



SCHOOL NEWS

**FRIDAY 11TH
SEPTEMBER
2020**



Denham Village School
Cheapside Lane,
Denham Village,
Buckinghamshire. UB9 5AE
www.denhamvillageschool.com



Dear Parents,

It has been lovely to welcome the pupils back into school for the Autumn Term and from walking around the school and talking to the children, they seem genuinely pleased to be back. The staff at DVS are very mindful that some of the pupils may have felt anxious or a little worried about coming back to school and I would like to reassure you that we will give our pupils the time to talk and to support them so that they feel happy and safe in school.

A particularly warm welcome to all the new families who have joined us this year. The children have made a fantastic start and are clearly delighted to be back with their friends. I have been amazed by their positive attitudes coming into school and it is lovely to see how quickly they have settled. Thank you for all your positive comments since we

have been back. I appreciate your honest feedback as it is important that we work in partnership at DVS.

Message for the pupils

Well done to all of you for returning to school with such a positive attitude. You all look extremely smart and eager to see your friends and teachers. When I have walked around the school you have all been working hard and enjoying your learning. You are working beautifully in your class bubbles and are playing outside in your designated areas. I am also pleased to see that you are washing your hands regularly, sanitising and keeping your social distance when you need to.

New school motto and class names

Our work on training day as a staff focused on re-visiting our values and vision as a school and deciding upon a brand new school motto which we feel accurately captures the spirit and ethos of our wonderful school. I am delighted to share it with you:

‘Branching out and growing together’

Although short and easy to read and remember, a significant amount of thought went into the choice of words. The **‘branching out’** segment incorporates our holistic approach to educating the whole child and valuing working with the natural environment, music, sport and the arts as part of our rich and diverse curriculum. **The ‘growing together’**, signifies that the learning process is a journey not a race and encapsulates our small school family feel. In keeping with this and building on our logo of a tree we felt it would be a good idea to rename the classes to further add to that personal touch:



Reception class will be named Acorn, year 1/2 will be Birch, year 4/5 will be Willow and Year 5/6 will eventually be named Oak thus symbolising the journey of our children - from acorns to fully grown oaks.

We are very proud of our new school motto, we think it perfectly encompasses the vision and values that are so important to us at DVS.



Building Update

I am delighted to inform you that our building work accelerated at full speed over lockdown and the summer holidays and as a result we have come back to an even more beautiful refreshed school with lots of 'new' spaces:



The new KS2 toilets have been completed and they look wonderful!



The new food prep area to be used by children:

The old library has been completely transformed and this space is currently being used as the temporary Year4/5 classroom. Once they move into their new room this space will be used as a multi-purpose learning space allowing for breakaway groups/ interventions to take place across the school:



The school house has also been transformed and the upstairs portion of the house is now a dedicated staff area with a brand new staff room and a designated PPA room which teachers can use for planning, to access resources and hold meetings.

As you will see, there is still a lot to be done – a lot of the spaces are looking very sparse as we wait for our furniture orders to arrive. Rest assured I will keep you posted on all the exciting developments.

The old library has been completely transformed and this space is currently being used as the temporary Year4/5 classroom. Once they move into their new room this space will be used as a multi-purpose learning space allowing for breakaway groups/ interventions to take place across the school:





Attendance

ALL children need to attend school. It is their right to attend school and we want the children in school. Medical guidance indicates that children are at a much lower risk of contracting Covid-19 and becoming severely ill from it. We have many precautionary and safe measures put into place in school.

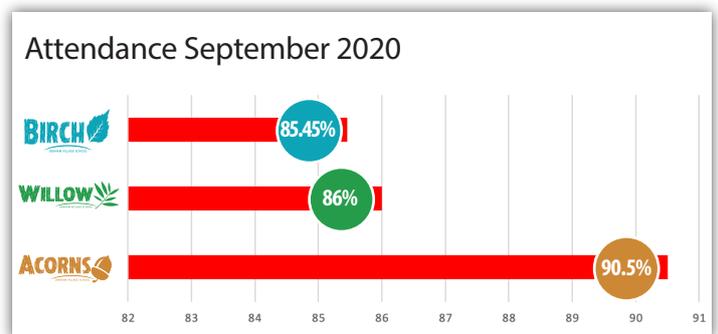
If your child has been shielding or has underlying health issues, please either telephone the office or notify your child's class teacher by letter. If your child has been informed by a medical practitioner that it is not advisable for them to attend school, please notify the school office ASAP.

If any child is unwell, has a temperature, persistent cough, loss of taste and smell, chest pains, please DO NOT bring them to school. Get a test and isolate (and the family also) following government guidelines.

You should not bring your child into school if they are displaying ANY of the above symptoms and should follow the aforementioned advice.

You will be aware that we are having a real focus on improving both attendance and punctuality at DVS. To this end, I am happy to re-introduce a regular updates of attendance in school. The graph below shows the attendance figures for the period 2/9/20 to 11/9/2020.

*100% attendance will show as green, 95% amber and below 95% red.



The best attendance cup is awarded to:



Parent Feedback

It is really important to Denham Village School to ensure that we obtain Parent feedback regularly. Being a key part of our school community, we would like to include your thoughts and comments about the school and why it is the school of choice for your child on our school website. You can either email your comments direct to the school office admin@denhamvillage.bucks.sch.uk or complete the attached form at the end of this newsletter.

Can we please have all comments back by Friday 18th September.

I'm really looking forward to the year ahead, and hope you are too. Remember, we'd rather know about something than not, so please come and see us with any concerns and questions.

Upcoming Key Dates

September

24th – Open Morning 9.30am

25th Macmillan Coffee Morning 8.55 – 9.45am

October

1st - Harvest Festival Assembly 9.15am

12th - Health and Safety week

20th – Open Morning 9.30am

23rd - Reception Stay and Play

26th – 30th Half Term

November

2nd - Flu Vaccinations

9th – Book Fair Week

10th - Parents Evening 3.20 – 5.20

11th – Parents Evening 4.30 -6.30

26th – Open Morning 9.30am

30th – St Andrews Day, children to dress in blue