experience as they were able to see Rameses I and the canopic jars which contained different organs. After this, children were able to immerse and ask questions about our new topic on the Anglo Saxons. Year 4 were able to use Ipads given to them by the museum to explore the Sutton Hoo exhibit. This allowed them to develop their knowledge and discover interesting facts about our new topic. The children represented Danson superbly throughout each trip and we are very proud of them.



Year 5 Enrichment Trip

This term, Year five travelled up to London to visit the Royal Courts of Justice and the Old Bailey. This trip links to their history topic of 'Crime and Punishment' where they have been learning about different crimes and punishments over a range of historical periods.

Each trip started with a train journey up to London which was exciting in itself for many of the children! Once they reached the Royal Courts of Justice, they had to pass through security where their belongings were checked. This emphasised the importance of the building and what happens there.

The children were told about the many different trials that have taken place at both the Royal Courts of Justice and the Old Bailey. They also discovered that the architect of the Royal Courts of Justice, George Edmund Street, included a deliberate mistake in the design of the building: a pillar was created with the bottom part missing as he believed that only God could create perfect things.

Also on the trip, children learned about why barristers wear wigs and how these wigs have changed over time. They were then shown different court rooms and other rooms within the building. After the Royal Courts of Justice, the children walked through an area where people of the court learned how to do their job and they were shown one of the oldest law selling bookshops. The children then ate their lunch outside the Old Bailey and were told more interesting facts before they made their return to school.

All of the children represented the school fantastically. Some members of the public even commented upon how impressive their behaviour was. Well done Year five!



Girls' Football

Congratulations to the Girls' Football Team who have finished in 2nd place in the Girls' Football League, which sees them progress to the finals after Easter. The girls are also through to the Semi Finals of the Girls' Cup, after an impressive 9-0 victory against Merton Court. It's been great seeing the girls play in their new school kit, which was given to the school after a successful application of the Premier League Kit Scheme.



Congratulations to the team ; Darcy, Lexi C, Joanna J, Katie, Sadie, Nancy, Eliza, Elsie and Harley.

Just4Fun Dodgeball

The Just4Fun programme sees children in Year 5 have the opportunity to represent the school in sporting events, designed with fun in mind. Seeing the children take part and working as a team has been great and their behavior was exemplary! They were excellent sporting ambassadors for the school.



Congratulations; William, Reggie, Joshua, Tawhid, Anaya, Temidayo, Leo, Lyla, Veera and Yosha S.

Boys' Football

Congratulations to the Boys' Football Team who have made it to the Kevin McCarthy Cup Final after beating a very strong Old Bexley side 3-2 in the Semi Final, thanks to a goal from Cooper and two from Elliot. The team will now play Burnt Oak Primary after Easter in the final. The team has been incredible this season, already winning the Bexley Schools Tournament and the Kent Schools Finals.



The Boys' A Team also recently represented Charlton Athletic in the EFL Utilitia Tournament, which was against 16 teams across the South of England. The winners would play at Wembley Stadium against the winners from the Northern section. The team showed great character throughout the tournament, but unfortunately it wasn't our day in front of goal, with luck not being on our side. The team finished 4th in the group, which meant they did not progress into the knockout stages. However, we as a school are very proud of the team and how they represented Danson.



Congratulations to the team : Harry B, George W, Elliot M, William B, Archie F, Billy F, Louis K, Cooper R, Frankie H.

Science Week

During our exciting Science Week, students at our school delved into the fascinating world of time. Through observing over time investigations, they honed their scientific skills and learned to track changes in various phenomena. Our special guests from Bexley Grammar School shared their expertise with our Year 5 students, unravelling the mysteries of time. Meanwhile, the Shooting Stars science workshop captivated young minds, teaching them about the fundamental principles of physics. In addition, we also welcomed a STEM ambassador who came into to talk to the children about her STEM career and give them an idea about how science can have real life applications!

But that's not all! We hosted a poster competition, where creativity flowed as students depicted time-related concepts. And who can forget the sweets-in-the-jar guessing game? The suspense was palpable as everyone tried to estimate the number of treats hidden away.

To wrap up the week, we embraced the theme by dressing up as scientists or anything related to time. From Albert Einstein to futuristic time travellers, our school was abuzz with excitement. Thank you to all our students, teachers, and guests for making Science Week a memorable journey through the fourth dimension!



Attendance

Highest attendance this week

Congratulations to **Year 2** for having the best attendance of **98.3%** in EYFS and Key Stage 1 and to **Year 3** for having the best attendance of **96.2%** in Key Stage 2.

Highest attendance this half term

Congratulations to **Year 2** for having the best attendance of **96.7%** in EYFS and Key Stage 1 and to **Year 4** for having the best attendance of **97.3%** in Key Stage 2.

Attendance Matters



On behalf of myself, Mrs Allen and all the staff at Danson we would like to thank you for your continued support and working in partnership with us this term. We hope you have a lovely Easter break and look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 16th April.

L.Casey



Governors' Notice Board

Dear Pupils, Parents and Carers,

On behalf of the Governing Body we would like to thank you for attending and supporting all the school activities that have been held this term. It has been lovely to see so many of you attend our Parents' Evenings, assemblies, performances and themed week events.

During the spring term, Governors had the pleasure of coming in to meet with the Senior and Middle Leaders at Danson and discuss how they are creating challenging, immersive and deeper learning for our children at Danson. We have also thoroughly enjoyed visiting school and chatting to the children about their learning during Science Week. It has been a delight seeing the children so excited and passionate about their learning.

The Governors would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Class Teachers, Pupil Support Assistants, Mid Day Meal Supervisors, Site Staff, Cleaning Staff, Breakfast and After School Club Staff, Mrs Casey, Mrs Allen and their Leadership Team for their work this term.

We hope you all have lovely Easter.

Mr Egelton
Chair Of Governors



Children return to school on Tuesday 16th April 2024

