

Dame Elizabeth  
**CADBURY**

# Headteachers **BLOG**



## **SEND Review**

Supported by the Senior Leadership Team, Mr Rackham is running a 3-day extensive review of SEND provision, support and impact in school. This will involve a variety of review activities and we would like parent to submit feedback on what you feel we are doing well and what specific things you feel would improve our work with children and with parents around SEND. Please submit feedback including suggestions for improvement via email to [a.rackham@decschool.co.uk](mailto:a.rackham@decschool.co.uk)

*Letter from Mr Tim O'Neill*

### **Director of Education at Birmingham City Council**

We are delighted to have received a letter of congratulation for our outstanding examination results - please [click here](#) to read the letter.

## **Parent Voice Questionnaires**

On target setting day, over 250 parents provided invaluable feedback via our questionnaires. There were some excellent suggestions and overwhelming satisfaction.

96% of parents would recommend the school to another family, 100% of parents feel that the school uphold high expectations of pupils and that pupils are taught well.

Some of the comments gave us some priorities that I want to share here:

- Feedback. Parents felt that our anti bullying work was excellent but that there are times when our feedback to all involved parties could be better. We are now ensuring that verbal and email feedback is provided to all parents whose child may have been in any any involved in a bullying issue or bullying-related issue.
- Ongoing communication for parents of children with SEND. Almost all parents recognised that the work we do to support children with additional needs is excellent, but some felt that we need to be clearer with our ongoing communication, day to day, so that support is better coordinated between school and home. With this in mind, we have included this in the SEND review mentioned above and parents of children with SEND can now expect a regular SEND newsletter which will be more tailored and specific. We are already increasing the number of SEND coffee mornings to enable greater face to face contact, updates and input for parents from specialists in a variety of SEND fields.
- Issues with Wisepay. The challenges, particularly with trip payments, have all been fed back to our central finance team who have ensured that the technical issues have now been resolved. Parents can expect a smoother service moving forward. Please don't hesitate to email [enquiry@decschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@decschool.co.uk) if you experience any issues.
- More information on what's happening in school. Parents fed back that they feel our newsletters are good, but updates on all of the great things that are happening in school aren't frequent enough. This Head Teacher's blog is an example of the new features of communication parents can expect to received to strengthen communication and good-news sharing.

### Extra-Curricular Timetable

This has now launched under the leadership of Dr L Hughes who has been appointed as the whole school coordinator for The Wider Curriculum. Please check the website regularly for updates on what is on offer before and after school each day.

### Trips

In addition to the day to day offer, recently launched or completed trips include:

- South Africa PE trip
- China 2020
- Carding Mill Valley field trip for GCSE Geography students
- Blists Hill History Trip
- Liverpool University Visit

### Topic Day 1 - British Values Day

A wide range of engaging sessions took place for all year groups across the school including:

- Democracy, government and voting for Head Boy and Head Girl
- e-Safety workshop... Staying safe online and in social media
- Healthy lifestyle workshop... Healthy body and healthy mind
- Acceptance of everyone... LGBTQ+ awareness
- Careers... Exploring my options

### Black History Month

We are beginning a month of celebrating heritage at DEC. Racial equality, like all equality is an unwavering value which all at DEC hold at the centre of how we operate as citizens in modern Britain. Celebrations and learning began this week with assemblies - a wide range of fantastic activities will continue throughout the month.

### Year 11 Mock Examination Timetable

The draft timetable has now been produced and will be published very soon. Mock examinations start on Monday 18th November. Year 11 must now begin accessing revision resources on the website to plan their revision programme. 'Little and often' should be the approach to ensure preparations are thorough. Pupils know by now that Hard Work Beats Talent.

Please look out for fortnightly Head Teacher blogs moving forward and be sure to follow us on [Twitter: followDECTC](#)

With best wishes



Mr Dunn