

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week the parent council met to look at the progress and learning of the pupils at Davies Lane. The focus was on the depth and breadth of our curriculum and the skills and language acquired by the children.

The group looked at books from all year groups and had the opportunity to visit two history lessons. Parents in the group recognised the depth of learning, the mastery of key concepts and skills and the quantity of work achieved across a range of subjects. All year groups demonstrated good or better progress. The group commented on how relevant the curriculum is to the pupils and the world we live in today. This is reflected in the data for spring term.

Once again, it was a very successful meeting. Thank you to all who were able to attend.

I wish you a good rest over the half term, we look forward to seeing you for the last stretch of the academic year on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June.

Bronwen Chalmers  
Headteacher

### The Parent Council wanted to share this summary of their visit

We met this week to look at the teaching of humanities subjects in order to understand the breadth of the curriculum and also the Spring data the school produces to track children's progress.

Representatives from the School Learning Council talked about the topics covered in History and Geography and that it is more challenging and more interesting than the Topic lessons that happened previously.

The school also explained that learning these subjects encourage the children to acquire a wider range of knowledge, encourages them to apply more reasoning skills and that through historical and geographical learning in the context of a changing world, children understand key environmental issues such as sustainability.

A History lesson was observed for both Year 2 and Year 6 and the feedback was very positive in regards to the children's engagement, the advanced vocabulary being used, the reasoning being applied and in particular for year 6 the skills that are becoming evident in being able to extract data from sources and apply their own conclusions.

The parents that reviewed the books across the year groups could see continued progress and gave good feedback about the high standard of work seen.

Parents looked at whole school data for KS 1 and 2 for the Spring term.

The school set their own targets which are currently above national average standards and the Parent Council were particularly interested in the improving performance across the school, especially for children moving into greater depth.

One remaining concern is the correlation between poorer performing pupils and attendance. It remains clear that those children with below 90% attendance perform considerably worse than those children who arrive promptly and ready for school.

Those children who arrive late will consistently miss key elements of learning, in particular quick maths, phonics and reading which are the foundations of their education.


The Parent Council are asking for your support in helping to improve attendance and punctuality in order to ensure that your children achieve their full potential.

The Parent Council also reviewed a revised school trip schedule the school is working on following feedback and input from the Parent Council. The proposed changes were considered positive with more local trips proposed that tie into the curriculum.

Lastly, the Parent Council asked about the SATS that Year 6 and Year 2 have taken recently and the school are proud of how confident the children seemed and feel encouraged about how they are likely to have gone.

Parent Council meeting minutes will be added to the school website in due course if you would like more detailed information.

**WEEKLY AWARD WINNERS!**

	MATHEMATICIANS OF THE WEEK	WRITERS OF THE WEEK	SCIENTISTS OF THE WEEK
RECEPTION	LINA LAIDI (SYCAMORE)	LOU PULLEN (JUNIPER)	ANGEL OKOYE (SYCAMORE)
YEAR 1	JOAO DE JESUS NUNES (ROWAN)	STORI-LEE STEWART (BIRCH)	MUSA AWAN (ROWAN)
YEAR 2	IDA FORTESCUE (CHERRY)	ZAYN POTIA (OAK)	SIDNEY HOLBROOK (OAK)
YEAR 3	HAMZA PATEL (CHESTNUT)	SHURAIM HAFIZ (ELDER)	BRAIDEN PARRY (ELDER)
YEAR 4	RAEES DOOKEE (PALM)	AUDREY BUZZIO (SPRUCE)	ANASTASIYA TASHKOVA (SPRUCE)
YEAR 5	KRISTERS HAZE (MULBERRY)	AMELIE LOAKES (HORNBEAM)	AISHA MOHAMED (CYPRESS)
YEAR 6	ZIA MARHA SANDERSON (CEDAR)	AMANI KHAN (CEDAR)	CHANEL DU TOIT (CEDAR)
ACORN STAR OF THE WEEK:		ZAYN YUSUF (PALM)	

**IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

- Children attending tea time club are to be collected from our Mornington Road entrance. For all after school clubs please use the main Davies Lane entrance to collect children.
- Please note the school office closes at 4:30pm. If you need to contact the school after 4:30pm select option 2.
- If you are taking your child to breakfast and tea time club, please make sure payments are made via parent pay two weeks in advance.
- Make sure your parent pay accounts are up-to-date.
- Please note that you can contact the school via email on - [office@davieslane.waltham.sch.uk](mailto:office@davieslane.waltham.sch.uk)

**Walk to School Competition**

A special well done to both Anastasia Lonkacova (Cypress class) and Miles Shipmen (Poplar class) who are the winners of the 'Walk to School' poster competition. Thank you to all who took part in the competition - we really appreciate all the hard work and effort you put in. The winners of the competition will have their posters enlarged and placed outside the school gates in order to encourage a healthier school community with more children and parents walking and cycling to school.

Happy walking!

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

28th May - 1st June	HALF TERM
4th June	Pupils return - 8:55am
5th June	Year 4 Visitor: Creative Biscuit (Palm & Olive)
6th June	Year 4 Visitor: Creative Biscuit (Holly & Spruce)
6th June	FRENCH DAY
7th June	Year 2 Trip - Colchester Zoo (Oak & Poplar)
8th June	Year 2 Trip - Colchester Zoo (Pine & Cherry)
8th June	Coffe Morning (9am-10am)

**ATTENDANCE %**

FOR WEEK ENDING 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2018  
THE HIGHEST THREE AND LOWEST THREE  
ATTENDANCE FOR CLASSES

1	POPLAR, CHESTNUT, CYPRESS, MULBERRY, HORNBEAM, BEECH & HAWTHORNE	100%
22	ELDER	93%
23	PINE	90.7%
24	FIR	90%