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Your
half-termly
Scoop on
All Things
DPS

Issue 4 Spring 2 2026

HEAD'S WELCOME



Welcome to Issue 4 of the *DPS Download*. It has been wonderful to see the first signs of spring, with sunshine and blossom beginning to appear around us. We hope the warmer weather continues after the Easter break, and I'm sure we are all looking forward to longer, lighter evenings ahead.

In this issue, we are placing a particular focus on inclusion and SEND, sharing some of the ways we are working to ensure every child feels supported, valued and able to succeed.

SCHOOL EVENTS

Year 1 and 2 Spring assembly

It was a joy to see our Year 1 and Year 2 children proudly showcase their learning in their recent Spring assembly. From the singing and confident narration to the dancing and fabulous headwear, it was a wonderful celebration of all things spring.

Family meetings

We have recently held a number of successful family meetings across the school. In Year 1, teachers shared helpful information with families about the upcoming phonics screening check. Our Year 6 team also provided valuable updates on the forthcoming SATs and the residential trip.

For those who were unable to attend, all of this information has been shared with you to ensure everyone feels informed and supported.

Mother's day writing

The children thoroughly enjoyed creating poems, descriptions and letters to celebrate Mother's Day. It was a real pleasure to read such thoughtful and heartfelt writing—we hope you enjoyed reading them just as much as we did.

BEHIND THE SCENES

This half term, staff have taken part in training to prepare for the full launch of our new writing scheme, *Ready, Steady, Write*. This approach provides a clear and consistent structure for teaching writing, linked to high-quality texts from well-known books. It will support all children in developing their skills and making strong progress on their writing journey.





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INCLUSION SPOTLIGHT

As you may be aware, SEND has been a significant topic of discussion in the news following the publication of the new SEND White Paper, "All Children Achieving and Thriving." In light of these developments, Deanshanger has reviewed and adapted its SEND provision.

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Forward will be returning from maternity leave to take on the role of SENCo at Deanshanger. For those who may be concerned about this change, please be reassured that Mrs Burnside will continue to support our school in her role as Partnership SENCo.

We understand that changes can sometimes cause uncertainty; however, many of the approaches outlined in the White Paper—particularly the emphasis on greater inclusion within mainstream classrooms—are already part of our established vision at Deanshanger. For example, we have introduced afternoon group interventions, which your children may already have shared with you. While some terminology and systems are evolving, our commitment to high-quality first teaching remains unchanged.

If your child currently has an EHCP, these changes will not affect their provision. Further information for parents can be found here: <https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2026/02/schools-white-paper-what-parents-need-to-know-about-changes-to-the-send-system/>

It is also worth noting that Northamptonshire has been working towards these developments for some time. Funding is now structured to support a broader, whole-school approach—covering individual, intervention, and community levels—rather than focusing solely on individual EHCP funding.

Under the proposed changes, most children's needs will continue to be met through high-quality teaching and inclusive classroom practice. For children and young people who require additional support, there will be graduated levels of provision:

- **Monitoring, SEN Support and Targeted Funding (EHCP Specialist has been replaced by this structure)**
- **Targeted** – Structured support such as speech and language groups or support with sensory needs. This will be recorded in a digital Individual Support Plan, developed by the school in partnership with parents.
- **Targeted Plus** – More specialist input from education and health professionals, such as Speech and Language Therapists and Educational Psychologists. This will be delivered through the 'Experts at Hand' offer and recorded within the Individual Support Plan.
- **Specialist** – Children with more complex needs will receive comprehensive support through a Specialist Provision Package and an EHCP, either in a mainstream or specialist setting. Day-to-day support will continue to be detailed within the Individual Support Plan.

We would also like to reassure you that, as a school, we are already well-prepared for these developments. We have been working closely with the Local Authority on adaptive teaching, and all staff have received training delivered by them. We have already reviewed our processes and revisited our approach to high-quality first teaching. Therefore, much of what is outlined in the White Paper reflects practice that is already established at Deanshanger—this is not something entirely new, but rather a continuation of our existing vision and approach.

As always, your child's class teacher should be your first point of contact if you have any concerns about your child.



Please remember that the White Paper is still under consultation and no changes have been finalised. We will continue to follow current processes, while preparing for potential developments, and will keep you updated as further information becomes available.

We remain fully committed to providing the very best support for all our pupils. We are confident that Mrs Forward and Mrs Burnside will work closely together to ensure the highest quality provision for your children.



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Deanshanger Children's
Easter Egg Trail

Easter Bonnet Competition

FREE ENTRY

Easter Story Activities

Drinks & cakes available from
Bring a Picnic!

Saturday 4th April
12 - 3pm in Jubilee Park

Deanshanger Good Neighbours with Holy Trinity Church




LOCAL EVENTS

Please see attached poster regarding a local Easter Egg trail event. Please note this is not an event directly related to the school.

PTA UPDATES

The end of this term has seen another successful 'Break the Rules day' organised by our fantastic PTA.

A couple of dates for events coming up in the Summer term:

Disco: Wednesday 6th May

Colour run: Friday 12th June

Summer fete Friday 10th July

IMPORTANT DATES AND REMINDERS

A gentle reminder that children should not come to school wearing make-up or jewellery, with the exception of stud earrings.



Important dates

13.4.26	Children return to school
16.4.26	Yr 4 Multiplication check parent meeting
4.5.26	Bank Holiday
6.5.26	School discos (more info to follow)
WC 11.5.26	Year 6 SATs week
22.5.26	Year 3 and 4 production
23.5.26	Half term



THANK YOU

Finally, a huge thank you for your continued support. Your children are an absolute credit to you in the way they conduct themselves each day, consistently showing effort, focus and kindness. I am always so impressed by how well-mannered our DPS children are and the way they rise to the challenges presented to them.

Wishing you all a lovely Easter break.

