



## Newsletter: 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Families

I hope you have had a lovely half term holiday. 7 weeks to go until the Christmas holiday. I am sure this half term will fly by with a very busy calendar! I will add dates to next week's newsletter once I have checked the school diary.

Please find the results from our parent questionnaire that Mr Gunchala set up during our parent consultation meetings. 58 parents in total completed these – thank you. These results are looked at and used to see how we can improve our school even more.

If you take part in any Bonfire Night activities, please stay safe. Children, listen to the grown-ups who are with you and remember that all fireworks, even sparklers, can be very dangerous if not handled correctly; they are not toys.

Finally, the weather is often cold and wet now. Please send your children to school with a coat, even if they say they don't need one. We still go out to play if it's a bit drizzly and cold. A coat gives them some protection against the cold and the rain.

Have a lovely week, everyone!

Mrs Sharon Brewer  
Acting Head Teacher

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Website: [www.deykinav.bham.sch.uk](http://www.deykinav.bham.sch.uk)

Acting Head Teacher: Mrs Sharon Brewer

Acting Deputy Head Teacher: Mr Rakesh Gunchala

Chair of Governors: Ms Jane Mason

### General Reminders

- Doors open at 8:45am and close at 8:50am.
- The big gate into the car park cannot be opened at the moment. We are waiting to have this repaired. We recognise it is difficult just using the small gate and apologies for this.
- If your child arrives after 8:50am, please take them to the office and explain to the office staff the reason why your child is late.
- Please do not send your child to school with crisps, sweets, chocolate, etc for snacks or their lunch. Too many children are bringing food like this in on a daily basis. Sending cakes or sweets in for special occasions like birthdays are fine if we can all eat healthily at other times.
- **If you have any concerns regarding other children or parents, please do not approach them yourselves. Instead, speak to Mrs Brewer, Mr Gunchala or Mr Downes and we will try and resolve your concerns.**
- If your child has an appointment, please bring proof for our records.
- If your child is going to be absent, please ring school by 8:30am and give a reason and an expected return date. Also, please remember to cancel their meal on School Grid. If you do not cancel the meal and you pay for your child's meals, you will be charged.
- Finally, please send your child to school with a water bottle.

Thank you. 😊

We want all our pupils to be **STARs**: **S**uccessful, **T**olerant, **A**mbitious and **R**esilient.

Everyone at Deykin Avenue JI School is expected to adhere to our values of respect, responsibility, inclusivity and fairness. Our children know that these values help us all to become STARs but also help us to be good citizens within our community.

## Term Dates 2023-2024

### Autumn Term 2023

Term Starts: Monday 4th September 2023

**Half Term: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023**

Term Ends: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

### Spring Term 2023

Term Starts: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**Half Term: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

Term Ends: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

### Summer Term 2023

Term Starts: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**Half Term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024**

Term Ends: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024

### Training Days

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

There will be 2 more training days to be confirmed.



Happy birthday to the following children:

Faizan – Year 5

Mariya – Year 5

Zayan – Reception

Ameen – Year 5

### Maths Workshops

When we go back to school, we will be holding maths workshops for you to attend which will give you tips and ideas about how to support your children at home. You will be able to see how they learn mathematical concepts in school and the methods we teach them. I hope you are able to attend and find these helpful.

These dates will be included on next week's newsletter.

### Important Dates

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November** – Children return to school after the half term holiday

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November** – Remembrance assembly in the hall – 2 minute silence at 11am (all staff and children)

**Week beginning Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November** – Anti-bullying week 'Make a noise about bullying – details to follow

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November** – wear odd socks today for Anti- Bullying Week

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November** – Children In Need – details to follow

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 3's Diwali assembly – families invited (details to follow)

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas jumper day (Save The Children charity) details to follow

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** – Christmas Party in the hall (party food paid for by school). Children break up for the Christmas holiday and will **leave school at 1:30pm**

### Attendance

We had a lot of sickness last half term. Lots of nasty bugs seem to have passed around different classrooms resulting in children being absent with sore throats, upset stomachs and temperatures. Hopefully, following a week off, a lot of these bugs will have gone away. While we do want good attendance in school, we do ask that you keep your children at home if they have been sick or are too ill to attend school. If your child comes to school and appears unwell and tells us they have been sick at home, we will ring you to check if this is correct and to ask you to collect your child if necessary.

### Dolce - Lunches

Please remember to book your child's lunch using the School Grid app/website. If your child has a lunch but it has not been ordered, they will be offered a jacket potato and many children do not like this option.

It is very easy to order your child's meals. You can order them every day, for a whole week or even for a term. If your child is entitled to free school meals, it really is worth ordering them as they will receive a hot meal. If you pay for your child's meal, you can either set up a direct debit to pay, or pay an amount of your choice and then keep topping up as you run out of credit.

If you are having problems with using the School Grid (the app/website used by Dolce), please see Mrs Sayed or Mrs Dargan and they can support you and show you what to do.

### Safeguarding

Being able to access the internet is a valuable tool for all of us. It provides us with the opportunity to research information, play games and to stay in contact with friends and family who live a long way away. It can be great. However, it can also be a dangerous place to be if parental controls are not set, or if your children access content that is not appropriate for their age. You may think they are watching a music video, or a cartoon, but they could have accidentally clicked on a pop up and are now faced with inappropriate material.

If you are concerned about this, or think that your child is more computer savvy than you, please take a look at <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/> which can provide you with a range of tips to help keep your children safe. <https://www.internetmatters.org/> is also an excellent resource. They also provide you with ways to talk to your children about keeping safe online.

### TT Rockstars

Please encourage your children (particularly those in Year 2 and above) to play on TT Rockstars regularly. It is a wonderful resource to help children learn their times tables. There are different games they can play on TTRS. For example, the 'Jamming' game allows them to choose the times tables they would like to focus on and they will only receive questions on those. Any questions, please contact your class teacher or Miss Williams

Year 4 will have their Multiplication Tables Check in June 2024 and the government's expectation is that they score 25/25. By the end of Year 4, children should know all the times tables up to 12 x 12.



## Parent View Responses

- 58 parents completed a questionnaire. Some results do not add to 100% due to rounding up or down to the nearest 1%.
- 100% agreed their child was happy at our school.
- 100% said their child feels safe in our school.
- 98% said our pupils are well behaved. 2% did not know.
- 55% said their child had not been bullied. 7% didn't know. 26% said their child had been bullied but it had been dealt with effectively. 12% disagreed.
- 97% agreed the school tells you what your child will learn during the year. 4% disagreed. (Our curriculum maps are on our website and you were sent a copy in September.)
- 26% said they had not raised concerns. 3% did not know. 66% said concerns have been dealt with properly. 5% disagreed that concerns have been dealt with properly.
- 100% agreed their child has special educational needs and the school provides your child with the support they need in order to succeed.
- 5% did not know if the school has high expectations for your children. 2% said we do not. 94% said we do.
- 95% said your child does well at our school. 2% didn't know and 3% said their child does not do well.
- 95% said we let you know how your child is doing. 2% didn't know and 3% disagreed. We hold 3 parent consultation meetings during the year and send out a written report to parents in July. There is also the opportunity to ask your child's teacher how they are doing at the end of the day. If the teacher has concerns about your child, they will contact you and ask to come in and speak to them about this.
- 93% agreed there is a good range of subjects available to your child. 3% didn't know and 3% disagreed. We teach the full National Curriculum. Subjects we teach are: reading, writing, mathematics, science, computing, physical education (PE), religious education (RE), history, geography, art, design technology (DT), music, Spanish (Years 3-6), phonics (Reception and Y1 and children in Y2 upwards who still need phonics support) and relationships and health education (RHE). We have no room on timetables to teach anything else!
- 82% agreed their child can take part in clubs and activities. 9% didn't know and 8% disagreed. We are aware that there are not as many clubs as we would like. This is something we are trying to improve.
- 88% agreed we support your child's wider personal development. 7% didn't know and 5% disagreed.
- 93% would recommend our school to another parent and 7% would not.

Thank you to everyone who completed this questionnaire. We will now look to see how we can improve our school based on these findings.

