

A Message from our Executive Head Teacher

As I am writing this message for our last 2020 newsletter, I reflect with pride on all our achievements as a school community. We faced these uncharted waters together in the most unified and caring way.

Our children have lived up to our school values during this term; they have shown resilience, empathy, respect, courage, ambition whilst being caring in all that they did and achieved. I am in awe of their human spirit. They adapted to the changes in school so easily and effortlessly. We are all so proud of them!

I am immensely grateful to our parents for all their kind words of encouragement, appreciation and support towards the staff of DKH. We could not have done it without you cheering us on from the sidelines (in a socially distanced way of course.) You have done an incredible job as parents; your children (our pupils) are testimony to that. We applaud you for all you have done.

A huge thank you to our incredible staff for all their hard work and dedication but most importantly for making sure our children were happy and safe. I wish you a well-deserved break.

I have had the pleasure of working very closely with the **FRIENDS** this term and was inspired by their sheer determination to continue fundraising in order to provide exciting opportunities for our children. A massive thank you for supporting our families during this festive season. Your hard work is appreciated and valued.

A special message to all the children in **Ladybird, Butterfly, Caterpillar, and Maple classes** – we were sad that you were not able to spend the last few days in school but we hope that you enjoyed joining in with the Panto. Because you missed the last day and were not able to see us, we decided to send you a little montage of some staff wishing you a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. We cannot wait to have you back.

My final note: *'There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind.'* – CS Lewis

I wish all children, parents, carers and staff a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

From our hearts to yours...



PE and Sports Update



Many children and parents would have seen Mr Miller (our PE coach) on crutches this past term. Unfortunately, he needs to have an operation on his knee in January so will be off school, recovering, for at least the first part of the Spring Term.

Mr Jordan Perrier (Coach Jordan) from Rotherhithe Primary will be joining us to cover Mr Miller's absence while he recovers. Coach Jordan, has worked in the Federation for two years and is very excited to be joining us. All lessons and clubs will continue as usual.

We would like to wish Mr Miller all the best and a speedy and smooth recovery. We hope to see him back on his feet soon!



Thought of the Week

"Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away." - Maya Angelou

A message from the Friends of DKH

Thank you so much to everyone who donated towards our winter fundraising!

We are bowled over by your generosity and the generosity of the local businesses that donated to us even in these difficult times.

Please remember to support them when finishing your Christmas shopping and continuing into 2021.

Once again thank you to:

Flock and Herd Blackbird Bakery, Jones of Brockley, Serious Pig, Terroirs Wine Bar, Yard Sale Pizza, Ganapati, Old Spike Roastery, Co-op, William Rose Butchers, Moxons Fishmongers, Wooster & Stock, Nando's, Cook, Big Bellys, Brick Yard Brewery, Hop Burns & Black and Paperchase

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.

Support for Families

There are a number of local organisations who may be able to support families experiencing difficulty:

- Southwark Foodbank (PECAN) - 020 773 20007 / <https://www.pecan.org.uk/southwarkfoodbank> Five centres operating in the borough with opening times and locations listed on its website
- Oasis Foodbank - 0207 357 7331 Has one distribution centre in Southwark at St George The Martyr Church, Borough High St, London, SE1 1JA
- Central Southwark Community Hub - 020 7703 1653 / <https://www.cschub.co.uk/> Four centres in the borough with locations and opening hours listed on its website. Clients need to be referred to Margaret Taribo (margaret.taribo@cschub.co.uk) before a visit is made
- Camberwell Community Fridge – 020 7737 6186 / Albrighton Centre Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
- The Borough Free Fridge – 02073577331 / St George The Martyr Church, Borough High Street, SE1 1JA Open Tuesday afternoon, 2-5pm
- Southwark Community Hub for food parcels. Families should call 02075255000 or email covidsupport@southwark.gov.uk if they need to access these

Save the DKH Allotment

Your incredibly generous donations have raised **£845** to help us transform the DKH allotment. Our GoFundMe campaign is still open and we appreciate every donation, regardless of size! <https://www.gofundme.com/f/save-the-dkh-allotment>

Research by the Children and Nature Network supports that school allotments can be a setting for promoting, not only academic learning, but also wellbeing, including interpersonal relations and empathy for nature. On top of all of the health and wellbeing benefits of children's allotment gardening, it is also a great way to encourage young people to connect with their environment. Having an allotment provides a 'green' haven, even in the most urban of areas.

Your donations will help us create this green haven for the children of DKH. Our next step is to organise a working party to begin preparing the allotment. If you are able to be part of this, please contact Mr Butt on dbutt@riverhillfederation.onmicrosoft.com. Please see our wish list and contact Mr Butt if you can provide any support.



1. **Volunteer with a suitable vehicle to dispose of rotted wood from raised beds.**
2. **Volunteer with a suitable vehicle to collect and deliver new sleepers for raised beds.**
3. **Volunteers to remove weeds and prepare planting beds.**
4. **Volunteers to help build new raised beds using sleepers.**

Dates for the Diary



25.12.2020	Christmas Day
01.01.2021	New Year's Day
04.01.2021	Inset Day – NO CHILDREN
05.01.2020	Beginning of Spring Term – children back
18.01.2021	Year 6 Online Awareness Session
19.01.2021	Year 3 Multiskills
01.02.2021	National Story Telling Week begins
08.02.2021	Science Week begins
09.02.2021	Safer Internet Day
11.02.2021	Inventor's Day
15.02.2021	Half Term Begins
22.02.2021	Children return to school
04.03.2021	World Book Day
08.03.2021	International Women's Day
12.03.2021	World Maths' Day

Star of the Week!



Well done to these children who have been recognised for their exemplary commitment to modelling our school values.

Cherry	Eloghosa and Muhydeen
Willow	Johnston and Zaccai
Elder	Hanan and Maile
Palm	Owen M and Anas
Beech	Jackie and Caroline
Eucalyptus	Miguel and Hillary
Cedar	Taliah and Seraiah
Sycamore	Shyeme and Ayyub
Rowan	Jadon and Theo
Hazel	Lucy and Emma
Elm	Mia and Melene
Maple	Bella and Tyrese

Winter Production

Our amazing children and dedicated music staff have worked tirelessly to create a magical winter production. They have given a completely new meaning to the saying:

The show must go on!

Even during a pandemic, the show at DKH has most certainly gone on and we could not be prouder!

Children watched the production in class today and the response was overwhelmingly joyous!

The production has also been made available to parents/carers via a secure link, which has been distributed via text today. Sit back, relax and enjoy the show!



At the end of the Autumn Term, we will sadly be saying goodbye to Ms Banu. She will be missed by children and staff alike. Please join us in wishing her all the best. We thank her for all of her hard work and wish her much happiness in whichever path she chooses.

DKH will also be saying goodbye to Cheryl Marriott. Many of you have come to know Cheryl though the afterschool club. Even as providers have changed, Cheryl has remained a constant for almost 8 years and we wish her the best for the future.

Note from the Office

The school will do all it can to support families whose circumstances have changed. If your family's financial circumstances have changed and you need support please contact Carrie Lucas, in the office, for a confidential discussion.



Only children who receive the government's Pupil Premium Funding will receive food vouchers this holiday. To check your eligibility, complete the short form found on the link below. <https://forms.gle/7eUgMQtn283LuGsN8>.

Attendance

Cherry	88.4%	Cedar	92.2%
Willow	88.1%	Sycamore	88.4%
Elder	94.3%	Rowan	96.4%
Palm	91.7%	Hazel	96.2%
Beech	93.1%	Elm	96.7%
Eucalyptus	94.3%	Maple	90.9%