

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Outstanding School Debts

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are writing to inform you of an important change to our school arrangements regarding outstanding debts.

Unfortunately, the school currently has a significant amount of outstanding debt relating to **school dinners, wraparound care and school trips**. We understand that, on occasion, families may experience financial difficulties. However, the level of unpaid debt is having an impact on the school and the resources available to support our pupils.

With immediate effect, the following arrangements will apply:

Where a family has an **outstanding debt with the school**, payment will need to be brought up to date before parents/carers can purchase additional chargeable items or activities, including:

- Disco tickets
- Cookies and other additional food items
- Extra-curricular trips
- Other optional activities or items requiring payment

This policy is being introduced to ensure that payments are made fairly and consistently across the school community and that outstanding balances do not continue to accumulate.

We would ask all parents/carers to check their accounts and settle any outstanding balances as soon as possible.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties and are unable to clear an outstanding balance, **please contact the school office confidentially**. We are keen to work with families wherever possible and encourage you to speak to us before the debt increases further.

Please note that this arrangement relates to **additional chargeable items and activities** and does not affect a child's entitlement to a free school meal where they are eligible.

We appreciate that this may be disappointing for some families, but we must ensure that school payments are managed responsibly and that outstanding debts are addressed.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about LOOKSMAXXING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Looksmaxxing is an online trend focused on improving one's physical appearance, particularly among boys and young men. At the milder end, it can involve grooming, skincare, diet and exercise advice, sometimes called "softmaxxing". At its extremes, or "hardmaxxing", it can promote unproven or dangerous practices and contribute to body image concerns, low self-worth, and mental health difficulties.

TARGETING MALE INSECURITIES

Although usually aimed at men, looksmaxxing can also reach boys by promising to improve their appearance and dating success. Forums offer 'objective', and sometimes brutal, views on attractiveness, while influencers may make appearance seem all-important. Advice ranges from useful tips on hygiene, skincare, and fashion to more concerning guidance.

DUBIOUS ADVICE

Some advice moves into dubious territory. One example is "mewing", a tongue exercise claimed to create a more masculine jawline. The American Association of Orthodontists says evidence for its effectiveness is limited and warns that following such guidance could contribute to tooth alignment problems, bite issues, and speech difficulties.

EXTREME REMEDIES

Some DIY remedies are even more extreme and potentially dangerous. While fears of "bonesmashing" – which involves trying to alter the cheekbones using blunt objects for a more 'masculine' appearance – may sometimes be overstated in the media, other guidance can also cause harm. Untrained use of microneedling and derma rollers, taking substances or medication without appropriate medical guidance, and overusing skincare products can all have potentially harmful consequences.

BODY IMAGE ISSUES

This pursuit of physical perfection can become obsessive and contribute to serious body image issues. Exposure to looksmaxxing content can encourage teenagers to tie their appearance to their value and self-worth, as well as making boys and young men feel they need to change perfectly normal aspects of their appearance. This can be associated with disordered eating, overexercising, or other obsessive behaviours that interfere with everyday life.

MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

As well as the physical consequences, body image concerns can be associated with mental health difficulties, such as depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, body dysmorphic disorder, and psychological distress. They can cause problems both at school and at home, with children and young people potentially avoiding social situations because they fear their appearance will be negatively judged by others.

A PATHWAY TO EXTREMES

Looksmaxxing has its roots in online 'incel' communities but has since become more mainstream on platforms such as TikTok. Algorithm-driven feeds may show users more extreme material as they interact with similar content. Some looksmaxxing spaces have also been linked with misogynistic, incel, and white supremacist ideologies.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH FOR CHANGES

Keep an eye out for concerning behavioural changes in children and young people. This could include an obsession with diet and exercise, spending more time on social media apps, becoming secretive with their phone, or a shift in how they interact with friends and family. If a young person suddenly becomes distressed by their appearance or adopts rigid or extreme routines, try to understand what may be behind the change.

LISTEN FOR THE LINGO

Like many internet communities, looksmaxxing groups and influencers use distinctive language. As well as "mewing", mentioned above, you might hear terms such as "Chad" (an attractive male), "foid" (a misogynistic term for a woman), and "mogging" (looking more attractive than someone else). Other examples involve adding "maxxing" to another word, such as "jestermaxxing" (using humour to attract women) and "starvemaxxing" (extreme dieting).

CHECK THE SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media algorithms are tailored to each user, meaning what appears on your feeds may be dramatically different from what children see on theirs. Try to get an idea of the content children and young people are consuming online, and use available parental controls where appropriate. TikTok, for example, provides tools that can help families manage or filter certain types of content.

TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN

Open communication can help children and young people recognise misleading influencers and harmful online communities. Discuss unrealistic ideas about appearance and explain that some creators benefit from controversial or extreme content. Talk about the risks of unqualified health advice and how people's insecurities can be exploited online, while making it clear that it's okay to speak openly about any concerns.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



The National College



Mrs Stansfield
Pastoral Manager



Miss Clay
SENDCo



Non-Uniform Day!

Friday 9th October 2026

For World Homelessness Day on 10th October

*COME IN NON-UNIFORM AND
BRING £1 FOR HAPPY DAYS*

£1 = 1 hot meal for someone in need

Medication Reminder



If your child has been prescribed medication that needs to be given **four times a day**, we can administer this at school.

Please ensure that the medication is in its original packaging and has a **pharmacy label clearly showing your child's name and the prescribed dosage**.

When bringing medication into school, please complete a **Medication Form** at the school office.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Advance Notice

Please note that there will be no after school clubs on **Friday 18th December 2026**, **Friday 9th April 2027** and **Friday 16th July 2027**. School will close to all children at 1.10pm on these days.

Please see 2026/27 term dates below.



Dean Field Community Primary School

School Term Dates 2026/2027

2026 Autumn Term	Re-open	Tuesday 1 September	74 school days
Half Term	Close	Friday 23 October	
	Re-open	Monday 2 November	
Christmas Holiday	Close	Friday 18 December	
2027 Spring Term	Re-open	Monday 4 January	54 school days
Half Term	Close	Friday 12 February	
	Re-open	Monday 22 February	
Easter Holiday	Close	Thursday 25 March	
2027 Summer Term	Re-open	Thursday 8 April	62 school days
May day	Closed	Monday 3 May	
Half Term/Training week	Close	Friday 28 May	
Mid-Summer	Re-open	Monday 14 June	
	Close	Friday 16 July	
			Total 190 days

Training Days

Monday 7 June 2027

To

Friday 11 June 2027

- (disaggregated)



Ofsted
Good
Provider



RECEPTION OPEN DAY 2026

Wednesday 14th October 2026

Morning: 10:45 - 11:30

Afternoon: 13:45 - 14:30

Evening: 16:30 - 17:15



Teaching pupils to read
is given priority.
Pupils learn to read with
fluency and accuracy.

incredibly
supportive and
nurturing to the
children

What to expect on the day:

- A guided tour of the school
- Question and answer sessions
- Discover the fantastic opportunities we can offer your child



Register Now: 01422 258 258



Adults actively
support pupils' well-
being and mental
health.



Free Breakfast *Club*



**MONDAY TO
FRIDAY 8-8:30AM
RECEPTION TO
YEAR 6**

**LAST ENTRY 8:20AM
NO NEED TO PREBOOK -
JUST TURN UP!**

*'Staff are amazing,
caring and attentive'*

*'Supports the children and
the transition in to class'*

*'It's great for children to
socialise and
eat breakfast together before
going to class'*

*'Great selection of different
foods'*

*'It's good for parents that need to
attend work'*



**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BOOK YOUR N-Y6
CHILD ONTO THE PAID BREAKFAST CLUB
FROM 7:30AM PLEASE CONTACT THE
SCHOOL OFFICE ON 01422 258 258.**

Week Commencing Monday 5th October 2026

 School Meals Menu - Week 3 					
3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Meal Option	Southern Fried Chicken Goujons 1, 5	Homemade Chicken & Sweetcorn Pie 5, 10, 12	Jumbo Fish Fingers 2, 5	Homemade Mexican Chicken	Burger in a Bun Burger 5, 8 Bun 5, 14
	Vegan Meatballs in Tomato Sauce 4	Quorn Sausages 5	Homemade Cheese & Onion Pie 5, 10, 12	Homemade Mediterranean Halloumi Traybake 10	Tomato Pasta 5
Vegetables	Wedges Mixed Veg Cauliflower	Mashed Potato 10 Peas Carrots	Chips Mushy Peas Sweetcorn	Wholemeal Pitta 5 Carrots Green Beans	Chips Peas Sweetcorn
Served Daily	Jacket Potatoes with various fillings (Tuna Mayo, Beans, Cheese) Selection of Wraps & Sandwiches Salad Bar Fresh Fruit, Yoghurts & Fruit Cocktail				
Dessert	Chocolate Arctic Roll 4, 5, 10, 12	Homemade Iced Cake 5, 10, 12	Homemade Chocolate Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Fresh Fruit Selection	Chocolate Milkshake 5, Homemade Cookie 5, 10, 12
	Sweet Waffles 4, 5, 10, 12	Choobs 10	Raspberry Jelly	Assorted Ice Cream 10	Cornflake Buns 4, 5, 10

Join Dads R Us for a spooky breakfast with prizes for the best dressed attendees!
Will you be a ghastly ghost, a scary skeleton or a wicked witch?



Saturday 3rd October



Creations Family Hub



10am - 1pm



For more information contact Allan on 07561330887



DADS R US SPOOKY BREAKFAST

Creations Family Hub
Saturday 3rd October
10am - 1pm



Join us for a spooky breakfast and prizes for the best dressed!



DIARY DATES

DATE	EVENT
Wednesday 7th October	Grandparent's Day
Friday 9th October	World Homeless Day non-uniform
Monday 12th October	Rec Copley Woods Trip
Tuesday 13th October	Rec Copley Woods Trip

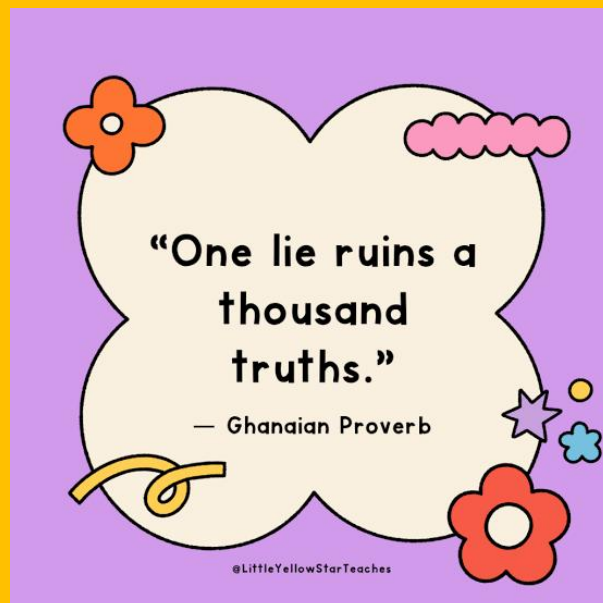
REMINDER: All school fees, dinner money, extended provision and Nursery fees need to be paid in advance.
We do not offer any credit and there are no exceptions.
Please pay fees on time.

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.

This half term's focus value is ...



Accelerated Reader – Reading Achievements this week



Australia	89%
Poland	80%
Kenya	87%
Brazil	87%
Ireland	80%

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!

TTRS and Numbots Stars of the Week



TTRS Star of the Week
(Minutes Played)

Alexia in Year 6

(41 minutes)



NumBots Star of the Week
(Minutes Played)

Xiong in Year 1

(24 minutes)

Group	% Attendance
Mexico	87.5%
China	94.1%
Australia	99.2%
Poland	98.5%
Kenya	98.5%
Brazil	92.1%
Ireland	97.6%
Italy	80%
Total	94.7%

This Week's Attendance

Congratulations to **Australia** class who had the highest attendance in school this week. Well done to **Poland and Kenya** class for coming second. **All classes above 96% continue to receive £5 for their jars; well done Australia, Poland, Kenya and Ireland!** 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

Learning without Limits Leadership Award



The award recognises outstanding leadership, dedication and commitment to fostering a culture of 'Learning Without Limits' and helping others to do their best and believe in themselves. Recipients of the award also show great courage, creativity and kindness, making our school a better place.

Winners this week:

Harlen M Y6 — For supporting the younger children during Wednesday playtime group.

Joshua S Y6 — For showing leadership and kindness with tidying fruit, using a bin at breaktime.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Mexico Reception	Zayyan C	For persisting with his name writing.
	Jasmine S	For impressive cutting skills in the creative area.
China Year 1	Theo SH	For being a kind and considerate member of the class.
	Emilia H	For being enthusiastic in all lessons.
Australia Year 2	Amina N	For being ready to learn and always listening to adults.
	Matias C	For great focus and engagement in maths lessons.
Poland Year 3	Tallulah JF	For always being polite, kind and helpful.
	Freddie O	For having a fantastic can-do attitude and always trying your best.
Kenya Year 4	Edith G	For supporting her peers in computing and always demonstrating the school values.
	Grayson W	For improved attitude towards maths lessons.
Brazil Year 5	Tommy D	For fantastic effort and imagination when writing a diary this week.
	Sarah Mc	For amazing attitude towards all lessons this week and great perseverance.
Ireland Year 6	Elliot R	For HUGE handwriting improvement.
	Lennon W	For improvement in Reading Plus.