



Deer Park School

LEARN ENJOY SUCCEED

Dear Parents, Carers & Friends,

It's tough to believe it's already the end of week two. I hope that for each of our families the past two weeks have sailed by in a flurry of learning, building, activity and enjoyment, and that each of you are healthy and well. Of particular note this week, have been the children's creations as part of their work on the book 'What we'll Build'. Across the school, children in different year groups are studying Oliver Jeffers' wonderful book, exploring themes ranging from the sentence structures and vocabulary choices, to the undercurrents of family connectivity, to the ability of hands-on construction to spark innovation and ideas. Pictures flooding in from families at home (thank you all) show an eclectic range of interesting projects and pieces, including fortresses, futuristic houses, machines with working and moving parts, and hand-drawn blueprints. Amid the challenges of remote learning, the children's engagement with these projects, and the familial support to help them achieve, has been inspirational. I was especially delighted to see a cake made from an old family recipe, and then immediately dismayed that I was unable to sample said cake.

I'm pleased to be able to announce that Deer Park has been awarded two grants to begin the new academic year. The first of these is from the Biological and Medicinal Chemistry sector of the RSC (Royal Society of Chemistry), with a generous £995 awarded to the school to acquire scientific laboratory equipment for the new school building. The RSC selected Deer Park in recognition of the school's vision for scientific learning, and we look forward to providing our children with beakers, clamps, test tubes and goggles galore as we work to create an exceptional science provision. The second of these grants is from the Richmond Parish Lands Charity, who have awarded the school a grant of £1000 to provide technology for families at home during school closure. This generous amount will go towards acquiring new devices to ensure that children at home have access to high quality devices which can fulfil their needs in online learning.

Our recommended reads this week include some lesser known sparks of brilliance for children, as well as a little light academia for adults. For KS1, we recommend a book that may hit slightly too close to home for some us: 'My Dad used to be So Cool' is a warm and

beautifully illustrated story of parental commitment (and childhood embarrassment). For our KS2 children, 'Front Desk' is a powerfully written but accessible story of immigration, ethics, and family unity. Finally, for the adult readers among us a personal recommendation this week, in the form of Paul Tough's 'How Children Succeed'. The author is – perhaps mercifully – not an academic but a writer for the Wall Street Journal, and the engaging writing style lends an engaging edge to an investigation into the character traits that support children from all backgrounds in achieving their full potential. The word 'Grit' has been an oft-used one in education in recent years – this book is among the best at detailing its practical development and power of application.

Have an excellent weekend! Below you'll find a message from the Chair of our LAB, regarding this week's meeting, with contact details for those who are interested. Enjoy some well-earned family time, wrap up warm, and don't forget to read.

Alex Lee

LAB Meeting

The Local Advisory Board (LAB) met on Tuesday for the Autumn term. The main topics of conversation were LAB membership, COVID precautions, remote learning and general performance versus the school development plan. The agreement was that the remote learning provision is working well and the staff have risen to the challenge. A significant effort from all will be required to continue the positive progress that has been seen to date this year and achieve the high standards that we expect at Deer Park School. If you have any questions about the LAB or would like to know more, minutes of meetings are posted on the school website or you can contact the LAB chair, James Boyle, on LABchair@deerparkschool.org.uk

James Boyle – Chair of the Local Advisory Board



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Recommended READS

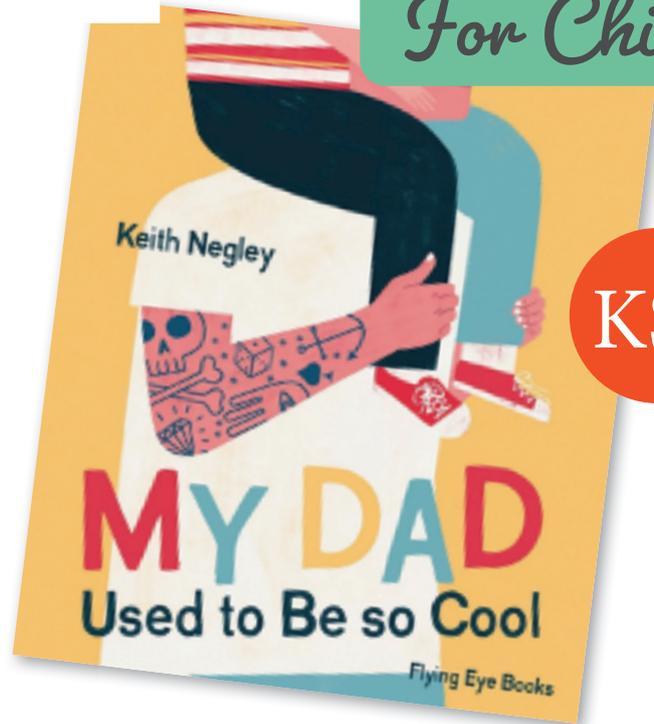
For Children

HOW CHILDREN SUCCEED

GRIT, CURIOSITY AND THE
HIDDEN POWER OF CHARACTER

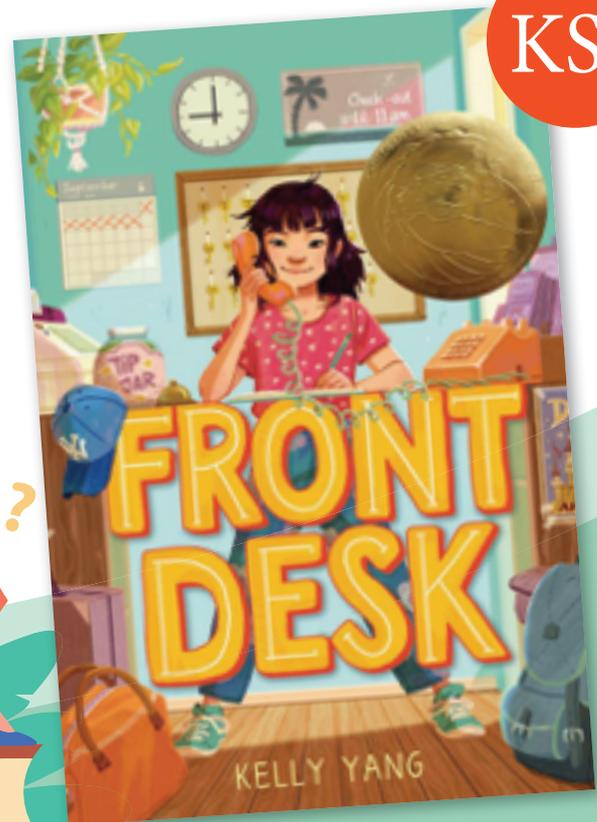


PAUL TOUGH
AUTHOR OF WHATEVER IT TAKES



KS1

For Adults



KS2



Class Updates



Sambar Class

Wow! We have been completely blown away by how quickly everyone in Sambar class has **adapted** to our new way of learning. The children have all been fantastic and so **engaged** during our **Zoom lessons** and the work that they are producing at home is amazing. **We are so proud of every single one of them!** We are also incredibly proud of all of the children who are going into school and working really hard on their learning in the classroom. **Well done!** We would like to **thank** all of the **parents** for their support and for helping their children to continue to thrive, especially during these difficult circumstances. **Thank you!**



Fawn Class

Dear **Fawns** and all **parents** who have been a part of our class over these last two weeks, firstly, I would like to **thank you** for your **patience** and **commitment**. Secondly, you have all **worked hard** and been so **dedicated** to your home learning. Thirdly, you have thought about how you are going to present yourselves on camera and how to speak about your work. You have **impressed** me with your project designs by thinking of what to build and also researching the best way of accomplishing this. This includes the materials and techniques you've used. Finally, I cannot forget that you have been **fantastic maths story tellers** and **PE instructors**. I'm sure you will find all these skills valuable in the future. Let's continue with our hard work! **Stay healthy and safe!**

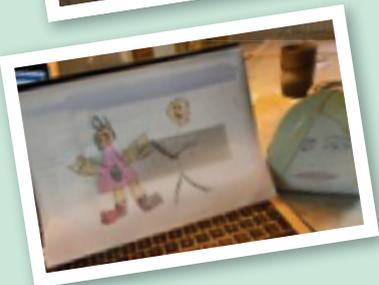


Class Updates



Roe Class

Roe class have **blown me away** with their amazing start to home learning! They have shown **amazing resilience** and enthusiasm. As well learning about imperative verbs, seasonal change and number bonds a highlight of the week has been **art**. The class looked at **famous portraits** by **David Hockney** and **Peter Blake** and created their **own AMAZING portraits**. Well done Roe Class!

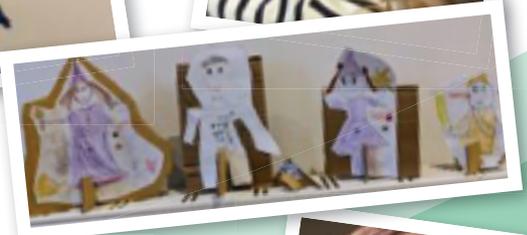


Brocket Class

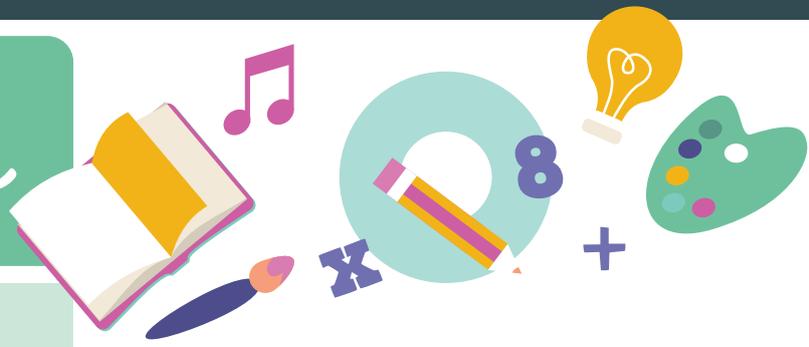
Well done Brocket for such an incredible start to your online learning, I am so **proud** of every one of you. You have amazed me with your **wonderful behaviour**, your participation in the Zoom lessons and the **incredible work** which has been posted onto ClassDojo. I love seeing the **photos** and clips of what you are up to, you all seem very busy!

We have started this term looking at **seasonal change** in science and in geography we have been exploring **The UK** and its capital cities. In English our text is **'What We'll Build'** and you have been making some wonderful **predictions** as to what might happen.

Please continue with what has been a **fantastic start** to our online term.



Class Updates



Muntjac Class

Online learning experts! Muntjac have settled into home learning so well. They are so **respectful** and **engaged online** they continue to be a pleasure to teach.

My highlight: Jacques a dit... les pieds!

Look out in our photos this week for **Mabel's design of our future school** in our 'What we'll build' lessons, and **Bea recording the weather** while making comparisons between Richmond and the Lake District.

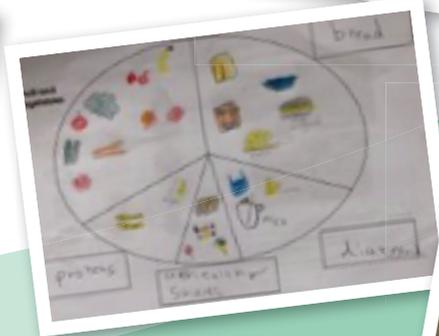
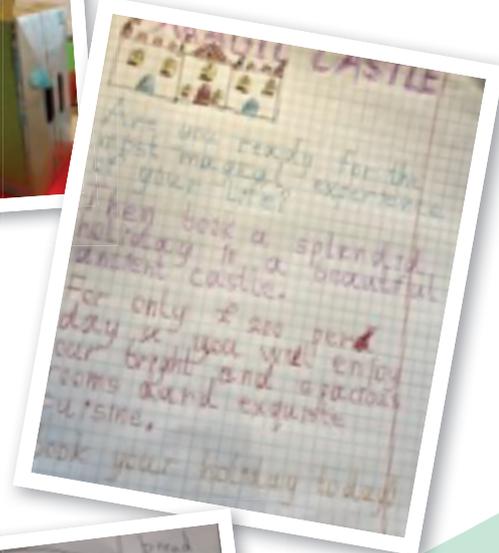
Awesome work Muntjac class!



Marsh Class

I am been so **impressed** with how mature and ready to learn all of Marsh class have been. They have **settled** into **home learning** very quickly and respect each other during our zoom lesson. I am so **proud** of each and everyone of them.

They have created some **fantastic pieces** of learning about **castles**, the United Kingdom, **healthy eating** and much more.

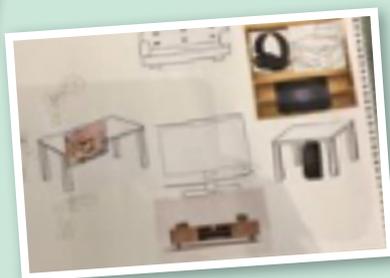


Class Updates



Sika Class

Year 4 have continued to show what an **enthusiastic, resilient** and all round **brilliant** class they are with a seamless transition to **online learning**. We have had **full attendance** to all Zoom sessions and a plethora of **excellent work** submitted on Class Dojo. We have been working hard in **English** on **What We'll Build** and have created our own happy place in Art. We have then used our knowledge of **instruction writing** to write a text to instruct others on how to build their own happy place too!



Elk Class

Elk Class have shown what super **independent learners** they are. Setting up their work area, downloading work, completing work and uploading it online. Through this they are demonstrating how they are getting **ready of secondary school**. Their work on **'What We'll Build'** has been **innovative and inspiring**. The variety of ideas and creations is staggering. In addition, the **writing** is of a very **high quality**. We are looking at the long arch of **Crime and Punishment** over **1000 years** and are making lots of interesting observations about what has changed and what continues to be a criminal offence today.

