



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

Principal's message to families – 28 March 2024

**Happy Easter to you all!**

Our celebration assembly started this week - so many certificates were given out to celebrate children's (and staff's) developments, achievements, engagement and communication. There were also OT certificates for some pupils and following our 'Investigate' house event, there were certificates all round for the LIONS!!!!!! A great, although very close, result! Do have a look on the Facebook page where our Spring 2 half term is captured in photos.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/dawnhouse>

Sharing a **Robin Hoods Bay**, 6<sup>th</sup> form trip reflection....

"...this trip is such an essential part of 6th form provision, perfectly aligned with both SLT goals for pupils of this age and their curriculum and pathways to adulthood. It links perfectly with our life skills / independence curriculum.....

Some pupils played a song ... with lyrics that summed it up so well..

"Can we go back, this is our moment, tonight is the night, so we put our hands up like the ceiling can't hold us, like the ceiling can't hold us..."

For our pupils to sing that with their hearts and souls really was a moment that I will never, ever forget!"

Wow!

KS4/5 pupils enjoyed **Padel tennis** earlier this week and Mr Rose took a team out to play table cricket on Tuesday- they came a very close second, which takes them into the final next half term. Sounds like they gave the winning team a real 'run' for their money and have really upped the competition.

Last week Lower School and Key Stage 3 classes participated in **Space Day here at Dawn House**. In the morning, we had a visit from **The Wonderdome**. All of the pupils were captivated by the mobile planetarium shows, which allowed them to be absorbed in the world and universe around them. In the afternoon they all participated in a **UV dodgeball tournament**, where they were placed into teams named after planets. They all had a fantastic time and they showed great team spirit and support for each other.



The **Event management sixth formers** invited a group of children from Heathlands School to take part in UV dodgeball, an orienteering task all about their current topic, cities and to join in a quiz. All activities were devised and run by the 6<sup>th</sup> formers who did an amazing job! The feedback from the school staff was amazing- I think they enjoyed it as much as the children!

A big **THANK YOU** this week also to a team of volunteers from Severn Trent who came yesterday to paint 3 of our therapy rooms- they look amazing, so much better now they are white (apologies to the volunteers for the amount of coats of paint required!!)

**Chimes enterprise** have worked really hard over the last few weeks making cornflake tarts, chilli jam to sell to staff and have made so far a total of £112.00 to go into Friends of Dawn House. The chili jam is a real winner! Thank you!

**Construction** students hung their first pieces of wallpaper this week. It might not sound much, but it is no mean feat getting that first piece on correctly! Im sure many of you out there would agree.

Today were hosting a Friends of **Dawn House Easter Fair**, with cakes, a small raffle and gift stall to support one of our parents London marathon entry, for Speech and Language UK. We hope to see lots of you this afternoon before the children leave at 1pm.

Over Easter, our **Sensory Garden/ Jungle** will be transformed into our new **reading garden**- a quiet and sunny place for children and staff to relax and enjoy a good book if they want to, or to chill with their friends. It feels like it's been a long time coming but this and our new library will be all up and running for the Summer. Do pop in and have a look if you are in school.

### **Dawn House Residential**

Another activity filled week in the residence. The young people celebrated another birthday with plenty of party food and fun. The usual clubs, football, music, Dance Warriors and Foodie Friends were well attended, and the Foodie Friends made amazing chocolate muffins with orange mini eggs (my favourite!!). The Eco/Garden club had an extra special visitor called "Bazza the Easter bunny" who helped the young people in the egg hunt, before joining the residence for tea (not salad!!). The perfect last week in an action-packed term.

We look forward to welcoming the children back on the **15<sup>th</sup> April**.

Next term we have our **KS3 PGL trip** and I've heard that there is a **fishing competition** on the cards! Ill share more plans for the Summer 2 term on our return.



The Summer Term is also a term for us to get yours and your children's feedback about all things Dawn House - so watch this space for **questionnaires** coming through to you.

In the meantime, have a safe and enjoyable half term.

Very best wishes,

Jenny

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.