

Danehill Newsletter – Issue 10 – July 2015



Dates for Academic Year Sep 2015 - July 2016

Wed 2nd Sep - INSET day and Thurs 3rd Sep - First day of term for children

Due to staff changes and school development planning, INSET days will be planned and diarised over the summer holiday. Key dates will be communicated week beginning 31st August.

150th Anniversary Celebrations

Welcome to issue 10. This bumper issue is the last of this academic year and is full of all



As you all know, this year is the school's 150th! We linked this anniversary to Alice in Wonderland which was written 150 years ago. Quite a strange coincidence! There has been so much going on in school to celebrate this event and below you will find a selection of pictures, extracts and comments.



twists and turns along the way. There have been amazing highs and tricky challenges, but so much has been achieved this year to make the school an even better place. The real success for me is that children are becoming more aware of themselves as learners and the importance of developing the skills of learning and applying them in all they do.

When I think about this, I keep being reminded of our 8 powers of learning and how each one of these is part of everyday life. I certainly have followed the mantra of 'Don't give up' and 'Learn from your mistakes!' But equally 'I'm Never afraid to try' and I 'Love learning'.

The life of a Headteacher (and indeed anyone working in education) is always such an interesting one.

There is never a dull moment and you never know what each day will bring. Everytime a child has that look of success and the sheer thrill of learning something new about themselves, I am reminded that this truly is the best job in the world! Time really does fly when you are having fun!

Of course I couldn't manage any of this without the support of my staff, Governors, parents and the children! So, I just wanted to say a few thankyou's. I echo all that was said in the letter from Governors.

Alice in Wonderland Fancy Dress and Tea party



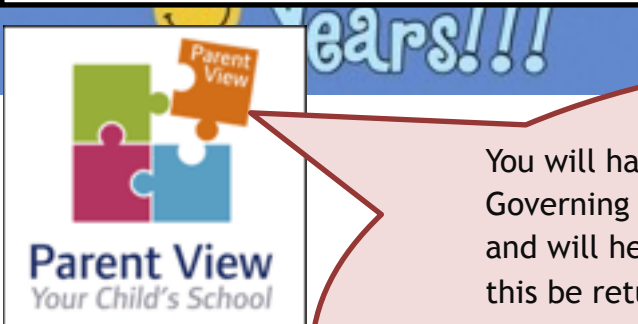
Parking

I am pleased to say that general comments suggest parking outside school has improved this year. Thanks to all of you who have adhered to our parking safety rules and helped to alleviate the issues. Especially anyone who has helped with 'kiss and drop' which is our best solution to reducing parking problems.

However, I have still been contacted by two unhappy local residents in the last few weeks regarding parking. Please can I ask that we consider the local residents when parking and try our utmost to be sympathetic to their parking needs and privacy. We are all part of the same community, and it is very important to me that this community is respectful of each other and does its best to work together on trying to find solutions to what is clearly a difficult situation.

My principal concern is always the safety of the children and this is always a risk if we do not park sensibly and drive slowly.

The local residents are forming a group to discuss ways forward and I would appreciate any ideas from parents or indeed a volunteer to liaise with the local residents and the Parish Council in helping to move this forwards. Thanks again. Mr Falconer



You will have seen the parent survey composed by our Governing Body. Your comments are greatly appreciated and will help develop the future of the school. Please can this be returned to the school office as soon as possible.

It would also be really helpful if you could leave comments on the OFSTED parent view website. Link below: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>



Two Governors

retire...

Mark Willifer (the former Chair of Governors) has retired from our Governing Body. He has been a Governor at Danehill for 14 years and the Chair for several of these. I would like to thank Mark on behalf of the school community for his time, dedication and wisdom over the years. Your contribution has made a difference to many children's lives!

Jacqueline Birdwood has also stepped down from her role as Foundation Governor. Jacqueline has been so supportive this year and her help in preparing for the Diocese inspection was invaluable. Again on behalf of the school community, many thanks Jacqueline!

Alice in Wonderland



A Kestrels



It was loads of fun performing our play as we really enjoy drama. Admittedly it was hard to learn our lines so it was a great achievement showing the play to our friends and family.

We were really nervous to start off with but after plenty of rehearsals our confidence improved. On Wednesday there were lots of nerves but we pulled through and did our best. On Thursday night almost everything went smoothly and the hall was packed!

Overall we really enjoyed it and would love to do it all over again.

Izzy J and Lydia F - Year 6

Well done to Kestrels for such an amazing performance of Alice in Wonderland. Superb comic timing, beautiful singing and a very slick delivery.

Thanks to all staff members involved and parents who helped with scenery and costumes.



Year 6 Leavers

SATs results and a farewell to our Year 6:

This year's SATs results are brilliant. We have met our very ambitious targets in nearly all areas. This should put our results in the top 25% of the country and will place us very highly in East Sussex too.

Congratulations to all the Year 6 children who have worked so hard this year and approached the tests with such maturity!

I just want to say at this point how proud I am of our Year 6 children. They have been superb all year and are such a happy, friendly and mature bunch!!

I wish you all the best for the future and know that you are leaving Danehill CEP School ready for Secondary School and all the exciting challenges of life ahead!



Strawberry Tea Party:

Year 6 thanked all those in our community who have given up their time to help this year.

A great way to let those volunteers know how much we appreciate their time!

End of Year Bowling trip:

The traditional Bowling trip was a great way to end the year. The children were amazing as always and represented the school so well. It got a little competitive I have to admit and I am pleased to say that I beat Mr D!

Thanks so much to the PTA for funding this trip. Mr F



Other school news...



I competed in a gymnastics competition with ten other clubs in Sussex. I had to do a floor routine and vault in the category for 11-12 years. I was quite nervous. When I heard my name called out to collect the gold medal I was so surprised, I thought there must be another Robyn Quantrill!!

I've been training at Uckfield Gymnastics Club since I was 7. Winning my first medal has inspired me to improve and hopefully represent UGC at national level one day!



Alex Elliot came second in a Squash tournament. Well done Alex!

Cameron Beardsmore met the Bishop of Lewes for his confirmation.

Romania helping support a charity that...

4 for this last so much!



Our swimming gala team pictured above (Jed Hale is missing) came 4th in the local cluster gala. This was only 1 point from third and 7 from first.

They won 14 of their 20 heat swims and were so unlucky not to win the gala overall. I am so proud of their efforts. Great ambassadors for

