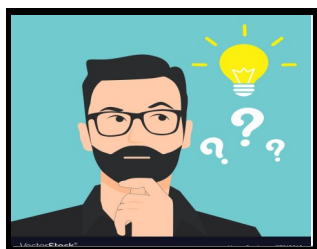


# Daubeney Primary School Development Newsletter



## What's this all about?

This is our first school development newsletter for this academic year. It will inform you of our School Development Priorities (SDP's) set out in our 2021 School Development Plan (SDP). If you would like to see our full SDP, please visit our school website: <https://www.daubeney.hackney.sch.uk/viewer/428>

## Our School Development Priorities are:

1. Further improve teaching and learning in reading, writing and maths
2. Further develop the broad and balanced curriculum offer
3. Develop the Daubeney workforce to improve outcomes
4. To develop key educational provision to attract new families to the school
5. To develop the school community



## Leadership & Management

The Senior Leadership Team have gone from strength to strength with the arrival of Mr Warren! The Autumn Term began with our first of four Trust Action Group (TAG) meetings for the year being held with our Chair of Governors (CoG), Will Emms, Mr Warren and I meeting the director and deputy director of education for Hackney, Annie Gammon and Stephen Hall respectfully. This was followed by our first of three on site School Improvement Partner (SIP) visits for the year from Stephen Hall. The outcomes of both the TAG meeting and SIP visit were very positive and included comments on our: high quality learning environments and enticing book corners; positive relationships; children that are happy and can articulate their learning—to name just a few! As a consequence of our SIP visit it was agreed that our provision for pupils' Personal Development is outstanding as is our pupils' Behaviour and Attitudes. The SLT have led successful Pupil Progress Reviews, alongside our newly appointed SENDCo Mr Dharma. All teachers were able to confidently discuss their children and their attainment targets for this year. By now you will be aware that we are part of the Blossom Federation and as a federation we will continue to share expertise from across the different settings to secure the best outcomes for our pupils.

## English

Whole class teaching of reading through quality texts has continued and developed in KS2 this year. Responses to reading, knowledge of authors, and writing outcomes linked to texts have been enriched through the use of these texts.

Daily Supported Reading (DSR) is embedded in KS1 with children reading with an adult every day to develop their decoding skills by applying their phonics knowledge as well as their comprehension skills through questioning and discussion.

Teachers and LSA's received training focusing on the quality of questioning in order to develop children's engagement and understanding of texts. Miss Fergus, has been supported by Kathleen O'Conner from Hackney Education to ensure that reading structures are embedded and consistent across the school.

There was a big focus on improving our book corners this term. With funding from the PCTA, each class now has a creatively themed book corner that encourages the children to read for pleasure and creates a rich reading culture .



## Maths

Maths at Daubeney continues to strengthen and all staff members in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 have recently taken part in a 1 hour professional development course led by our Maths Lead Mr Swarbrick. The aims of the session were to refine our maths planning and ensure our lessons are tailored to the specific needs of the children in our classrooms.

Daubeney is also continuing its journey to Maths Mastery as we head into our third year working alongside the North East Maths Hub. Mr Swarbrick, alongside Ms Krueziu, Ms Alam and Ms Patel recently attended a lesson study whereby they were able to observe Maths Mastery in action. The findings from this study will be fed back to staff through our weekly phase meetings.

Our most recent SIP visit noted there was excellent practice taking place across the school. Looking forward, we are hoping to give more teachers the opportunity to observe their peers so that we can learn from each other and grow as a school in mathematics. In addition, our maths lead will continue to model outstanding maths lessons across different year groups to help develop our workforce. Finally, our next INSET day will have a particular focus on mathematics, looking closely at how we can develop our questioning, use concrete resources purposefully, and continue to embed maths mastery within our lessons.

## Science & Design Technology

There has been a greater focus on outdoor learning this term. Lauren from Hackney Forest School trained teachers in carrying out lessons outside and all year groups across the school have taken the opportunity to study in the fresh air! For example, Year 3 looked at the parts and functions of plants in the Hop Garden. Year 4 went to Daubeney Fields to identify different animals. Lauren also shared her resources with Year 5 and helped lead a session on life cycles.

A new coaching system of teachers has begun in science. There was a learning walk to identify the strengths and needs of teachers. The process will involve team-teaching, observing and feedback as well as strategies for teachers to independently assess their own teaching in an effective way.

## Physical Education

The curriculum focus this half-term for all year groups from Y1-6 has been football. However, PE at Daubeney has not only been about football! We have continued to access the adventure playground for our additional PE sessions, Year 5 enjoyed it in Autumn 1 and Year 3 will have this opportunity in Autumn 2 to enjoy the outdoor activities. In addition to the usual Football after-school club, we are now collaborating with British Cycling to deliver an after-school cycling club. We have also been liaising with Young Hackney to partake in inter-school football games. We now look forward to a half-term of gymnastics and other exciting initiatives in the pipeline such as skateboard lessons for PE in the summer term—TBC!

## Computing

This half term has seen computing lessons up and running in the classrooms! The children are using Purple Mash to access a range of computing activities and their first topic has been coding. They have been making cross curricular links to other subjects while learning about computing, for example exploring co-ordinates and variables, using oracy to give clear and concise instructions, and creating accurate maps. Each child has their own personal LGFL login which they can use to access Purple Mash from home too, as well as access a range of other resources on the LGFL website. Our team of Digital Leaders has been set up and these children are available to help their classmates with any computing needs they have. We are currently exploring additional ideas and resources to link Computing to other subjects in a wider setting, such as wildlife cameras and weather monitors, so watch this space!

## Pupil Voice

The School Council met for the first time on 6.10.21 in their full capacity. They have now taken on their roles and have each become a member of one of our four committees, namely; Journalist committee, Admin. committee Junior Road Safety committee and Charity committee.

Committees met this week to begin work on their action plans.

I've heard on the grapevine that the Admin committee have plans that they would like to present to Mr Warren and I; we look forward to reading their proposals.

## Music

Good news! Our school choir is up and running again led by our fantastic parent volunteer Miss Kari. I hope you managed to witness their performance at our recent Black History Month celebration concert. Mr. O' Flynn has also started back this term with whole school singing assemblies. Mr. O' Flynn even went on a bike trip where the children sang as they cycled! Two of our successful rounds have been "Hey ho, nobody home" and "Black socks". I'm sure your child has come home singing these tunes. Here are some more music highlights:

**Monday:** Lunchtime disco in the playground, afterschool music club

**Wednesday:** Two drum clubs, violin club and choir club

**Thursday:** Woodwind club

**Friday:** Guitar hero electric jam in the KS2 playground



## Creative Arts

Children at Daubeney adore Art and many children have been enjoying their time in Creativity clubs this term. We have clubs available for Year 1 and 2, Year 3 and 4 and Year 5 and 6. Additionally, it has been wonderful to get the new Junior Art Team together, including children from Year 1 and 2. They were so proud to receive their badges and promote Art within their classes. We entered a competition in September to win a mural painted in our school playground, promoting the use of car free travel and caring for our environment. Unfortunately, we didn't win as a school but received some fantastic entries and prizes were awarded to three individual children.

We have been celebrating Black History Month! An incredible display has been set up by the lunch hall to celebrate the diversity of our school. The children have been so inspired and have used it as a starting point for many conversations. Children in the Junior Art Team spent time making posters to promote Black History Month and have placed these around the school.

Cross Curricular Art has been happening during literacy lessons, particularly to immerse children in the stories that they have been learning about. Year 2 used watercolours to paint scenes from 'The Magic Bojabi Tree' and created a display of their work in the corridor.

## Integrated Learning

Year 1 have had a successful start to the year. Our integrated learning has supported the children to have a smooth transition from reception to year 1.

The classrooms are looking amazing, with stimulating, child centred displays and planned activities that support children in learning through play. The children have had the opportunity to participate in teacher led activities and have been able to apply their learning in planned independent activities.

The children have enjoyed learning about plants in science and enjoyed creating 3D models of their playgrounds in geography.

Each morning, the children look forward to participating in their daily phonics sessions and reading in a small group with an adult. The children have been very excited sharing their book levels and their phase they are working within in phonics.

## Religious Education (RE)

Daubeney has made a brilliant start to the RE curriculum by having a wonderful first RE day on the 7th of October. A wide range of religions and practices were covered through role play, art and discussions. This has helped the children develop their oracy skills, a key area of learning that Daubeney children are working extremely hard to develop. Our next RE Day is on the 2nd of

## *Physical, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)*

This term, we met our new CWIS (CAMHS worker in school) Vana Lamprogianni, who will be working with us to support in growing a greater awareness of mental health. She has already led on a parent workshop and an assembly. Vana will return to Daubeney on the 9th November where she will lead on another parent workshop focusing on children's behaviour and emotional wellbeing. Our Junior Mental Health Team have been busy this half term introducing weekly breathing techniques during assemblies. They also planned and led a fantastic assembly teaching children how to have good mental health and who they can speak to if they need support.

## *Anthropology*

At Daubeney, the cross curricular subjects are divided into half termly blocks and Autumn 1 was dedicated to Geography. To start off the year, we spent our first Monday back from summer on Mapping Skills Day, where children had the opportunity to learn new skills through practical lessons indoors and out. Year 1 spent time navigating around the school playground using directional language, Year 3 learnt about the basic symbols of a map, and Year 6 learnt how to draw maps accurate to scale that included symbols. There has been a heavy focus on how Daubeney can show progression of skills in our Cross Curricular subjects and the skills covered during Mapping Skills Day shows how embedded this practice is.

As the year groups begin to implement outdoor learning as regular weekly lessons, we will begin to see more exploration of the outdoors linking to learning in geography. So far, Year 5 have explored their geography topic of Tanzania by thinking of how they might prepare to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. Being outdoors for geography lessons allows for opportunities for role play and continued development of children's oracy skills.

Although Daubeney has yet to cover our first history topics across the school, we have already been able to show a great deal of historical learning through Black History Month. We've celebrated the achievements of brilliant Black people of today and of the past in lessons of a variety of subjects, the Black History Month art and research competition and most importantly our fantastic Black History Month Event. Children at Daubeney have been excited to take charge of their own learning and, in line with our school priorities, we have been able to involve the wider community in the Black History Month Event as well, which was extremely successful.

Autumn 2 will be dedicated to covering topics relating to ancient history. To ensure our curriculum is broad and balanced, our history topics are comprised of ancient civilizations and explorers from all around the world.

## *Inclusion*

A fantastic start to a new area of responsibility of SEND and Inclusion, at Daubeney, for our Deputy Head Mr Dharma. We are delighted to have developed our SEND Team to also include, Miss Prisca, our Inclusion Support Worker and Troy Utz as our Specialist SEN Teacher. Our addition of a specialised sensory room provision (Rainbow Room), sensitive to the needs of autistic children, has been a welcome addition to Daubeney and has already received much praise from external professionals, including Stephen Hall, our school SIP, Barney Wade, our school Educational Psychologist, our Speech and Language Therapists and parents of pupils accessing the provision throughout the day. We are proud to see the engaging activities, in Rainbow Room, explicitly supporting the Engagement Model curriculum.

## *Site & Premises*

We redecorated our two top floor year 6 classrooms over the summer and they are looking fantastic! We also fully refurbished our Junior PPA Room to provide our staff with a comfortable place to work in. All of the lights in the junior building were also replaced with LED lighting through local authority commissioned works just in time for the darker winter months. We look forward to developing our Reception play area by putting into practice some of findings through the OPAL initiative.

## *Community*

Our PCTA have been leading the way with our community events this half-term. Starting with the Reception & Year 1 'Tea Party' in the Hop Garden to welcome new parents to our community. The PCTA also recently held a Table Top sale which raised £500 (well done and than you!) which the PCTA have generously donated to support our Outdoor Play and Learning initiative, of which you will hear more next half-term. However, our very well attended Black History Month 'Hair and Fashion' celebratory event was absolutely magnificent and says so much about our Daubeney village/family!

*Thank you for reading— The Daubeney Team*