



**Engage Develop Aspire Communicate**  
**Our vision**  
**Working towards successful futures**

Principal's message to families – 26 April 2024

**Next weeks Lower school word of the week is - [Magical](#)**  
**The Upper school word of the week is – [Brief](#)**

Happy Friday everyone!

I seem to have spent more time out of school than in school this week so am certainly glad its Friday! On Monday I was at **Meath School** in Surrey (Speech and Language UKs other school) talking about site developments there and reflecting on developments over the last few years at Dawn House. It was great to meet children and staff in their very similar, yet very different environment. Meath school is based in a listed building so their building challenges are very different to ours but whenever we share the work we do with our children there are so many similarities.

On Wednesday this week I was at our new Speech and Language UK offices in London doing some training with colleagues all about talking to the press. We all listened closely to the trainer, **engaged** well, and tried our very best with practise interviews (being recorded and videoed!). We all **developed** our skills and **communicated** our thoughts and ideas and now **aspire** to make an even better job the next time the radio or TV reporters call!

It made me think about all of the learning experiences that our children face on a daily basis, and how exhausting that is!

### **School activities**

The GCSE art exam went well this week for KS4

Children made popcorn with the Trailblazers in the Forest Schools area as part of outdoor learning this week.

Everyone is getting excited and ready for the **KS3 PGL trip** next week- our biggest yet with 17 children attending. Look out for our Facebook updates and photos- the range of activities this year sounds amazing.

We have a group of children and staff out today at a **Table Cricket event**- here's hoping everyone is doing well!

On Sunday some of our children are going to Blidworth to receive awards for their local artwork- congratulations!



Talking of activities and trips, can I just thank parents for your **voluntary contributions** to these when we need to ask you, and for contributions towards your children cooking in school. These contributions really support us to be able to continue to provide quality experiences for your children.

### **Dawn House News**

We also have some exciting whole school news to share. You may or may not know that Dawn House School is currently full, with 95 pupils. This is fabulous for the school, as we have not been full for many years. Obviously, this brings the dilemma though of having to turn away children who really need our support. With this in mind we have made an application to the Department for Education to increase our pupil admission number (PAN) which has just been accepted! The Local Authorities we work with will soon be aware of this so I thought it important that you know too. It makes little difference to day to day life at Dawn House as we already have made good use of classroom and therapy space as you know. We are currently making plans to further increase parking availability too so will be able to share plans in the near future. I'm sure you will agree that this is a great development for the school.

Have a great weekend everyone,  
Jenny.

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If your child leaves home in the morning a little unsettled and you want to quickly tell us, so we know to expect a tricky start to the day, a quick email (that we can follow up later) to the tutor and/or core team with '**Handle with Care**' in the email title will ensure that we are aware.