



## Thought of the Week

*Change is the only constant in life. One's ability to adapt to those changes will determine your success in life.*  
~ Benjamin Franklin

## Exciting update from Mrs Cloete

As you know, we did not advertise for the Head of School role at the end of the summer and now I am very pleased to inform parents and carers that Ms Ghezzi has been appointed as the Interim Head of School at DKH. A huge congratulations to Ms Ghezzi. We have every faith that she will continue to serve the children and the school community with great commitment and care. I will continue to spend most of the week at DKH and will be working very closely with Ms Ghezzi. We will inform our children of this exciting news on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

## A message from our new interim Head of School

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am honoured to inform you that I have been appointed as the new, interim Head of School for Dog Kennel Hill Primary. My interim appointment will officially begin on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. I am delighted that my first opportunity of headship will be at DKH, a school and school community that is very close to my heart.

Over the last 5 years, I have had the opportunity to meet many of you and the privilege to work with most of the children of DKH. I started my time at DKH as a classroom teacher and Phase Leader. I was fortunate to later become Assistant Head and then Interim Deputy Head. My existing knowledge of the school and the continued support I will receive from Mrs Cloete, our Executive Head, and the Governing Body will facilitate a smooth transition.

I am passionate in my belief that every child has the right to an excellent education. It is our responsibility, as educators, to challenge and support the children we teach so they can achieve their very best and develop into confident and well-rounded young people. I will continue to work hard to ensure that every child at DKH has this opportunity.

As ever, thank you for your support and for the trust you place in us - to care for and educate your children. Should you have any questions, concerns or news to celebrate, then please do not hesitate to contact me. I will be visible on the gates at the beginning and end of school on most days, but please feel free to email me at [bghezzi@dkh.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:bghezzi@dkh.southwark.sch.uk) or leave a message at the office and I will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

Kindest regards,

## DWP Kickstart scheme at DKH

We are excited to be taking part in the fully funded Department of Work and Pension initiative, KickStart Scheme. This scheme enables 18 – 24 year olds to develop employable skills for future employment in various establishments. The placements last 6 months to support skill and knowledge development of the individuals. We have currently filled three new placements supporting IT and 2 general assistants. All individuals working within the school meet our safer recruitment guidelines, and have all received DBS clearance.

## Food Parcels

We understand that the current situation has caused some financial difficulties for some families. If your child is not currently entitled to FSM, we can help. Parents/carers who may need support with food parcels over the Easter break should contact Carrie, in the school office on 0207 274 1829 by Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> March so we have enough time to prepare the parcels.

## Sponsor a Chick to Help End Loneliness

Sadly, 1 in 12 older people in England are chronically lonely. To help our local community of older people feel connected this Easter, Age UK Lewisham and Southwark (AUKLS) will be delivering hand-made Easter Chicks with cards to residents. The chicks will be a bright and a welcome reminder that our older residents are not alone. You can get involved by sponsoring a chick to be hand-delivered to local older people. Sponsor your chick by clicking [here](#).

To accompany the chicks, our children will be designing cards at school with a positive message to share with older people.

**Help us reach out to others, so they know we are thinking of them.**





## Earlier Finish on 31<sup>st</sup> March

The last day of the Spring Term is Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March and children will be dismissed a little earlier on that day. After school club, provided by TreeTops will be available from 2-5pm and can be booked directly through the website, [here](#).

Class	Dismissal	Class	Dismissal
Nursery	2:00pm	Reception	2:15pm
Year 1	2:00pm	Year 2	2:15pm
Year 3	2:15pm	Year 4	2:00pm
Year 5	2:00pm	Year 6	2:15pm

## Dates for the Diary



31.03.2021	Last day of Spring Term – <b>early finish.</b>
19.04.2021	Staff Inset Day - <b>No children</b>
<b>20.04.2021</b>	<b>Children return to school</b>
20.04.2021	Year 2 Sports Hall Athletics
29.04.2021	Year 4 Multiskills Challenge Day
11.05.2021	Year 6 Multiskills Challenge Day
12.06.2021	Year 6 Bikeability
14.06.2021	Year 5 Bikeability
21.06.2021	Sports for Champions Athlete Visit
22.06.2021	Year 5 Health and Wellbeing Workshop
23.06.2021	Year 6 Health and Wellbeing Workshop

## Attendance

Cherry	88.8%	Cedar	93.2%
Willow	96.3%	Sycamore	97.4%
Elder	94.7%	Rowan	97.7%
Palm	98.1%	Hazel	95.2%
Beech	99%	Elm	97%
Eucalyptus	97.7%	Maple	99%

## Star of the Week!



We would like to recognise the children who have been great examples of our school values and have shown true commitment to their learning. Well done!

Nursery	<b>Meliah</b> , for her fantastic knowledge of healthy eating. <b>Judah</b> , for his super phonics!
Reception	<b>Ariana</b> , for always being so kind and looking after her friends.
Cherry	<b>Summer</b> , for working hard to improve her handwriting. Well done!
Willow	<b>Geoffrey</b> , for reading well with other children and being a good friend.
Elder	<b>Omar</b> , for being a maths superstar this week: doing amazing work on fractions and completing lots of Maths with Parents activities.
Palm	<b>Mila</b> , for putting a huge effort into all her work since she has returned to school.
Beech	<b>Maguette</b> , for trying really hard with her learning and sharing more of her ideas with the class.
Eucalyptus	<b>Kalina</b> , for her outstanding writing!
Cedar	<b>Isaac</b> , for showing a really positive attitude to his learning practicing his reading lots. His hard work really shows!
Sycamore	<b>Amelia</b> , for being brilliant! She will be missed by her class and teacher.
Rowan	<b>Andrew</b> , for working incredibly hard in all lessons, especially in his literacy work.
Hazel	<b>Khadjia</b> , for her positive attitude towards learning and her persistence with mastering fractions.
Elm	<b>Abraham</b> , for his great focus and engagement in Maths this week.
Maple	<b>Dylan</b> , for good reasoning and problem solving work involving division.

## Together Again

We have been so impressed with the all the children of DKH. They have truly modelled our school values with their courage and resilience but their wellbeing continues to be a priority for parents and teachers alike. In the classroom, children have opportunities for brain breaks and reflection. At home, many of you have been following our wellbeing calendar. If you have not tried one of the activities yet, let this be the week to have a go at one, or all of the activities. They are a great way for the whole family to focus on their wellbeing.

Have a smiling day. Try smiling at other people as much as you can. Did they smile back? <b>19</b>	Think about a way you could encourage one of your friends today? Can you help them to do something? <b>20</b>	What do you love most about school? Write or draw <b>21</b>	Plan a game you can play with your friends tomorrow. <b>22</b>	How could you include someone who doesn't normally play with you, in one of your games today? <b>23</b>	Draw the funniest part of today? What happened? Why was it funny? <b>24</b>
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## A Special Visit!

On Wednesday, DKH had a very special visit from the mounted police unit and police territorial support group. It was exciting to see the police horses and speak with the police officers to learn how they are used to keep us safe.

We are extremely fortunate to have a **Dedicated Ward Officer, PC Patel**, who the children know very well. This event was another great opportunity for our children to continue to build good relationships with their local police as well as have new experiences and a lot of **FUN!** Below are just some photographs from the day. More photographs can be found by clicking this [link](#).

*To ensure our Covid Risk Assessment was adhered to, all adults wore facemasks and any contact, closer than 2 metres, was for less than one minute.*



## The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Nursery and Reception had lots of fun taking part in a value added workshop provided by Chartwells. The workshop was aimed at encouraging children to try new foods and experiment with different tastes and textures. Children created their own caterpillars out of different fruits and vegetables and then, just like the very hungry caterpillar, **gobble them up!** "I tried the cucumber, I didn't like cucumber at home but I like it now" Raya "The tomatoes are juicy ... yummy I love it!" Misola "We need to eat vegetables. I like cucumber because it makes you run fast" Judah "I'm stronger now!" Erdi



## After-school Clubs

### Year 4 Samba

Year 4 children have an exciting, new opportunity to join the DKH samba band on Tuesdays at 3-4.15pm and we hope that by the Summer Term they will be able to perform for outside events at DKH and in the community. Enthusiastic children needed!



### Year 5 and 2 Drama

Year 5 and year 2 children have the exciting opportunity to join a creative drama class after school on Wednesdays. The class will develop drama and language skills. Children will play drama skills games and have the opportunity to create and devise scenarios and plays. The class is also a nurturing environment that will encourage expression and imagination.

Year 5: 3.15 - 4.30pm

Year 2: 3.10 - 4.15pm

### Guitar and Drum Kit

If you would like your child to have the opportunity to develop their drum kit and guitar skills, please email to organise a taster session in the summer term. At the end of the taster, you can decide whether to continue with lessons for your child. 4 weeks for £20. Lessons take place during the day or after school, depending on interest.

Email [info@margaretsmusicltd.com](mailto:info@margaretsmusicltd.com) for more information regarding any of these exciting opportunities.

## Lights, Camera, Action!

The Dulwich Players is a leading amateur theatre group based in Dulwich. They are committed to developing new ways to perform and reach their audience. You can now view their Virtual Productions on their own YouTube channel.

The Dulwich Players have recently become the Dulwich Storytellers for a new adaptation of *Peter Pan* by J. M. Barrie. There are nineteen Storytellers, lost boys, pirates, and even a dog! They have their work cut out for them, bringing this much loved story to life via Zoom. However, the talent and enthusiasm of the cast promises this will be a Virtual Production to make you smile and think "what on earth is going on?" in equal measure.

Chapter One will be premiered on 18<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm. Successive chapters will then be premiered every weekday at 7pm until 9<sup>th</sup> April. [Click here to view all the chapters on Youtube as they exciting new teaser!](#)

Where: [Peter Pan can be viewed on the Dulwich Players YouTube Channel here](#)

When: From the 18<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm on Weekday Evenings until the 9<sup>th</sup> April.

The videos can be viewed any time after they have premiered.

You can see the trailer for the production [here](#).

