



Deer Park School

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20th July 2017

Deer Park School
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Upcoming Events

- INSET DAYS — 4/5th September
- Year 1 and Year 2 Return to school—6th September
- New Families Picnic—8th September, 12 noon, Old Deer Park
- Reception (mornings only) - 11th September
- Reception (full time) - 25th September
- Year 2 Scooter Training—21st September
- Parent Curriculum Workshops—25th September, 5.30pm
- Harvest Concert — Friday 20th October (pm—tbc)
- End of Half term—Friday 20th October



Please like our
Facebook page!

Dear Parents and Friends,

The final day of the academic year is here and we have a slightly longer newsletter for you to celebrate all the fabulous events of the past year.

Sports Day was an enormous success on Friday—the rain held off and the children were enthusiastic and supportive of each other as they took part in the various events. Thank you parents who braved the grown-up races—particularly if you took a tumble!

It was wonderful to meet all our new families last week at our welcome event—our school is growing in the most wonderful, organic way and we are really looking forward to getting to know all of our new children in September.

The last two weeks have been incredibly busy and if I haven't managed to speak to you in person I do want to extend my thanks for the incredible support that continues to be shown for the school.

Have the most wonderful summer and we'll look forward to seeing you all in September.

Alison Colenso

Please follow us on



Growing school, growing team!

We are delighted to announce that we have completed our staff recruitment for our growing school. In addition to the wonderful Miss Frost (Year 2, Marsh Class teacher) we will be welcoming the following members of support staff to the team.

Mrs Barbara Ziaja (a familiar face as she has been volunteering all year whilst completing her teaching assistant qualification) will be supporting our children at lunch time as well as providing support to all three class teachers.

Mrs Lesley Reed and Miss Susanna Clack will also join the lunchtime team.

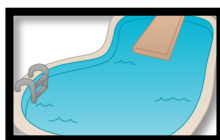
Mrs Jennifer Kisby and Miss Lavern Williams will join Mr Macwilliam in supporting children during our extended day and Mrs Harriet Deards joins our learning support team

Miss Mandy and Mrs Khurana will be running breakfast club from September.

An enormous welcome to all the new staff.

Swimming Pool/Sea Safety

As the holidays approach we just want to extend a reminder to all our families to keep safe around swimming pools and the sea. Here's a [link](#) to some useful information.



The Golden Tie

The last Golden Tie Award of the year went to Buster in Roe Class. Buster is a kind and generous friend always thinking of others and sharing in the classroom. Buster is a great partner, generating fabulous ideas and talking through a problem to solve it together. Buster always contributes to class discussions and extends everyone's learning by asking and answering interesting questions. Well done Buster.



Uniform



A gentle reminder that in September we expect all children to return to school in their fabulous full Deer Park uniform.

If the weather is still warm in the first few days we will of

course allow children to remove their ties/jumpers etc.

Going Green!

From September we will only be sending newsletters via email (unless of course you specifically request a paper copy). Please make sure we have your correct email address!

Extended Schools Review

Barry Macwilliam

Daily Mile

As part of our healthy schools programme at Deer Park, we have continued with the 'Daily Mile' scheme. Due to our lack of space at the school we have very successfully adapted this to suit us. Instead of doing a mile every day we have decided to incorporate our mile into our welly walks and complete it weekly rather than daily. The children have had so much fun and we have seen a great difference in the children's learning as a result. This has also been a great opportunity for both classes to interact with each other and I have been very impressed with the determination and resilience of the children who constantly want to improve. We will continue to do this into next year and we look forward to eventually being able to complete the mile every day!

After School Clubs

This years clubs have been a HUGE success having managed to provide at least one after school club per day for the children! Looking back to last year when we could only manage two clubs (PER WEEK), I am very proud of the progress the school has made in securing a variety of different clubs this year. We have not only had clubs run by members of staff but also secured FOUR outside providers throughout the year to come in and deliver excellent clubs. This years clubs have included Football, Tennis-fit, Dance, Yoga, Campfire fun, Outdoor games, Cooking, Technology, Music, Arts & Crafts, Drama, Movie Making, Sustainability + Recycling and Sketching club. All of these clubs have been extremely successful and the children have enjoyed the continuously changing options this year. This has given them opportunities to develop a wide range of skills and nearly all of our children have signed up to at least one club this year! We look forward to providing even more clubs next year as the school continues to grow!



Extended Day Provision

Both Early Birds and Evening Owls have been a great success this year and we are very happy with the way they have progressed since last year. This provision has become extremely popular with the children and gives them more opportunities to interact with their friends in a safe and fun environment. During

this time there have been many structured activities for the children to explore as well as other games lead by the wrap around care staff during our Evening Owls provision. We have also provided healthy food for the children that attend both Early Birds and Evening Owls in order to promote our healthy schools programme. We are extremely happy with the growing number of children that attend our wrap around care and the positive impact it has had in their development. Due to the high number of children we do now need to set maximum limit numbers for our wrap around care as well as getting new members of staff to help cater for our extended day provision. We would like to thank the parents for their continued support and patience as we develop our booking systems.



Sports Day

Last year, Deer Park School held its very first sports day event which was a huge success with both parents and children taking part.

This year we decided to mix up the children from both classes and split them into 6 groups to complete our sports day events. The children took part in 6 different events and during the afternoon they needed to work hard in their teams as there was only 1 winning team per event! I was amazed at how well the different year groups worked together and cheered each other on during every event! The children had practised for weeks before and it showed when they all took part in the different activities.



We also wanted to make sure that the children understood the importance of being part of a team and showing support to others. As a result we had a very special trophy that was given as a 'Sportsman ship Award' to one child that we thought really showed those qualities and we will continue to have this award for future sports days at our school. Both children and parents really enjoyed this day and we appreciate all the support we received.

Children in Need

We at Deer Park are very proud to have completed our very first Children in need event in 2016. We had such an amazing day and the children were so keen to take part in our 'SPOTACULAR FUN RUN' event. The theme this year was SPOTACULAR and all the children were wearing creative spotty outfits. The children not only looked amazing in their costumes but they really grasped the concept of children in need and we are extremely proud of everyone that took part. We cannot wait for next year to do it all bigger and better!



Physical Education (P.E)

Both Fawn class and Roe class have shown a huge improvement over the year during their PE lessons. PE at Deer Park is not only about learning sports and games but also other areas of development and understanding. For example the children in Fawn class are now all able to change themselves into their PE kit only needing help with top buttons and ties! It has been great to see children helping each other with their uniform and showing excellent teamwork! We are extremely proud of the children's determination to get better and they are always looking to change quicker and beat their time (and get a sticker of course!).

Also during our PE lessons we talk about our bodies and the effect exercise has on them, for example after warm up we feel our hearts and talk about the difference from when we were sitting down resting. It is extremely important to us at Deer Park that the children know how to notice change in the way their bodies feel during exercise and how to look after their own bodies by eating healthily and taking part in PE. We have also created a big display in our lunch room all about our body and how it works which the children have filled up with 'did you know...' facts!

The children have impressed us so much with the way they approach all challenges during PE and their determination to improve!

The children have thoroughly enjoyed going swimming this year- all of the children that participated have made excellent progress. Fawn class have enjoyed their first year of swimming and have all done fantastically well. Roe class have continued making great progress in the pool, so much so that we are in the process of planning our very first sports fixture in the form of a swimming gala.

Wider School Life

It very much remains our commitment to provide a curriculum that not only focuses on academic rigour, but one that looks to explore creativity and community alongside the personal interests of our pupils and staff. As we reflect on our second year of operation, it really is quite dizzying to see what we have packed in!

Pantomime

Fast becoming an annual highlight and tradition—the whole school enjoyed the pantomime held at Richmond Theatre and this year it was ‘Sleeping Beauty’. We’ve already booked for this year!



Welly walks

Welly Walks are now an embedded part of the school curriculum—initially resulting from our efforts to mitigate the lack of outdoor space on site—we now feel privileged to have such extensive green spaces within a hands throw of our front door. The children continued to enjoy a well-balanced experience and cross-curricular experience—in all weathers! The children continue to learn so much from this experience and it is often these walks that provide the inspiration for more focused writing and learning back in the classroom.



Write Dance

Write dance is an exciting and innovative programme which uses music and movements to develop fine motor control. This can be used as an effective strategy to support children with improving their early handwriting skills in a fun and creative way and we predominantly use this as a teaching method in our reception class.

Thinking Skills

The use of ‘thinking maps’ has been trialled extensively this year and we are now planning to roll out these concepts across the school—and also start to use Edward de Bono’s thinking hats.



Parent workshops

At Deer Park we are very keen to support parents. We offer support in many ways e.g. sending weekly class news, fortnightly newsletters, half-termly topic booklets and delivering a range of parent workshops. Overall the attendance at parent workshops has been very high and we always aim to include working parents by sharing the PowerPoint presentations on the schools website. We are always keen to improve and as a result we ask parents to complete feedback sheets after attending a workshop. On the whole the remarks have been extremely positive and we have taken on board the areas suggested for development e.g. giving a specific end time. We develop our workshop programme based on what the parents have requested and on the staff expertise and what is identified on our school development plan.

Wagamama workshop

Another favourite visit from last year that we decided to repeat again this year. Fawn class received a warm welcome from the Wagamama members of staff before being split into three groups and rotated around the activities. They were able to use the juicer to create their own wonderful fruit juices, they enjoyed using their senses to smell and touch a variety of traditional Japanese garnishings and next they used their mathematical knowledge to accurately weigh the ingredients needed for their special noodle dish. Finally the children sat down together to enjoy a delicious meal using chop sticks to eat the noodles.

Languages

We continue to celebrate and learn a variety of languages—particularly that we have so many bilingual children and families. As a school we have decided that our main foreign language on the curriculum is 'French'. All year groups learn French each week.

Trips and Visits

We have enjoyed lots of very exciting and diverse trips throughout the year, including the 'London Eye River Trip', 'The Natural History Museum', 'The Beekeeper's Apiary' and 'Kew Gardens' were all real successes. We have also welcomed many visitors to the school such as 'Wild Science' with their range of mammals and insects; the NSPCC—teaching children about how to stay safe; the guide dog association and many, many parents sharing their own professions—doctors, dentists, sewing machines, musical parents and bilingual parents. Parents that have helped us with science—tadpoles, our allotment and so much more.



Nativity and The Singing Festival

This year we performed in the theatre and it was a real success with every child contributing to the performance. The experience of performing is an invaluable one and one that we feel develops confidence rapidly. Our Year 1 children did not bat an eye at performing in the 'Rose Theatre' later on in the year as part of a collaborative performance with many other Richmond Schools.

Summary of Parent Workshops—2016/17

Date	Workshop	Attendance	Feedback (1 not useful 5 useful)	Comments - positive	Comments- areas to develop
27.9.17	Curriculum Meeting Year 1 (SB/FB/AC)	14	10 said 5/5 3 said 4/5	Enjoyed hearing about the year 1 topics I now understand how the day is different in year 1 which is great	Would like to know more about how to support reading at home
10.10.16	EYFS Finding out more about the curriculum (JM/AC)	12	10 said 5/5 2 said 4/5	Informative and useful information on the curriculum Great to find out how the school day is organised. Very useful ideas on how I can support my child at home.	Next workshop phonics please
22.11.16	Phonics workshop (JM/SB/FB)	16	13 said 5/5 3 said 3/3	I now know how phonics is taught I have a better understanding of the process of learning how to read Informative and useful – thank you!	
23.1.17	E-Safety (JM/SB/AC/FB) Led by advisor from the local authority	6		Enables a consistent approach between home on school on using the internet safely as we know what the school does Very useful	
20.3.17	Handwriting workshop (SB/JM/FB)	17	13 said 5/5 3 said 4/5	Great to know expectations Learnt where the letters start from and letter formation Understand how the scheme is used and how it is taught To the point	Would like maths workshop next.

Charity Events and Dress Up Days at Deer Park School 2016/2017

MacMillan Coffee Morning: This was our first charity event of the year and was a lovely morning with parents drinking coffee and eating homemade cakes in a relaxed atmosphere. Many people baked cakes and we even had enough for people to buy at the end of the day to take home for tea. We raised £134.89 for this amazing charity.

Movie Nights: Friday 7th October saw our first ever movie night at Deer Park. The children sat down with fruit, popcorn and a drink to enjoy 'Finding Nemo'. Due to the success of this event it was repeated in December for some 'Christmassy' themed short films including The Snowman, which we all love! Our final showing of the year was 'The Jungle Book'. These nights were a great success and I am sure there will be more to come next year! Thank you to the PTA for arranging them – great fundraisers and fun for the children.

Mufti Days: There is nothing more that the children and staff like to do than dress up! Any excuse! The first event was UN mufti day which involved coming to school dressed in the colours of a country from the UN. This was shortly followed by Children in Need. The theme was 'spots' and there were lots of



creative outfits on show in Deer Park where we went to complete our 'daily mile' – lots of children covered in spots and Mrs Colenso in her pyjamas weren't going to stop us go and run! Then it was 'Christmas Jumper Day' – a day of sparkles and reindeer! One of the best days of the year was 'World Book Day' and we all had to dress up as book characters. In the house were: Dennis the Menace, a variety of fairies, Peter Pan and the Crayons from 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. Finally we had great fun for comic relief when we all dressed up in something 'silly' – most of the staff went back to school and wore the Deer

Park school uniform.

These mufti days raised lots of money for the PTA but also money was donated to MacMillan, Children in Need and Comic Relief.

Class dressing Up: A few more reasons to dress up -to fit in with various topics Roe Class dressed up as Pirates – a scary bunch they were! Fawn Class dressed up as Super Heroes and were out to save the day! They also dressed as their favourite fairy tale character – we've never seen so many princesses!

As you can see – any excuse and we dress up at Deer Park!



Deer Park School PTA – Two years on...

Following a great end to 2015/16 we were able to hit the ground running and get busy raising funds for the school as soon as the 2016/17 school year started. Our first task was to quickly engage with our new parents, showing them all the great work we had done and encourage as many as possible to get involved in raising funds for the school. We had a great response when we organised a welcome event, which was well attended by both old and new parents.

One of the highlights of our year was being selected by the St Margarets Fair as one of the local schools to receive funds raised through their annual summer fair. This has firmly put us on the map alongside the other local schools receiving funds. In return Deer Park School ran the Silent Auction at the fair.

Our goals for the year were:

- Engage with the new parents and recruit new active members to the PTA.
- Create a calendar of social events for parents to create a strong community.
- Double the amount of funds raised in the first year.
- Increase the awareness of Deer Park School in the local community.
- Invest money raised back into the school.

We are really pleased to say that we achieved all our goals for the year. In fact we surpassed our goal of doubling the amount of money raised in the first year. Before receiving our donation from the St Margarets Fair, we had already doubled our funds raised.



New Committee Members

At our annual AGM we decided to add another member to the committee. In addition to a Chair and Treasurer, we now also have one Ordinary Member. Jessica Persson Conway was re-elected as Chair and Sally Prickett as Treasurer. One of our new parents, Cathryn Kielczyk, was elected as Ordinary Member.

How we raised money

We continued to raise funds through; 100 Club, Richmond May Fair, Christmas cards and Mufti days. In addition we collected money through Easy Fundraising, Parents Quiz Night, Movie Nights for the kids, School Disco (!), donation from St Margarets Fair (amount tbd), Staff Auction and Matched Giving. These are all great activities that have been run by a group of very enthusiastic parents. Next year we will work on promoting Easy Fundraising and Matched Giving, as they are very easy ways of raising money for the school.



How we spent our money

The Children and Staff were very good at identifying areas for the PTA to invest in. We received very nice letters from the children with their requests. This year we were able to buy new playground markings, new outdoor toys, Cubettos, living eggs and plants for the garden. It's so great to see the little faces light up when they see how all our hard effort allows them to invest in their school.

PTA Fund Raising and Donations from September 2015 to June 2017

	2015/16	2016/17
Funds Raised by the PTA £		
100 Club	326	1750
Fair	1693	800
Christmas	223	321
Easy Fundraising		739
Movies, Mufti, Quiz		352
Staff Auction		338
Matched Giving		360
Other	125	70
Purchase PTA Gazebo		-200
Total	2367	4530
Donations to the school from		
Climbing Frames		2250
Playground Markings		900
Cubetto's		335
Living Eggs		285
Plants		70
Total		3840

Overall we feel that we've continued to establish the PTA within the school and comfortably achieved the goals we set out at the beginning of the year. We recognise how important it is to engage with all the parents, and will work very hard to bring the new group of parents on board.

