

WELCOME TO DEBDEN CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY

I am exceptionally proud to be head teacher at Debden and would like the opportunity to give you a taster of our school.

As a visitor you may wonder "What makes Debden special?" In answer, it is the warm, nurturing nature of our school that is at the very core of what we do. We are like a family; caring about each of our children and valuing them as individuals. We take each child, nurture and challenge them through their primary school years by a combination of excellent teaching underpinned by our Christian ethos to enable them to be the very best that they can be and equip them for secondary school and life beyond.

You will feel it when you step into our warm, welcoming school. You will see it as you see experience our wonderful grounds, which back onto open countryside. You will sense it as you visit our classes and see the dedicated team helping each child to flourish by recognising their strengths and valuing their individuality. Most of all, you will hear the buzz of our classrooms, filled with excitement and a thirst for active learning from our children.

I am delighted to be able to share in our children's successes and I am proud to be part of their journey.

Rest assured you are welcome to come visit us at any time. This is the welcome on our new website;

www.debdenprimary.co.uk/web

This year we have had many successes - academic, sporting, musical and scientific.

Our results at the end of 2017 speak for themselves. We were in the top 10% of schools nationally for progress in reading and maths. The children worked exceptionally hard, ably helped by their outstanding teachers and support staff.

100% of those that took the maths, reading and grammar, punctuation and spelling test passed. I was thrilled to be able to give the children receiving those results such a positive start to their secondary school journey.

In other successes; we took a maths team to Radwinter School, where they competed against several local primary schools. I was delighted and proud that we came first! This means that we will go to the next level, which will be at county level. The children had problems of ratio, algebra and geometry, at a level far above where's expected for their age.

Our sports teams have been extremely successful in our new sports kit that had been sponsored by "The Fleur de Lys" in Widdington! Thank you Mr and Mrs Rossetto.

The hockey team in particular, coached by Mrs Magness and ably helped by Mrs Cox Debden Hockey were runners up in the USSP local schools hockey tournament and went through to the next level tournament. They played at the 'Essex Games Level 3 Tournament' and were runners up!

This was a massive achievement for Debden Hockey. The tournament drew on schools from much further afield, larger & private too. The children who played were a credit to the school on and off the pitch.

Our children continue to play and perform well. Two of our year 6s - Logan and Isaac played beautifully at the Remembrance Service that the community organises and we participate in. I was proud and humbled at the respect our children showed at this important occasion.

We also continue to bring STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) to the forefront of our children's minds to better prepare them for their future. Each half-term a class hosts a STEM afternoon for parents to join in as well!

Finally, Debden Primary Academy continues to go from strength to strength. I am proud of the children that we are educating, for they are our futures.

Thank you.

Mrs Gurney
Headteacher