



Danson Primary School Newsletter

Head Teacher's Notice Board

Dear Children, Mums, Dads and Carers,

We have had such a fantastic start to 2024!! The children settled back into their routines beautifully throughout January and it was lovely to hear the hustle and bustle of the corridors and the buzz of learning in the classrooms.

It was wonderful to get back into our assembly schedule for us to come together with our parents, grandparents and visitors to celebrate the wonderful learning and achievements the children have accomplished. Congratulations to all the classes for their fantastic assemblies!

To finish off our jam-packed January we were delighted to host our Art Exhibition 'Awaken Your Inner Artist'. The exhibition theme helped to embody our school ethos of inspiring children and helping them see themselves as artists. The children were so excited to see their pieces exhibited and to see pieces from different year groups across the school. Thank you to Mr Alexis, Mrs Foskett, and the entire staff team for enabling this event to happen.

KENT CHAMPIONS!!!!

CONGRATULATIONS to our Boys' Football Team for becoming Kent Football Champions in the ESFA Pokemon Primary Schools Cup. The boys competed against eight teams and won their matches to reach the final against Paddock Wood. The next stage of the tournament will be in Northampton on the 15th March. Congratulations to Archie F, Frankie H, Louis K, George W, William B, Cooper R, Harry B, Elliot M and Billy F, and Mr Corley for an outstanding performance and being superb sporting ambassadors of the school. We are so proud of your fantastic achievement!! Please look out for our sporting update.

I was thrilled to be asked to be a part of Year 4's Design Technology project. I felt like I was in the perfect mix of the Great British Bake Off and Dragon's Den!! I thoroughly enjoyed trialing ALL the biscuits and I have told the children we could look at this potentially becoming an Apprentice style task where we could sell their delicious biscuits to our wonderful Danson community. Well done Year 4!!

Year 2 were fully immersed in their Great Fire of London History topic which came to a burning finale!! See below for more scorching details.....

We were delighted to have so many parents join us for our first coffee morning of 2024 and attend our workshop on Building Resilience and Understanding Anxiety. The resounding positive feedback was wonderful to hear. Thank you to our Family Liaison Officer Miss Bell for organising this event and to Sarah and Michelle from Purple Parenting for leading the session.

Our final week has been a busy one with our school community celebrating Children's Mental Health Week. The children have been reflecting on how their voice matters and have enjoyed celebrating this in assembly and through their learning in class. Thank you to our Mental Health First Aiders, Miss Hillier and Miss Sims for leading such a successful week. We combined this with our Internet Safety Day with the children spending time discussing and recognising that things online can influence and change the way young people think, feel and act both online and offline. Thank you to our Miss Jones, our Online Safety Lead for organising the sessions and activities.

It has been a pleasure to share just a little bit of the amazing learning and experiences the children have had this term. Thank you to the Danson team for making this possible! Wishing you all a restful half term and look forward to seeing you on the 19th February.

L Casey & A Allen

Spring 1 Attendance

Congratulations to all our children who achieved 100% attendance and punctuality this half term and to those who have increased their attendance from our first half term. Let's keep up our effort to make every day count and work towards 100% attendance and punctuality throughout 2024!

<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
<u>Reception</u>	<u>94.8%</u>
<u>Year 1</u>	<u>95.7%</u>
<u>Year 2</u>	<u>95.7%</u>
<u>Year 3</u>	<u>97.2%</u>
<u>Year 4</u>	<u>96.9%</u>
<u>Year 5</u>	<u>97.0%</u>
<u>Year 6</u>	<u>96.8%</u>

Highest attendance for the Spring half term

Congratulations to **Shackleton** for having the best attendance of **97.8%** in EYFS and Key Stage 1.

Congratulations to **Brunel** for having the best attendance of **98.1%** in Key Stage 2.

Best punctuality for the Spring half this term

Congratulations to **Shackleton** and **Nightingale** for having the best punctuality of **99.6%** in EYFS and Key Stage 1.

Congratulations to **Rowling** for having the best punctuality of **99.4%** in Key Stage 2.

Composer of the Month

Born 7th May 1840
Began playing piano when he was 5 years old.
Died 6th November 1893
Russian composer
He composed Symphonies, Operas, Ballets, instrumental and chamber music.
Some music he composed
Swan Lake
Sleeping Beauty
The Nutcracker



Composer of the month
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky.



Spring 1 Class Assemblies

Henry Assembly

On Wednesday 11th January, Henry Class started the new year with a celebration of their learning from the Autumn Term. They began the assembly by showcasing their creativity with some self-portraits which represent their inner and outer self. Through their learning in English, the children shared some of their non-chronological reports and reflected on why they were proud of their writing. They also read folktales. Following this, they went on to impress us with their knowledge on the Ancient Maya, including a song about Maya traditions and beliefs. Next came a demonstration of their science learning on Earth and Space and they shared some impressive models completed for home learning. The children finished with explaining their learning in PSHE and RE and performed a final song called 'Together', which was about being united as a class helps you have a joyful day. Well done to Miss Jones and all of Henry Class for an informative and wonderful performance.



Elizabeth Assembly



On Wednesday 17th January, Elizabeth Class delighted their audience with a fantastic assembly showcasing their learning over the previous term. We were treated to some amazing poetry full of figurative language techniques followed by beautiful pieces of artwork that the children had created showing their inner and outer selves. The children then went on to share their learning about the Ancient Maya civilisation including their work on non-chronological reports and reading of folktales. Songs about Roman Numerals and the planets of the solar system demonstrated learning in both maths and

science and there was even time for the children to present some of the superb home learning they had completed to complement their work in school. The assembly concluded with a wonderful friendship poem based on their PSHE topic and a final song called "Together" which delivered the message of friendship, kindness, and collaboration. The children and Miss McCaffrey should be extremely proud of themselves for an excellent performance.

Victoria Assembly

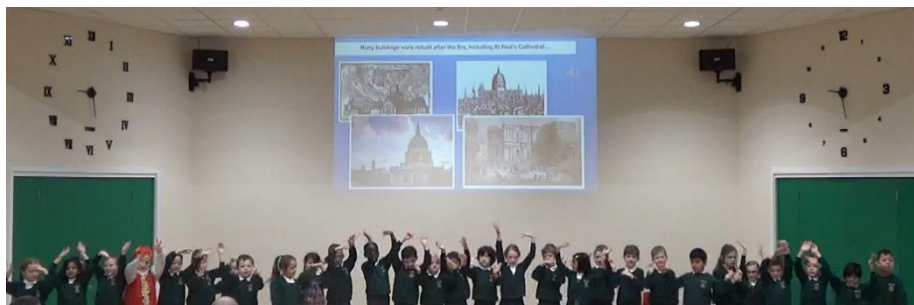
On Thursday 25th January, Victoria Class presented us with a fantastic snapshot of their learning from the Autumn Term. They began by demonstrating their artistic skills and the self-portraits they had created which show what they look like on the outside but also who they are on the inside and what they like to do. Following this, the children demonstrated their learning on different poetry techniques and read some of their wonderful poetry based on the text 'Love is...'. Victoria Class, then impressed us with all of their knowledge on The Maya including their writing of non-chronological reports and Mayan folktales. The children told us about their science learning on Earth and Space and shared their funny mnemonics to help remember the order of the planets. This also included the performance of a song about the different planets.



As well as all this, the children informed us about their learning in art and PSHE, including the recipe for a healthy friendship. To finish the assembly, the children gave a fantastic final performance of a song called 'Together'. Well done to Miss Warner and Victoria Class for a brilliant class assembly which showcased all of their fantastic learning.

Pepys Assembly

On Wednesday morning we were treated to a fantastic historical look back to the Fire of London. The children were superb historians sharing lots of facts and information about this significant event. We saw the children then transform before our eyes into Geographers who could locate the northern and southern hemisphere and could show us where the equator was. The children then burst into song to share the names of the different oceans that encapsulate our earth. From descriptive language from their text 'Poles Apart' the children created beautiful pieces of art where they showcased their cross-hatching and colour mixing skills. To finish we were treated to a beautiful rendition of 'You can count on me' by Bruno Mars, there wasn't a dry eye in the hall!! It was the best way to start our Wednesday morning! Well done Miss Tuffley, Miss Olstead and Pepys Class!



Shackleton Assembly

On Thursday 8th February, Shackleton Class took us back in time to 1666 and the Great Fire of London. It was fantastic to see how much learning they had managed to link to their topic, including materials in science, multiplication in maths, fire safety in PSHE as well as lots of historical facts and expanded noun phrases in English. They even gave a brilliant performance of a song telling the story of the fire. 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. Shackleton Class then demonstrated their geographical knowledge of where in the world the Arctic and Antarctic are and shared their impressive artwork of polar landscapes using different artistic techniques. They concluded with a beautiful performance of 'What a Wonderful World', by Louis Armstrong. Well done to Shackleton Class, Mr Ewen, Mrs Osei-Asibey and Ms Zeino for such a wonderful class assembly showcasing all of their learning.



Danson Primary School Art Exhibition 2024 'Awaken Your Inner Artist'

This half-term we were proud to put on our very own Danson art exhibition. The aim of the exhibition was to celebrate art across the school from Nursery all the way to Year 6, as well as being a great opportunity for each child to see their work framed and displayed in a gallery setting.

The exhibition theme 'Awaken your inner artist' helped to embody our school ethos of inspiring children and helping them see and believe that they are artists. It was a great chance for them to show friends and family a finished piece of work that showcased their creative skills, artistic knowledge and that they were proud of that. Each piece of work was a culmination of the children's artwork from art week, where each year group focused on an artist they had already learnt about in their art lessons and recreated a piece of work inspired by their style.

During the day, classes were able to go and explore the exhibition. The children's work was set out so that they were encouraged to walk around and discover their work. This was also a great way for them to find their peers' work and explore and celebrate other artwork from children all across the school.

As well as being an amazing way to celebrate their own and other's work, it was great for the children evaluate and compare what they had created. Discussing which techniques they had used, how it linked to their chosen artist and what they liked or would do differently next time. Here are some of the reflections children had to say about their work:

"My favourite part of my work was the grass because I used a sponge to paint."

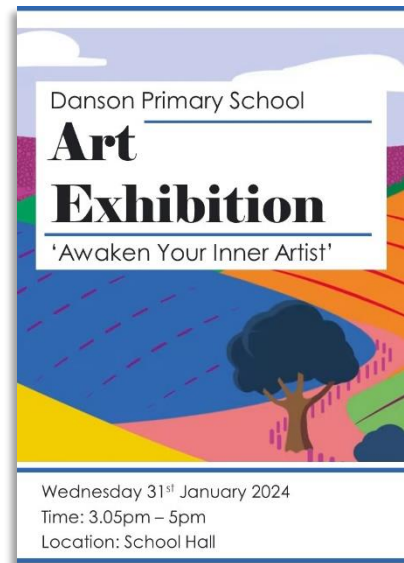
"What I like about my artwork is that it is very similar to David Hockney because it is very colourful and bright."

"One of the things that I like about my work are all of the colours that I've used and the fact that I managed to get my skin-tone right."

"I like my painting because it is very 3D. What I would like to do better next time, is to make the trees a bit bigger."

It was wonderful to see how excited everyone was to have their work displayed and how proud the children were to show their masterpieces to others. Finally, it is really important for us in school that the children to continue building up a confidence in their own artistic abilities and knowledge because we want every child believe that they are an artist.

Mr Alexis
Art Leader



Children's Mental Health Week

This week at Danson we have been raising awareness of the importance of mental health by joining in with Children's Mental Health Week. This year the theme was 'your voice matters'.

Throughout the school we took some time to think about what mental health means, and we discussed and participated in some activities which can support our mental health, we also thought about the importance of labelling and discussing our emotions with a trusted friend or adult. In EYFS and KS1, we wrote some positive affirmations to celebrate all of the things that are amazing about us! In KS2 we learnt about the 5 ways to wellbeing; connect, be active, take notice, learn new things and give. We wrote things that we do day to day that represent these 5 ways of wellbeing.



Making ways to wellbeing clouds



Yoga

Parent Coffee Morning

Thank you to those parents who came to our first coffee morning and workshop with our experts from Purple Parenting. We had a great turn out and it was really lovely to see you all and how engaged you were. We discussed ways to better understand anxiety, how it may present in children and examples of how to build resilience which we all agreed was something that lots of children needed support with post COVID. We had really positive feedback from you all and it was great to see many of you exchanging numbers and supporting one another.

Our experts will be returning for our second workshop on 15th March to explore the digital world and managing screen time which has been highly requested. More information to follow so please keep an eye out!

Special thanks to our Year 4 children who kindly made biscuits for our parents, who all agreed were delicious with their cups of tea.

Year 2 – Great Fire of London

This term the children in Year 2 have thoroughly enjoyed learning all about The Great Fire of London. They have been immersed in texts such as *The Baker's Boy* and *The Great Fire of London* and explored evidence from the time including Samuel Pepys' diary. In order for the children to experience how the fire of London spread, the children were tasked with creating their own contemporary houses. We were highly impressed by the level of effort and detail they went to! Thanks to all the grown-ups at home for your support with this. Once these had been brought in, we set to work creating our own mini Great Fire of London. The children got to watch excitedly as the fire spread from house to house, first catching on the roofs as it really did in 1666!

Here are some of the children's comments from the day, *"Wow, it's starting to catch on my house!" "We'll need Christopher Wren in here soon!" "That was amazing, I could see the fire through the windows of my house!"*



Year 6 First Aid Lessons

This half term our Year 6 pupils have learnt basic first aid along with life-saving skills. This will hopefully give them the knowledge to know how to help others if an emergency situation ever occurred.

We have been very lucky to have had an experienced Paramedic give up their time to demonstrate these skills and work with the children.





Key Messages



School Uniform

Please ensure you child is in the correct school shoes. Trainers and ankle boots are not permitted as school shoes.

PE Uniform

White Polo Top/T-shirt
Danson green PE shorts
Plain black tracksuit bottoms
Danson PE top/Danson School jumper-Hoodies are not permitted
Plain black or white trainers

Cycling shorts are not permitted
Coloured trainers are not permitted

Social Media

The school has no links to any social media sites and has no control over content or comments. If you have a query relating to your child's class, education or events happening within the school, please speak to the school directly.



'Please think before you post'

Use of mobile devices/cameras

Mobile phones and tablets should not be used to take photos, recordings or videos when inside the school grounds without the prior consent of the Head Teacher to ensure the Safeguarding and Child Protection of our pupils. Use of such equipment contravenes Section 6 '**equipment and digital content section**' of the LGFL E-Safety Policy.

'The recording, taking and sharing of images, video and audio on any mobile phone is to be avoided except where it has been explicitly agreed otherwise by the Head Teacher.'

Failure to adhere to this may jeopardize attending any future school events or access to school site. Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Safeguarding-E-Safety

Please note that there are age restrictions on social media sites. WhatsApp age restriction is 16 years old. Snap chat age restriction is 13 years old. Whilst there is no age restriction for watching videos on YouTube, users need to be 13 or older to have their own YouTube account. Please be aware of what your children are accessing and who they are contacting via social media/games platforms.



Safeguarding-Medical Information/Medicines

Please ensure you inform the office of any changes to your child's medical information and complete all necessary paperwork/checks. Staff will not administer medicine unless this is done.



Scooters

Please ensure your child walks their scooters when on school site.

Injury/Breakage

If your child has sustained a significant injury or bone breakage at home, they must be presented to the School Office with a parent/person designated by the parent to complete a Care Plan before they are reintegrated back into School. Failure to do this will result in your child not