

Dear parents/carers,

Behaviour

A reminder of our behaviour tracker here at Dean Field. All children in years 1 to 6 begin each term on green and the idea is they progress from green to the left onto bronze, silver, and then gold or superstar. Any child who is on green or above is able to take part in the school's end of term behaviour treat but having bronze, silver, gold and superstar means that children who make the right choices each day are recognised too. Children who finish the term on gold or superstar receive an extra special reward on top of the end of term behaviour treat.

Children who don't make the correct choices move to the right into the amber section and there are sanctions in place if a child does move onto amber. Children will be supported to then move back onto green as quickly as possible. The red section, which is not used very often at Dean Field is when a child severely breaches the behaviour policy or persistently remains on amber without correcting their behaviours.

You should be made aware if your child is on amber or red we may ask that you attend school for a meeting with your child's class teacher or a member of senior leadership. Children on red are often then put on a separate behaviour plan and will be provided with support to help them make the right choices. We understand that behaviour is communication and we will always try to get to the root cause.

On average, around 95% of pupils end each term on green or above; which is why we make a big fuss of them and plan exciting behaviour treats. Our next behaviour treat in April is a ticket to see Dean Field's Got Talent!

For more information or to read our full behaviour policy please see our school website or click the link below.

<https://deanfieldschool.co.uk/site/policies/>

SUPERSTAR	SILVER	GREEN	AMBER	RED
GOLD	BRONZE			

Staff Training

This week teachers had a refresher on planning Educational Visits with Miss Brambani and also looked through the School Improvement Plan to map out the priorities and actions for the Spring Term.

Those members of staff who teach Read Write Inc had training with Miss Brambani on Friday morning - this is done once a month with Miss Brambani to ensure high standards of phonics teaching is maintained across all groups.

IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER TO KEEP ACTIVE!

Keeping active is one of the best things we can all do to improve our physical and mental health.



We've put together a list of **FREE** ideas, tips and guides to keep you moving, no matter your level of fitness, or what equipment you've got at home!



Want to help inspire others to keep active too? Post how you're keeping active on social media with **#ACTIVECDALE**



VISION 2024



Be Active. Stay Strong. Protect Our NHS.

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Smartest Class of the Week

This week Year 5, Brazil Class are smartest class of the week!



What parents & carers need to know about...

AMAZON ALEXA

Alexa is an artificial intelligence (AI) software assistant created by Amazon in 2014 through which smartphone, tablet and smart device users can issue voice commands and ask questions in a range of languages by issuing the 'wake' or activation word Alexa. It can be accessed in several ways and is integrated into a growing number of 'smart' products including speakers, phones and clocks. Once viewed as expensive gimmicks, Alexa is now one of the most used voice assistants in the world.

Privacy concerns

By their nature, AI voice assistants involve the collection of large amounts of data. How this is stored and the uses to which it is put has aroused growing concern. Experts also worry about who has access to voice recordings, which in 2019 the company admitted sometimes included employees of Amazon and its commercial partners. There is also the more general anxiety that internet voice assistants might record private conversations and not only commands or questions.

Age-inappropriate content

Using Alexa as a speaker to play your favourite songs is one of the most popular uses for the device. However, without any parental controls in place, Alexa won't filter the lyrics so it's possible that children could hear something they shouldn't. Similarly, Alexa isn't always able to identify who or what age the person is who is issuing a voice command so if children ask a question which might not be age-appropriate, the chances are they're likely to get an age-inappropriate answer.

Insecure devices

The devices and their background services are another worry, which can have software vulnerabilities that make them insecure in complex ways. In 2020, for instance, researchers discovered that the services to which Echo products connect were insecure, potentially allowing hackers to access personal information such as voice conversations. In 2017, researchers were able to directly hack an Amazon Echo to send audio to attackers. Amazon has a good record of fixing security problems when they are discovered but it is never possible to find every problem.

Changing Tech Relationships

In a 2019 report published by the Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation, concerns were raised on the disruptive effect that voice assistants and smart speakers, such as Alexa, were having on the way that children interact with technology. From building sentiment and forming relationships which could encourage them to overshare personal details, to a fear of consuming content driven by commercial algorithms and an inability to assess reliability, how Alexa operates could considerably change children's relationship with technology in both the short and long term.

#WakeUpWednesday

Safety Tips

Check privacy settings

It's possible to delete Alexa's recordings either entirely, or for a given period, with the instruction 'Alexa, delete everything I said.' Alternatively, set up the Alexa account privacy settings for that account to delete recordings every three or 18 months. Existing recordings made using the Alexa app can be deleted via Settings > Alexa Privacy > Review Voice History. A final tweak is to turn off the setting that allows Amazon to 'use voice recordings to improve Amazon services.'

Control voice input

If privacy is paramount, one idea is to locate Echo devices in only one room rather than having several throughout the home. In addition, Alexa can be activated only when it is needed by manually turning off the microphone on Echo devices between uses. Users can tell when Alexa is in listening mode as an indicator light should appear or an audible tone should sound.

Set pin code

Amazon account users can order items from the company using a voice command, for example 'Alexa, buy some toilet paper.' To counter accidental use or misuse and avoid racking up big bills, this can either be disabled or protected with a PIN code (it should be noted that this is an audible PIN however, so is not as secure as a typed code).

Look out for 'Skills' apps

A big appeal of Alexa is that thousands of companies have created apps, which Amazon calls 'skills', that add useful capabilities, often integrations with other products or services. These are installed by asking Alexa to 'open/play/start' the skill. For example, a travel skill might be installed to check and automate checking train times and hotel bookings. However, it's important to remember that each of these might have a different privacy policy. A cautious approach is to install as few as possible, de-installing ones no longer in use.

Talk about technology

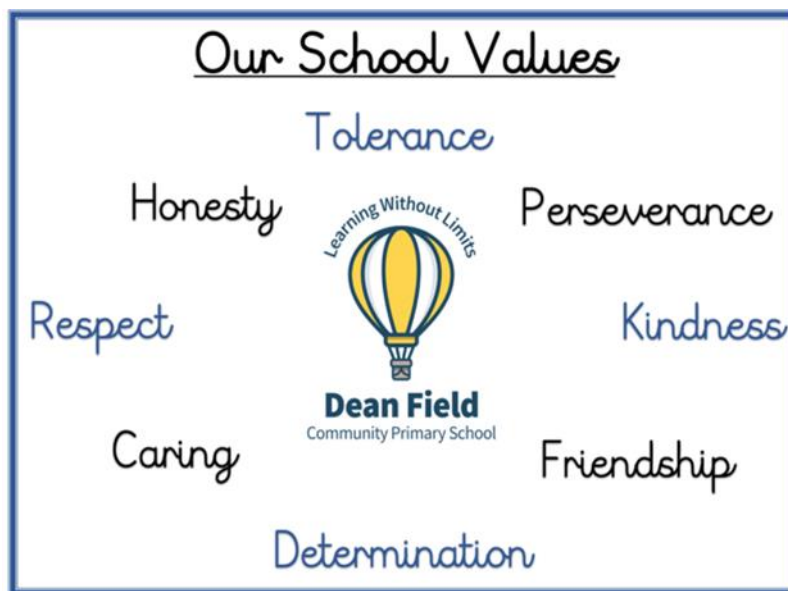
As more and more homes install voice assistants and smart speakers such as Alexa, it's a good idea to talk to children about safe use of technology. Talk to them about what Alexa can be used for, how useful it can be and how to use it properly. Use it together to begin with and discuss any concerns they might have. Always make sure that children know to never share any personal or sensitive information and that if they need to talk about anything, they should always speak to a trusted adult.

Meet our expert

John E. Dunn has edited and written for numerous computer and technology magazines since the early 1980s, most recently Which Computing, The Register, Forbes.com, Techworld, Computerworld and Naked Security. He is a specialist in online cybersecurity and cybercrime and their growing effect on education, young people and the public.

Dean Field Values

Values are things that we really believe in and that we think are very important. Here at Dean Field we have 8 core values which we expect everyone to demonstrate.



As a school, we will be having a half termly focus on each of our values to deepen our understanding of these. Children will be a part of assemblies each week and all staff will be looking out for children who display the focus value over the half term. They will be recognised in a celebration assembly at the end of each half term.

Here are the focus values for the rest of the academic year:

Spring 1 - **Determination and Perseverance**

Spring 2 – **Caring**

Summer 1- **Friendship**

Summer 2 - **Kindness**

We are really looking forward to recognising the amazing achievements of the wonderful children here at Dean Field school!

Forms

Going forward we will be using the Forms system on Teachers2Parents for our letters and events. If you are unsure how to access the system or consent to any trips, etc. then please come to the school office; we will be happy to show you.



Nursery Matt's Gym Visit

Nursery had an amazing time at Matts gym club on Wednesday afternoon. The children all loved exploring and developing their gross motor skills. Well done Nursery class!



Year 2 Family Learning Event

Year 2 children and their families had an amazing afternoon working with Family Learning. They created some wonderful crafts based around their history topic of Kings and Queens.



Environmental Health Check

On Wednesday 17th January school had a surprise visit from environmental health to check the school kitchen.

They did a very thorough check including draws, fridges, paperwork, cleaning standards, uniform, training, paperwork and various questions.

Overall we retain our 5 star rating and they could see the good work the staff put into keeping the



Head Lice

We have had reports of a few children with head lice since returning to school. Please see the information below to treat it. Thank you.



HEAD LICE ALERT

Please check your child's hair regularly to avoid Head Lice

To Check

Check the scalp for insects or eggs

Use a fine-tooth comb on wet hair then comb through the hair in sections looking for eggs or lice, repeat over a few days

To Treat

Wet the hair and scalp with conditioner or use a chemical shampoo/lotion (containing insecticide) – this will kill the lice and eggs. Using a fine metal comb, or special head lice comb you can get from a chemist, go through the hair in sections to comb the lice and eggs out

Tips

- Check and treat the hair every night
- Please tie up long hair for school
- If your child has head lice please check everyone in the family home
- Do not share hairbrushes, towels, hats/scarves etc

Always re-treat 7-10 days after the first treatment

SCHOOL LOTTERY

Don't forget to join our school lottery and be in with a chance of winning cash prizes up to £25,000, plus great bundles like the one shown here.

The school lottery helps support our school so we can buy extra resources and do extra curricular activities.

Enter our **Super Draw**

Win a £1,000 Luxury Getaway OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE




- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Chance to win up to £25,000
- Play weekly, or just play the Super Draw!
- Get away from it all in 2024!



PLAY NOW:
Go to
www.yourschoollottery.co.uk
Search for: Dean Field Community



Gamble 

See website for Terms & conditions. Enter by 27/01/24

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Ofsted

DIARY DATES

DATE	EVENT
Wednesday 24th January	Reception Phonics Parent Session (15 Spaces)
Wednesday 24th January	Year 1 Matt's Gym Visit
Thursday 25th January	Reception Phonics Parent Session (15 Spaces)
Thursday 25th January	Year 4+6 Mountaineer Visit at Beech Hill School

REMINDER: All school fees, dinner money, extended provision and Nursery fees need to be paid in advance.
We do not offer any credit and there are no exceptions.
Please pay fees on time.

REMINDER: We are a nut free school and we would appreciate that any lunchboxes do not include nut products to protect the children in school with nut allergies.



REMINDER: If your child has asthma please ensure they have an inhaler in school and you have filled out a medical form at the school office. Thank you.



IF YOU SET GOALS AND GO
AFTER THEM WITH ALL THE
DETERMINATION YOU CAN
MUSTER, YOUR GIFTS WILL
TAKE YOU PLACES THAT WILL
AMAZE YOU.

-Les Brown

Accelerated Reader – Reading Achievements this week



Brazil	81%
Poland	91%
Australia	87%
Ireland	89%
Kenya	79%

You could help increase your class percentage by doing some extra reading on myON! There are thousands of books for you to choose from! If you need a reminder of your login details, please speak to your teacher. Visit <https://www.myon.co.uk/login/> to start reading!

TT Rockstars Weekly Winners

Year 2 – Drake C

Year 3— Freya W

Year 4 – Isaac P

Year 5 – Kyia R

Year 6 – Elliot C



This Weeks Attendance

Group	% Attendance
Mexico	85.5%
China	95.3%
Australia	97.7%
Poland	89.1%
Kenya	93.3%
Brazil	94.6%
Ireland	95%
Total	92.9%

Congratulations to Australia class who had the highest attendance in the school this week. Well done to China class for coming second. I am seriously concerned of classes who are below 96%. Meetings with parents of children who are of concern will occur.

If your child is absent from school please contact the school office on 01422 258258 before 9.00am.

It is important we are aware of the reason for your child/children's absence. It becomes a safeguarding concern if parents do not inform school when their child/children are absent. Please contact the school office on the first day of absence before 9am stating reasons for any absence. This will avoid absences being recorded as unauthorised.

If you have any concerns or questions surrounding your child/children's attendance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,
Loraine Stansfield, Pastoral Manager

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Mexico Reception	Isabella N	For fantastic Fred Talk in phonics and independent blending.
	Violet W	For being really engaged in our new topic 'under the sea' and always trying to answer questions in discussions.
China Year 1	Libby H	For impressive blending in phonics.
	Kaira-Jade L	For contributing in all lessons and producing brilliant work.
Australia Year 2	Alexander Z	For a super week in maths and completing so many challenges!
	Mila H	For putting 100% effort into every lesson!
Poland Year 3	Emma L	For consistently doing beautiful handwriting.
	Melissa Mc	For good listening and involvement in our science lessons.
Kenya Year 4	Libby S	For trying really hard in her English lessons.
	Kodey N	For practicing his timetables daily.
Brazil Year 5	Leo HB	For writing a fantastic balanced argument.
	Alex H	For being a superstar at all times.
Ireland Year 6	Cooper R	For always doing the right thing and being helpful.
	Lexi O	For always trying hard in all lessons.