

A message from Mr. Marshall:

Dear Parents/Carers,

In my first newsletter of this academic year, I said 'It is expected to be another busy year and hopefully our best yet'. Since then we had our long awaited Ofsted inspection which finally confirmed what we knew all along. Dame Janet Primary is finally an Ofsted 'Good' school. This is down to the hard work of the staff, children, parents and governors. Everyone has been playing their part to make this a GOOD school. We have received so many positive comments on the playground and on social media. On behalf of the school, I would like to thank you all very much.

We have now had time to reflect on our success and rest over half term! Now it is not just about maintaining our good but also building on our success. Our school vision is: 'Creating Excellence Together'. In terms of Ofsted, this means 'Outstanding' which is now what we will strive to achieve together; I ask for your continued support.

Parent Consultations were equally successful and allowed you time to meet your child's teachers. We believe that these meetings are vital in ensuring that home and school work together. If you were unable to attend parent consultation meetings last term, please contact your child's class teacher at the end of the day.

I want to repeat what I said last time - I believe communication between school and home is essential to your child's academic progression and success, so whether you prefer email, phone call, text or face-to-face conversation, all Dame Janet staff members will be happy to help. I always have high expectations in mind whether it is regarding learning, attendance, uniform, respect or manners. I'm sure you want the same so please continue to support us with this.

Parking is an ongoing issue outside every school. Can I ask people that drive to think twice about where you park. Please respect our community and park safely. I hope it doesn't, but one of these days there will be an accident. Banners have been clearly displayed by the school gates but the wording is ignored by a few. Please don't let it be you behind the wheel who has caused an accident. One of our biggest parking problems at DJPA is the few who choose to park on the path (especially outside our Sterling Road entrance). Let's start to lead the way amongst all Thanet Schools and park sensibly, even if it means parking slightly further away and walking the last distance.

It is hard to believe that we are already in term 2 with, dare I say, Christmas fast approaching. Diary dates were published several times in September to give you plenty of notice to visit our school. Please keep those diary dates close to hand as I'm sure you will be visiting many times with open afternoons, Christmas productions or carol services over the coming two months.

I continue to plan to be at the lower site on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday and the upper site on Tuesday and Thursday so I look forward to seeing you on the playground then.

Mr Marshall

Halloween

Halloween is a festival celebrated on 31st October. It is one of the world's oldest festivals and it is believed to have started because Celtic people celebrated their New Year on 1st November. On the night before, they celebrated the festival Samhain.

On this night, they believed ghosts came back to earth.

In the United Kingdom, Halloween is a time for costumes and games. When wearing their outfits, people like to have fun and scare each other. They will often go between, houses, trick-or-treating. Many people carve pumpkins too.

Did you know? When trick-or-treating first started, people were given fruit and nuts, not sweets!

If you are out celebrating Halloween, remember to be considerate of others, only knock on the doors of decorated houses and stay safe.



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Determination

Our Year 3 children have shown determination throughout Term 1 while learning about the Romans! We have explored the Roman empire and where they conquered, looked at timelines, learnt about the effect the Romans had on Britain, researched and created our own Roman gods/goddesses.

Also, we have invented our own dances linked to Roman battle formations and looked at patterns in architecture.

Towards the end of the term, Year 3 designed and made their own Roman shields. We used paint and metallic paper to create our masterpieces!

Here are a few!



Reception Classes

We are so proud of how the reception children have settled into school life. Every morning they come to school with a smile, many with their reading books that they have shared with family members and they are smartly dressed. Already, they have become an asset to The DJPA community.

So far the children have grown in independence, they dress themselves, sort out their bags, self register and write their names and that is all before 9am. Throughout the day, the children have free flow between the two classrooms and outside where they take part in active learning. We have begun to introduce phonics and number which the children learn through songs, practical tasks and games.

This week we have had a Halloween day where we made potions, dressed up, danced the Monster Mash, made mummies and made chocolate wands. On Thursday the children will begin their weekly visit to Forest School.



Diary Dates

November 2018

- 8th Individual photos
- 9th Open afternoon for parents to see work
- 12th Years R-5 Flu Vaccinations
- 12th Anti-bullying week starts
- 13th World Kindness day
- 16th Children in Need day - wear spotty clothes
- 19th INSET day

December 2018

- 7th Nursery Christmas production
- 10th Yrs 1 & 2 Christmas Production
- 11th Yr R Christmas Production
- 12th Yr 3 Christmas Production
- 13th Yrs 4 & 5 Christmas Production
- 14th Yr 6 Christmas Production
- 17th Christmas Disco
- 19th END OF TERM 2

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