Parent Newsletter September 2026

Tany's Dell Primary School

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Message from Mrs Penney

Dear Families,

Welcome to the new academic year and also welcome to the new format newsletter which will be sent monthly. Hopefully everything you need to know will be in one place, without too many emails in between.

If you haven't met me already, please do come and say hello. I am usually found at the gate each morning and afternoon. Many people have already come along to see me to introduce themselves which has been lovely. It has been great to get to know some of you and your

children; everyone has been very friendly and welcoming, which I am quickly learning, is the Tany's Dell family way!

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and managed to spend some time together. We have only been back at school for a week, but I am impressed with how well the children have settled back into their school routines. Thank you so much for supporting your children to be smartly dressed, equipped and ready for school.

On the two INSET days before school started, the whole staff team took part in some training lead by Paul Dix who is the author of various books on behaviour, education, parenting and relationships. I have been a big fan of his work for quite some time and I thoroughly recommend his books to all teachers and parents that I know. If you ever want to learn more about behaviour and relationships, I recommend you read his book entitled 'When the Parents Change, Everything Changes'.

We also had a talk by Ashley John Baptiste, a Broadcaster who has grown up in care from a young age. He spoken candidly about his life and we gained so much from learning about his first hand experiences and the challenges he had to overcome to succeed. We will take many concepts shared by both Paul and Ashley into the day-to-day work that we do in school, with the goal that we can improve the lives and opportunities of all of our children.

As well as all this, the teachers and Learning Support Assistants spent every spare minute preparing their classrooms and lessons ready for the children's return. They really did work hard - what a team! Your teachers will be offering a meet the teacher session, details of which have already been sent to you via email. Please check the dates section for more information.

Warmest wishes,

Mrs Jennifer Penney

Headteacher

Notices

Attendance Updates

Attendance Matters

We have high expectations for attendance and expect all pupils to achieve 96% attendance or above.

It is important to be clear that attendance of 90–95% is not considered good attendance. Although these percentages may sound high, missed days quickly add up and mean valuable learning time is lost.

As a guide:

• 96% attendance = approximately 7 days absent across the school year

• 95% attendance = approximately 9–10 days absent

• 90% attendance = approximately 19 days absent – nearly 4 weeks of school missed

• Below 90% = classed as persistent absence

Every school day matters. Regular attendance and punctuality support children's learning, progress, friendships and wellbeing. We ask all families to work with us to maintain attendance at 96% or above wherever possible.

If you are experiencing difficulties that are affecting your child's attendance, please contact us early so that we can work together to provide support.

Inclusion

Inclusion, Resource Base and SEND at Tany's Dell

As part of promoting inclusive practice across the school, at Tany's Dell the children are taught new British Sign Language (BSL) signs in assembly, every week. They also have the weekly signs displayed on a poster in their classroom. On the newsletter, we will share with you the latest signs of the week with a link to a video to show you how to sign them correctly. You may notice that there can be more than one sign for each word. Signs can change depending on the area of the country. At Tany's Dell we use the Essex/ London signs.

This month we have been focusing on signing up numbers from 1-15.

This link will take you to a video that shows how to do the signs correctly. How to sign numbers 1-20 in British Sign Language[1]

Dates for your Diary

October

Flu Immunisations - Tuesday 13th

Parent Teacher Consultations - Thursday 15th **(children finish school at 1.30pm)**

Half term - Monday 19th - Friday 30th

November

Children return to school Monday 2nd

World WOW day - Friday 6th

School Photos - Wednesday 11th

Christmas Panto - Thursday 19th

Nursery Christmas Art Day - Friday 27th

December

Catch up Flu immunisations - Thursday 3rd

Christmas Dinner/Jumper Day - Wednesday 9th

KS1 Nativity Performance 2pm Thursday 10th

Reception Christmas songs - Friday 11th

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[1] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TOlOHg6djSE

Merit Assemblies - Monday 14th

Nursery Nativity 10:45 and 2.30 - Tuesday 15th

End of Term - Children finish at 1.30pm - Thursday 17th

January

INSET DAY - Monday 4th

Children return to school Tuesday 5th

Essex road safety AM reception PM Year 5 - Monday 11th

February

NSPCC Number Day - Friday 5th

Parents Evening 1.45-7.30 - Thursday 11th **(Children finish school at 1.30pm)**

Spring Half Term - 15th-19th

Children return to school - Monday 22nd

March

World book WOW day - Friday 5th

Science week - 8th-14th

Merit Assemblies - Monday 22nd March

Easter Bonnet Parade EYFS and KS1 - Wednesday 24th

Y3-Y5 Music Concert - Wednesday 24th

News

Good Beginnings

Parent/ Carer Sessions

This course for parents and carers of children aged 5 or under, who are autistic or have social communication needs. A diagnosis of autism is not needed to access the course.

This 8 week course covers:Week 1 – Introduction to Autism

Week 2 – Understanding Social Communication

Week 3 – Stages of Communication

Week 4 – Sensory Processing

Week 5 – Play

Week 6 – Emotional Regulation

Week 7 – Eating, Sleeping & Toileting

Week 8 – Moving on

Various Locations across Essex, and an on-line offer:Autumn Term Venues:

Alderton Junior School, Loughton.

Tanglewood Nursery, Chelmsford.

Megacentre Rayleigh

Jaywick Community Centre

Spring Term Venues:

Chesterfords Community Centre

Maldon Town Hall

Barleylands, Billericay

Online

Summer Term Venues:

Latton Bush Centre, Harlow

Spring Lodge Community Centre, Witham

King George Playing Fields, Brentwood

Kingsland Church, Colchester

To register your interest and to find out more details please visit:

https://send.essex.gov.uk/search-support-groups-and-activities/good-beginnings-course

Contact Us

Tany's Dell Primary School

Mowbray Road

Harlow

Essex

CM20 2LS

For all queries please contact parents@tanysdell.essex.sch.uk[2]

All emails will be forwarded to the appropriate member of staff (please note that we do receive a high volume of emails daily and endeavor to respond within 48 hours).

01279 866230

Visit our website at Tany's Dell Primary School[3]

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[2] mailto:parents@tamysdell.essex.sch.uk
[3] https://www.tanysdell.essex.sch.uk/