



## An update from Miss Lawrence (Headteacher) and Mrs Hickenbottom (Deputy)...

What a week! It has been a pleasure to welcome back our children and see so many new faces joining us. Another huge thank you for your support at drop off and pick up. We really appreciated it and it ensured that we could enter and exit the children safely under our new guidelines:

### Goodbye and Hello!

Over the summer holiday, we appointed some new members of staff. Miss Penrice left us to join her partner in Peterborough. We were very sad to see her go. We also say goodbye to Mr Williams, our Sports Apprentice. Miss Penrice has been replaced by Miss Joshi. We also welcome Miss Carter, Mrs Gadsby and Mrs Harrison who join us as additional support staff in KS2.

A huge welcome to our new families who have joined us this academic year. We look forward to getting to know you more throughout the year.

### Holiday Club—October

Our Holiday Club in October will be run again externally. Some of our staff will be supporting so the children will have at least one familiar face. Bookings for the club are now LIVE so please book via [www.discoveryholidaycamps.co.uk](http://www.discoveryholidaycamps.co.uk) or contact Lee Gill on 07961600811.



### Curriculum Information

By Monday, you will receive your Autumn 1 Curriculum Letters. These are designed to share some brief information about the topics your child will cover during the first half term. They may also include some year group specific information.

Also, this year we are working with an external company called Junior Jam. They are experts in their fields and will be providing children with up to date activities in Computing, PE and Music. Every child will get the opportunity to complete this for a block during the year starting with 6KE, 2EH, 4BM, 4TH, 2JC and 5RM. They will be learning about either IJam Programming on the Computers, Samba Drumming, Boxercise or Dodgeball in their separate classes.

## Childcare Vouchers

We have received notification that we are only able to accept childcare vouchers for Wraparound Care and Holiday Clubs. These can only be redeemed against childcare and NOT trips. Unfortunately, we are governed by legislation and this is not an individual choice.

## Contacting Teachers

Should you have any queries regarding your child, please phone or email the school office in order that an appointment may be made to talk with the class teacher.

These are the people who will know your child best in school and should be the first point of contact for any concerns or queries.



## Sports News from Mr Clewes, Mr Ball & Mr Stannard

As a school that is very proud of our sporting provision, we are working incredibly hard to navigate legislation to resume what we can.

We have been able to resume quality PE sessions by allowing the children to come into school in their kit.

We have also received information that cross country is planning to go ahead and will share more information as soon as it is received.

Although things will be different, we are celebrating that there are lots of things that we can do and hopefully we will be able to return to our usual sports news soon!

## Attendance Information

We have been instructed by the Department for Education to continue with attendance procedures as they were prior to COVID-19.

They have sent us the following guidance for us to implement:

"In March, when the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic was increasing, we made clear no parent would be penalised or sanctioned for their child's non-attendance at school.

Now the circumstances have changed, it is vital for all children to return to school to minimise, as far as possible, the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development.

Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including:

- parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school, and they are of compulsory school age
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct"

## Events

We are unable to hold our annual Roald Dahl Day Open Morning on Friday 11th September. However, the children will be taking part in lots of reading activities and we will be sure to share photos on our social media. Please note: There will be no dressing up as part of this day.

## Deadlines

Just a reminder that if your child is in Year 6 this year then you need to apply for their secondary school by **Saturday 31st October 2020**.

If your child is due to start EYFS in August 2021 then you need to apply for their school place by **Friday 15th January 2021**.

**Both applications can be made via the Leicestershire County Council Admissions Website.**

## Update from our Intervention Team

It is so wonderful to see our children back at school. Thank you for all of your support in getting them in safely and happily and thank you for the work that you have been doing with them at home during lockdown and the holiday.

This week teachers are carrying out informal assessments with the children in their class.

These are taking place in a relaxed & supportive atmosphere so that the children feel comfortable & confident in what they are doing.

These tests will identify any gaps in the children's knowledge / learning.

We will then plan specific intervention lessons that will enable the children to catch up.

We look forward to working with your children and letting you know how you can support them further.



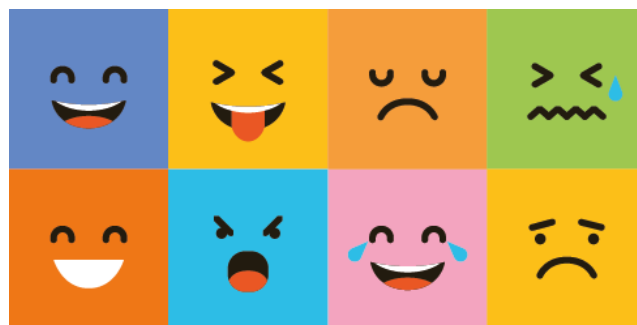
## Update from our Speech and Language Assistant

Having recently graduated from Newcastle University with a degree in Speech and Language Sciences, I am thrilled to be taking on a new role here at Danemill as part of the Speech and Language Therapy provision commissioned by Danemill from EPIC Speech and Language Therapy. I will be based in school on a full time basis working as a Speech and Language Therapy Assistant and I will work closely with Melanie Carte, Senior Speech and Language Therapist and Service Lead for EPIC Speech and Language Therapy. My role will include delivering a range of interventions and supporting school staff to manage the speech, language, and communication needs across the whole school environment.

As a school we are striving to be a communication friendly and inclusive environment for every child, empowering them to always achieve their best. I aim to work closely alongside staff and parents to get the best outcomes for everyone.

I am so excited for this academic year to begin and I look forward to working with you all!

Alex Hickenbottom



## Update from our Inclusion Manager and ELSA

Welcome to our first Pastoral Post! I am delighted to be working as part of a new extended pastoral team and I am excited to be able to support more pupils and their families.

I have been working at Danemill for 6 years and during this time I have trained as an ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant). I aim to support children with social, emotional, and mental health needs and work alongside families to ensure that they too are receiving the support they need at home. I work with many external agencies to provide the best possible opportunities and outcomes for everyone.

You will often find me out on the gate in the morning, but if you wish to discuss your child or any concerns you have, you are able to contact me through the office. Alternatively, you can contact me on 07340 521738 or via email at [ELSA@dsatdanemill.org](mailto:ELSA@dsatdanemill.org).

I look forward to working with you all this academic year!

Emma Watson – Inclusion Manager

## Important Parent Dates

<b>09.09.20</b>	DSAT Webcast - Closing the Gap	From 7pm via TEAMS.
<b>15.09.20</b>	Pre-School and EYFS Open Day	This is currently under review and more information will be released soon.

You will notice that the following events are not in the dates but with the following alternatives:

\*Autumn Term Bingo – we are currently exploring options to see if we could host this virtually.

The following events will be shared virtually:

- \*6KE Class Assembly
- \*Accelerated Reader Workshop
- \*6LG Class Assembly
- \*Phonics Workshop
- \*Parents Evening (more details to follow)

### Letters sent from the Office this week:

- 28/08/20 - October Holiday Club - **Whole School**
- 03/09/20 - Forest School for **KS1**
- 03/09/20 - Discovery LIVE event - WEBCAST - **Whole School**
- 03/09/20 - Reading Books Letter - **KS1**
- 04/09/20 - Reminder of times - **Whole School**
- 04/09/20 - Lunch Menu w/c 07/09/20 - **Whole School**
- 04/09/20 - Christmas Cards - **Whole School**

If you have missed any of these letters, then they can be found on our website or you can email the office for a copy.

## CONTACT US

Please call: **0116 2862674** or email: **office@dsatdanemill.org**

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