

DEPTFORD PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 22nd September 2023

An official **Welcome Back!** The children have settled well into their new classes. They look so grown up and smart in their school uniforms. The staff all report that their classes are working hard and focusing on their learning. A special warm welcome to our Reception children and all our new families; it is our hope you enjoy a positive partnership with us as your child's embarks on their exciting educational journey! The start of term has been a busy one. The children are already showcasing their knowledge on the whole school two week project about "Our Wonderful World." On Friday it was Afro Hair Day and the school community was buzzing with excitement! Thank you all for your support.

We are holding our Welcome Meetings for parents shortly. Please see the end of the newsletter for details. All meetings will be held week commencing 2nd October after school.

Have an enjoyable weekend!

E-mail!

Please remember to use the class email addresses for any non urgent or class based matters.

silver@deptfordpark.org
red@deptfordpark.org
yellow@deptfordpark.org
purple@deptfordpark.org
diamond@deptfordpark.org
ruby@deptfordpark.org
emerald@deptfordpark.org
sapphire@deptfordpark.org
quartz@deptfordpark.org
jade@deptfordpark.org
pearl@deptfordpark.org
garnet@deptfordpark.org

Absences and time sensitive or urgent communication should continue to be reported by contacting the office.



CALLING ALL CHILDREN...

Got something to say or a piece of work you are proud of? The why not publicise it in the newsletter?

Donations

We are looking to expand our construction resources . If you have any at home e.g. Lego, Stickle Bricks, Duplo etc that you no longer use please donate to the school office.

Thank you



Term Dates

Friday 20th October ~ Last Day before Half Term

Monday 23rd—Friday 27th October ~ Half Term

Monday 30th October ~ Children return to school

Wednesday 20th December ~ Last day of Term

Thursday 21st December ~ Friday 5th January ~ Holiday

Monday 8th January ~ Inset Day

Tuesday 9th January—Children return to school

Afro Hair Day!

Last week we celebrated World Afro Hair Day for the first time and we saw some stunning afros!

Children and adults from our diverse cultures embraced wearing their hair in braids, corn-rows, space buns, bantu knots and beaded hairstyles.

We also enjoyed class assemblies, discussions and activities throughout the day. World Afro Hair Day was started 5 years ago by Michelle De Leon to celebrate the history of, and to promote positivity towards, natural afro hairstyles.

Our children were adventurous and excited to see how versatile their hair is and to try different styles to showcase their different hair textures. Thank you to our DPPS parents for helping to make it a special day for our school community. Check out the website for more pictures.



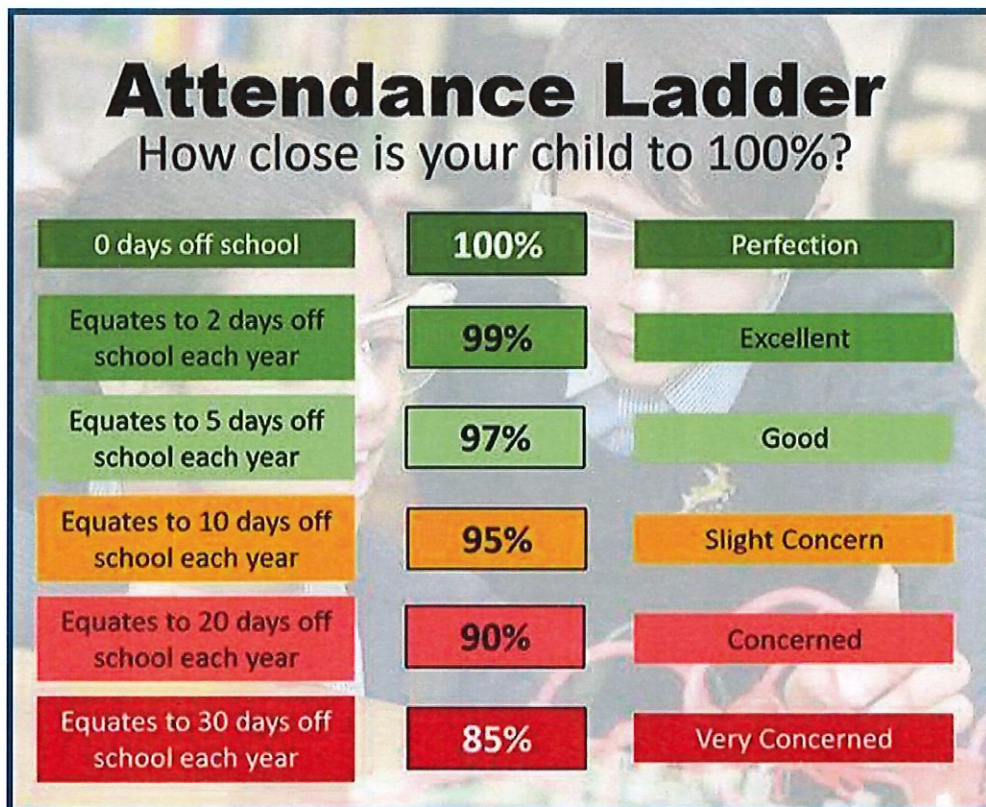
Attendance

EDUCATION MATTERS

Please ensure your child attends school every day, arriving on time, ready to start the school day together. When pupils arrive late, they miss out on essential instructions given at the beginning of the day. This can significantly reduce achievement, regardless of academic ability. Your child may also feel awkward arriving to the classroom when everyone else is settled. Furthermore, when one pupil arrives late, it disrupts the entire class and the teacher – everyone's education is compromised.

Please do not arrange medical and dental appointments in school time wherever possible. Should your child be too unwell to attend school, please telephone to inform the school on the first day of absence for your child, informing the school of the reason for the absence. Respond promptly to any communication sent by the school concerning your child's attendance.

Good attendance is 96% or more, if attendance is below 90% the child is classified as 'persistently absent' from school and this will have a negative impact on your child's learning.



ABSENCE = LOST OPPORTUNITY



Did You Know... ?

If Your Child's Attendance During the School Year...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
was 95%	9 Days from School	50 Lessons
was 90%	19 Days from School	100 Lessons
was 85%	29 Days from School	150 Lessons
was 80%	38 Days from School	200 Lessons
was 75%	48 Days from School	250 Lessons

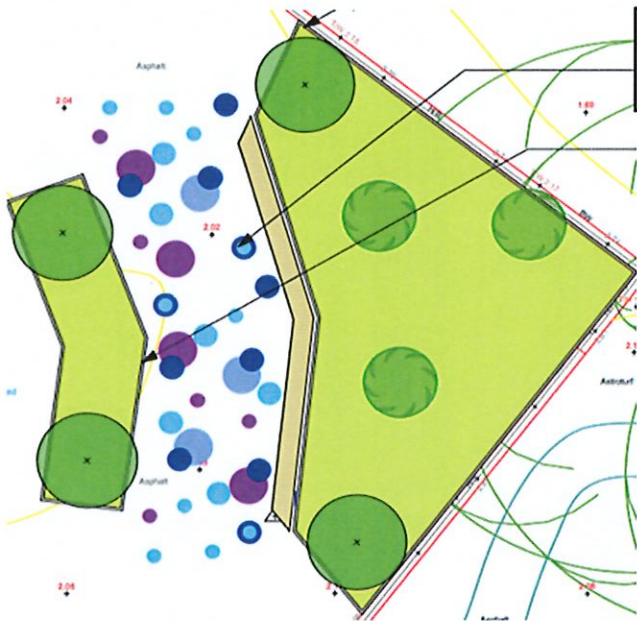
Getting Your Child to School Really Matters

Deptford Park Playground Project

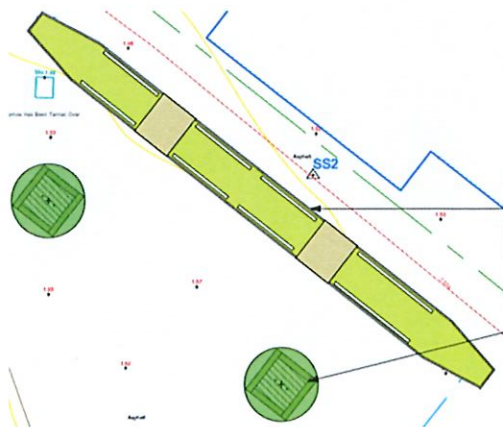
As I am sure you have all noticed our playgrounds are being redesigned! It has been very exciting to watch it develop.

We will have a mural which will be designed by our pupils!

We will also have a surface rain garden to collect rain water.



Our Key Stage 2 Playground:



We will have another rain garden, two crossing bridges and perennial planters.

We will also have two trees providing shade to the playground,

Reminder:

If your child attends breakfast club they must arrive before 8.15 am

Reminder:

School starts at 8.55am, it is beneficial to the children that they start the school day together.

Welcome Meetings

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THE OCTOBER DATES, IF ONLINE THE ZOOM DETAILS WILL FOLLOW VIA TEXT MESSAGE

Reception ~ Wednesday 4th @ 3.30 ~ on site the meeting will be held in the classroom

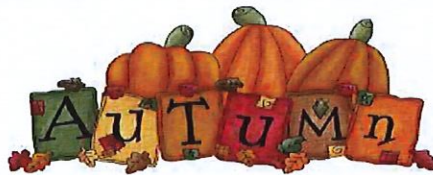
Year 1 & 2 ~ Thursday 5th @ 3.30 ~ on site the meeting will be held in your child's classroom

Year 3 ~ Thursday 5th @ 4.30pm ~ online

Year 4 ~ Tuesday 3rd @ 4pm ~ online

Year 5 ~ Monday 2nd @ 4pm ~ online

Year 6 ~ Monday 2nd @ 4.30 ~ online



Free School Meals

Calling all parents! If you feel you may be entitled to Free School Meals please apply online.....

www.lewisham.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

You will be eligible if you receive any of the benefits listed below

- **Universal Credit**
- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseekers Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Child Tax Credit – net earnings threshold of £7,400 from April 2018**
- **Guarantee element of pension credit**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**

Don't miss out on the Tesco Vouchers during the school holidays, you are only entitled if you get Free School Meals!



FREE SCHOOL LUNCH FOR ALL LONDON PRIMARY CHILDREN

No need to sign up, just turn up!



It's tough at the moment, food price increases are causing extra strain on families already struggling with rocketing bills and the cost-of-living crisis.

Why not take some of the pressure away by letting your child have a school lunch? The Mayor of London has committed to providing a free lunch for all London primary children.

Other entitlements are unaffected so you should still complete your school or borough's registration form as usual.

YOU COULD SAVE UP TO £440 A YEAR