

NEWSLETTER

INSPIRING ALL TO SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS

CHALLENGE - CREATIVITY- CRITICAL THINKING-
COLLABORATION - COURAGE



Edition 33: 19th June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

When will the children meet their new teacher? I know many of you—and the children—have been eager to know the answer to this question. I am now delighted to confirm that all children will be spending the morning of **Wednesday 15th July** with their new class teachers.

This dedicated transition morning is a wonderful opportunity for the children to:

- Spend quality time getting to know their new teacher and support staff.
- Familiarise themselves with their new classroom environments.
- Ask questions and look ahead to all the exciting learning planned for the next academic year.

We find that this morning dramatically helps to ease any end-of-term jitters and ensures the children can head into the summer holidays feeling confident, settled, and excited about their next steps.

Class structure details and specific teacher placements for the upcoming year will be shared with you shortly ahead of the day. We are delighted to welcome a new teacher to the Downham team, Miss Abigail Lennard. She will be officially starting on 1st July and I will look forward to introducing her to you all.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine.

Miss Bailey, Executive Deputy Headteacher (NPQH)



YEAR 6 HAD A GREAT TIME AT BAWDSEY MANOR THIS WEEK!



MEET THE STAFF MEMBER: MRS BENNETT

I have been connected to Downham School since 1997, when my two daughters were pupils here. I first joined the school as a Teaching Assistant in 2000. After leaving in 2005, I worked as an Adult and Family Learning Tutor and a yoga instructor. In 2009, I decided to retrain as a primary school teacher and successfully completed my teacher training in 2014. I was delighted to return to Downham School in 2017 and have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the school community once again. Outside of school, I enjoy travelling and the performing arts, everything from opera to heavy metal music festivals. I enjoy spending time with my family and love nothing more than hosting family get-togethers. On quieter days, I am equally happy relaxing with a good book and a cup of tea.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

EYFS - 96.8%

Year 1 - 97.4%

Year 2 - 97.8%

Year 3 - 87.7%

Year 4 - 96.4%

Year 5 - 93.3%

Year 6 - 89.2%

Total - 93.8%



WELL DONE NIGHTINGALES!

HEADTEACHER'S CUP



This week's Headteacher's Cup goes to Florence in Year 3, who was a shining star on stage at the Chelmsford Civic Theatre this week! Well done, Florence! Miss Proctor, Mrs Crook and I were so proud of all the children who took part. This was the first time that Downham participated in the Chelmsford Junior Music Festival and the comments we received from families were extremely positive. We will definitely enter again next year!



IMPORTANT DATES:

23rd June: District sports at Billericay High School (selected pupils from Years 3-6)

24th June: Class photographs

24th June: 1.30pm Sports day

25th June: 10-11am EYFS Teddy Bears picnic at Mayflower School

25th June: New EYFS in from 9.30-11.00am (parents welcome to stay)

26th June: INSET Day

30th June: Non-uniform day (theme of sparkles/fun/party - basically wear what makes you happy!) in return for a donation towards our bouncy castle

1st July: Trust swimming gala at James Hornsby (selected KS2 pupils)

2nd July: Year 1 trip (see separate letter)

7th July: Year 6 production - dress rehearsal

7th July: SATs results released

8th July: Samba drumming workshops for all classes

9th July: ECFRS Summer Safety assemblies

9th July: 5pm Year 6 production to families

10th July 9am: Year 2 Class assembly

10th July: Reports sent home

13th July: Parents welcome after school to discuss their child's report

OUR DOWNHAM 5C AWARD WINNERS FOR THIS WEEK:

EYFS - Harry G and Henry J for Collaboration

Year 1 - Callie for Challenge

Year 2 - Arthur for Challenge

Year 3 - Stanley for Critical Thinking

Year 4 - Ben for all of the 5Cs

Year 5 - Oliver B and Oliver P for Collaboration

Year 6 - Jamie for Challenge

