

DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

The image shows the interior of a church, likely Dedham Church, during a service or prayer session. A large, colorful stained glass window is the central focus, depicting various religious figures and scenes. Below the window is an altar covered with a blue cloth, featuring a wooden cross and a large bouquet of flowers. Two people are seated in the foreground, their backs to the camera, looking towards the altar. The church's architecture includes stone pillars and a high ceiling. The overall atmosphere is solemn and reverent.

July & August 2020

Dedham Church re-opens for Personal Prayer



DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

JULY & AUGUST 2020

The deadline for magazine entries is the 10th of the month

DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH

dedham-and-ardleigh-parishes.org.uk

Antony Wilson *Vicar*

☎ **323 919**

Merv McKinney *Assistant Minister*

☎ **323 919**

PARISH OFFICE

Claire Arculus *Parish Administrator*

☎ **322 136**

Charlotte Parker *Assistant Parish Administrator
& Safeguarding*

Assembly Rooms ✉ stmaryda@gmail.com

High Street, Tuesday 9-11am

Dedham CO7 6HJ Thursday 11-1pm

CHURCH WARDENS

Suzanne Woods ☎ **01255 870640**

Peter Wilson ☎ **323 179**

MUSIC

Antony Watson *Director of Music*

☎ **322 425**

DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

Editor

Charlotte Parker ✉ dedhameditor@gmail.com

Advertising

Sara Marshall ✉ dedham.advertising@gmail.com

MAGAZINE CONTENT

2. **Contacts/content**

3. **Coronavirus info**

4-5 **Viewpoint**

Features:

6-7 **Dedham Therapy Farm**

8-9 **Tackling the taboo**

10-14 **The Eley Family in Dedham**

15. **Dedham Benches**

Organisations & Features

16-17 **Gardening notes**

17. **Local clubs**

18-19 **Dedham Parish Council**

20. **Medical Matters**

20-21 **Dedham Primary School**

22-24 **What's on**

25-48 ADVERTISING

Mission Bake Sales: Dates & details TBC, Saturday 25th July & August Bank Holiday Monday Bric-a-brac sale



Follow us on facebook

Dedham and Ardleigh parishes

If you would like a lift to church contact **Ann Shaw ☎ 322 192**

or **Ruth Higginson ☎ 322 598**

Can we help? Sometimes things in life can just get too much to cope with on your own... **Psalm 34:18:** The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. If you would like some support or know of any one who would,

please contact: Ann Shaw ☎ **322 192** or Christine Mingay ☎ **230 723**

If you have been bereaved or know of anyone who has, please contact

Vee Druit ☎ **322 000** or Ruth Higginson ☎ **322 598**

First Steps: Want to get back involved with church but don't know where to start?

Contact Liz and John Reed ☎ **323770**



We're here for you.

Join us for on line worship
via our website...

www.dedham-and-ardleigh-parishes.org.uk

*May the God of hope fill you with all
joy and peace as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Dedham and Ardleigh



during the Coronavirus pandemic

01206 322025

Please leave a message with your name, phone number
and what you would like help with and someone will get back
to you the same day. For example you may like help to get shopping,
or a prescription, or just to have a friendly chat with someone!

Do you ever pray?



One Sunday a young child was "acting up" during the morning worship. The parents did their best to maintain some sense of order in the pew but were losing the battle. Finally, the father picked the little fellow up and walked sternly up the aisle on his way out. Just before reaching the safety of the church porch, the little one called loudly to the congregation, "Pray for me! Pray for me!"

If the child had learnt nothing else from going to church he knew when in need you can turn to God in prayer. How many of us have done that during this COVID-19 pandemic? Have you prayed more? Many people in times of need or in personal crisis turn to God in prayer and it is my belief that God our Heavenly Father loves to hear from us. But not though just when we are in

need but also to offer gratitude for the good things we enjoy or in confession for there are times we all mess up.

For me prayer has always been important, but what you may ask is prayer? For me it is coming to God and talking about what is on my heart, my joys and sorrows, my concerns and worries and to be thankful. The disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray as they'd seen him at prayer. The prayer Jesus gave them was what we call the Lord's Prayer which begins "Our Father in heaven".

As Christians we offer our prayers to the God who made himself known to us in Jesus who loves us and cares about us. Ah you may say then why doesn't he answer? Prayer is not so much getting what you or I want as

asking God to give us what He wants. Even Jesus prayed “Your will be done”. The answer may be yes, no or wait. Prayer is not a slot machine for sometimes what we might ask for may not be good for us, and have you ever considered you may be the answer to your own prayer?

Perhaps you have questions about this whole area of prayer and how it does or doesn't work. If that's you then do tune into our Sunday morning services over the next few weeks where we are going to have, instead of a sermon, a video presentation on the Lord's Prayer. Give it a try, I trust it will be helpful and encourage you in your understanding of prayer.

Finally to say we know how much those in the village and visitors to Dedham and Ardleigh appreciate being able to come into church for some quiet space to pray, light a candle or leave a prayer request and have missed doing so during the lockdown. With the easing of restrictions we are delighted the church is open again for private prayer. We will be following the Government COVID-19 guidelines including social distancing which we know and trust everyone will understand and respect.

Take care
Merv McKinney

the prayer course

**An eight week journey
through the Lord's Prayer**

prayercourse.org

Join in as we journey through the course as part of our online Sunday worship starting Sunday 28th June
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC78SZfH5QRXMpy7DgfwYslg>
Take part in a conversation about how to pray at 11am each Sunday via zoom – for details email stmarydavicar@gmail.com



The outbreak of Coronavirus has affected everyone in so many different ways. We all have a different story to tell.

We would like to express our gratitude to the local community for their support over the last few weeks. Whether you have made a cash donation, donated to our Just Giving page, purchased animal food from our Amazon wishlist, dropped feed off to the farm, offered us a kind word or volunteered your time. Each act of kindness is appreciated and has been of great encouragement to our team. We'd like to make special mention to Birchwood farm shop who donate

fruit and vegetables to us every week! We have seen a real sense of community and feel very fortunate.

The impact of Coronavirus will be with us all for quite some time in a variety of different ways. But for us the impact on mental and physical health is of great importance. Take care of yourselves and each other.

***With thanks, The team
at Dedham Therapy Farm CIC***

**Situated at the back
of Mill Lane car park,
Dedham
01206 322070**



 [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)
feel good shopping

Support Dedham Therapy Farm whilst shopping online



Tackling the taboo of an unearned advantage



I am writing this article as a middle class, privileged white woman, who has been born and raised in Dedham for the last 19 years. I have spent 6 months studying art foundation in London this year. I have experienced a lot of diversity; being friends with people from all different backgrounds and cultures, and listening to their experiences, has really opened my mind.

This article was born out of a discussion of, “If I don’t go to the protests about Black Lives Matter how can I make my voice heard in other ways?”

In light of all the media coverage over this past two weeks, I have reflected on what I have learnt through witnessing

my friends’ vastly different experiences of tolerance (or lack thereof), biased stop and search, etc. Personally, I have always believed that I am not racist, but that is not enough; I would like to do more. I hope you can join me in reflecting on and identifying situations where we could have acted differently, worked harder, used our white privilege to amplify the voices of others, or identified subtler ways of when people are (consciously or unconsciously) exploiting the power of privilege.

Racism is no longer just a black issue – it is our issue, a humanitarian crisis.

The very first step in eradicating this deeply engrained and often subtle racism begins with acknowledging white

privilege and explore how it has impacted others. This is uncomfortable; it is likely to trigger feelings derived from guilt or the fear of losing status. Educating ourselves about others' experiences, from sources other than mainstream media/newspapers, is crucial. Although extremely prevalent in the media at the moment, none of these are new issues, and there is a great amount of information available as soon as you start looking. I would highly recommend the short essay 'White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack' by Peggy McIntosh, as well as listening to Layla Saad's podcast 'How to fight white supremacy': she is an incredibly thought-provoking speaker. Another useful website to visit is 'Teaching Tolerance', for some really useful statistics.

In the past I have often felt powerless and incapable of making a difference, but doing something is better than nothing. I encourage you to have frequent discussion with friends and families, but no change ever came from staying in a comfortable bubble. One of the most important things I have learnt is to explore our unconscious bias. No child is born racist, so where has it been learnt from? It is not enough to say we are not racist – we must be actively anti-racist. Being anti-racist is not a belief or statement, it is a set of actions.

Ella Sambrook

If you would like to join in this conversation with Ella please contact the editor

Dedham and Ardleigh



The Helpline was set up at the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic to offer help and support to residents of Dedham and Ardleigh, collecting prescriptions, providing shopping or to have a friendly chat with someone when you need it most.

The Helpline is solely run by volunteers who have been a vital support and life line to so many throughout this time and still continue to do so.

“We have been self isolating due to our age, and we don't know what we would have done without the service. When we first called we spoke to a charming gentleman who organised everything for us. We want to say thank you to everyone on the helpline for everything you have done”

Mr & Mrs May (from Ardleigh)

“We couldn't attend our surgery as my husband had contracted coronavirus and I also couldn't go out or attend, so the helpline helped us by going to get our medication that we needed”

Anonymous (from Dedham)

“Thank you to everyone that has been on the Helpline for all the time and hard work and for being there for so many people that needed help and support, we are all so grateful”

Anonymous (from Dedham)

The Eley family in Dedham

It was listening to Mr W.E. (Ted) Eley's reminiscences when I was a child that first sparked my wish to know more about the history of our village. His memories reached right back to the beginning of the twentieth century and to the end of his long life he had perfect recall. My notes made after a succession of talks with him and his sister Connie in the early 1980s provide an enormous amount of incidental detail which would otherwise have been lost.

I am greatly indebted to Ted's granddaughters, Ann Pearce and Janet Bugg and Ann's husband Mark for the generous loan of their family albums and their kind permission to reproduce the photographs used here.

Part I: The Vale Bakery 1891-1962

John Eley (1859-1941) was a baker in Fore Street, Ipswich in the 1880s. He was already using the Clovers' flour from Dedham Mill when he heard from them that the tenant of their bakery on the corner of the High Street and Princl Lane had gone bankrupt and they were looking for someone to take it on. John and his wife Julia Minnie (née Bloomfield) were already intending to move out to the country, as she was most anxious to take their two young sons, Cecil (1887-1961) and William Edward (1890-1987), away from the unhealthy part of the town where they were living, which suffered from drains which were dangerously inadequate; so

in 1891 the family moved to Dedham where their daughter Connie (1896-1983) was born.



John and Julia Eley with their children Cecil, Edward and Constance, 1903

John Eley set up his Vale Bakery in a shop with a small bow window (later enlarged) overlooking the High Street. Behind it on the west side of Princl Lane were the dwelling house, the bakehouse, a range of sheds and four stables. Further down at the end of the lane they had garden land, a run for chickens (60 at one time) and an orchard. John took to breeding pigs and had his own hams, he always made 5 gallons of beer, he kept bees for honey and he planted walnut trees.



John Eley's Bakery, as it appeared when he opened it in 1891

Above all he had grazing for the horses, which were essential because deliveries were a very important part of his successful business. In the early days they were all made by horses and carts which could even make use of narrow lanes like the one, now reduced to a footpath, which ran from Rookery Farm in Cole's Oak Lane down to the Stratford Road. By being the only bakery delivering around Dedham daily (and every other day in outlying districts like Brantham and Boxted) Eley's gained a commercial advantage and because it stocked a range of everyday groceries, such as tea, butter and OXO as well, it

had the edge on other grocers who only came round weekly. Selling bread was a very competitive market because there were numerous bakeries in the immediate vicinity, including Young's in Crown Street, Sharp's near the Anchor, Bennett's on the Heath, Seaborn's next to the Live and Let Live pub on the Ardleigh Road, Harvey's shop at Lamb Corner, Mrs Garwood's on Grove Hill and, just outside the parish, Thorpe's at Stratford St Mary and Downing's at Ardleigh.

As soon as he was grown up William Edward, always known as Ted, joined his father in the business, which acquired further premises and expanded to provide teas and boat hire for the

Feature: The Eley Family in Dedham

tourists who were arriving in increasing numbers. In 1923 he married Dorothy (née Smith) and in due course their son Jim (1925-2003) worked with him. Ted's elder brother Cecil (1887-1961) was not involved with the Bakery but went into a business selling bicycles and cars which was owned by his mother's family in Braintree. Connie spent her life baking and running the shop, becoming famous for her skillfully iced cakes.

As an enterprising business man and property owner John Eley played an important part in community life and was involved in many village activities such as acting as Master of Ceremonies at dances in the old Grammar School building on Frog Meadow and singing in the church choir. He was one of the earliest people in the village to own a car. When war was declared in 1914 he

feared that his horses might be requisitioned and converted one of his horse vans into a motor vehicle. However when Ted was called up and spent two years with the Army in Salonika there was no one who could drive it! By 1919 the Bakery owned a 1906 Humber with two interchangeable bodies which could be hoisted up into the garage roof and dropped on to the chassis, so that it could be either a car or a van as needed.

In 1925 John Eley and his wife retired to Braintree where she had grown up but after her death in 1940 he returned to Dedham and took a furnished rental of Walden in Brook Street while negotiating to buy a building plot for a bungalow to share with Connie.

Postcard c.1913, showing the Bakery with enlarged shop windows





John, Jim and Ted - three generations of Eleys outside the bakehouse, 1934
Connie and Ted Eley at work in the bakehouse just before they retired in 1962





The Bakery with staff in the 1920s

He did not live to see Boot's Hole (now Reynbank) built in 1943 but Connie occupied it for the rest of her life and Ted joined her there after his wife died in 1970.

Following their father's retirement Ted and Connie ran the bakery together for nearly forty years but after WW2 Dedham's traditional way of life began to change.

Serious problems emerged in the 1950s when increased car ownership and the inexorable rise of the supermarkets began to put local shops out of business. In 1956 they were obliged to dismiss their staff, who to their relief were able

to find new jobs, and do all the work themselves.

Long mornings in the bakehouse were followed by tiring afternoons doing deliveries but they kept going, always smiling and cheerful. Finally in 1962 they retired and the business closed down, a victim of changed times.

@Lucy Archer

**Next time:
Part 2:
Eley's Tea Rooms and Boat Hire**

Dedham Benches



Over the period of lockdown, I have found myself asking these questions every time I, novel in hand, ready to pause my regular morning walk and read in the sun, find and choose to sit on a bench. It was this love of finding benches and, as it were, interacting with them, that drove me to try to photograph all the benches that I came across in Dedham. When doing such a thing, I always tend to wonder what the histories of these particular benches are. For many, one answer is written in text on the bench in question, in the form of a dedication. But then... why in this place? And why this this type of bench? And why a bench and not a chair? Was there a bench here before this, and why was it replaced? My tendency to overthink such things leaves me with questions and questions, and barely ever an answer. Whilst some people are still asking themselves, 'Which came first, the chicken or the egg?', I find myself wondering, 'What came first, the bench or the bus stop?'

The bench, of course, may be integrated into the bus stop, but was there ever a bench there before?



My questions, no doubt, mean nothing. However, my point is that benches of all different sorts, with different views, different shapes, different materials, different functions, different ages, etc. are everywhere, and I do not think that they get nearly enough attention for what they are. After all, is it not the case that the very presence of a bench is a way of saying 'You are welcome here. Feel free to sit down'? This alone is a reason to love benches. And why not chairs? Because chairs only have room for one. I may be just going a little mad, but are benches not a sign of a welcoming and loving community?

Whatever the significance of benches is, whether intellectual or not, Dedham has a lot of them, and I, for one, am very pleased about it.

James Sambrook



Dedham Horticultural Society

It's the height of summer and the garden is looking great – one of the benefits of working from home during Covid-19.

At their best are lavender – attracting all the bees – and large flowered clematis. Pollinator-friendly achillea is coming out too; there are some great varieties although I find the bright yellow *Achillea filipendulina* 'Gold Plate' happily reaches 120cm and the paler colours – white, cream, pink – perform best for me. I bought the variety 'Red Velvet' at Hampton Court Flower Show a couple of years' back and it's never bulked up in the same way. Dahlias are also coming into flower; there are almost as many in the garden as there are roses. In a slightly shadier part of the garden, I have

8ft tall *Thalictrum* 'Elin' spreading their delicate branches of small purple and white flowers over everything else. There is a patch in my border where *Crocsmia* 'Lucifer' combines with rose campion *Lychnis coronaria* and *Buddleja davidii* 'Royal Purple' to almost magical effect.

The delphiniums have finished and I've cut off just the spike of flowers – back to a leaf joint lower down on the stem – and given them a liquid feed, in the hope that I might get another spike of flowers later on in the year. You can treat lupins the same. July should see some agapanthus begin to flower, but not where I've planted them in good deep soil in my borders. Agapanthus flower best with their roots restricted and relish outgrowing a container, so their



tough fleshy roots are so packed in it's almost impossible to see soil. If you have quite shallow soil in full sun, well drained and pretty stony, once established a patch of agapanthus will give you a magnificent show.

The weather so far seems to have been perfect for pests, particularly aphids and I've spent some satisfying time squishing the worst of them off the stems of my favourite border plants and indoors where they are feasting on my chilli plants. I try not to use chemicals but the aphids call for it. I've also been checking my daylilies for signs of the *Hemerocallis* gall midge: when the unopened flower bud has a 'crinkliness' to it and, when split open, is watery inside with small maggots chomping away. Burn or put them in the household waste: don't leave them on the ground or in the compost where they'll bide their time for another year.

There's also some hacking back you can do this month. Summer prune your wisteria to get the best flowers next year. It's very vigorous and you need to cut back the whippy tendrils that have been growing over summer. Take them back to about 20cm long (about 5 or 6 leaves) and take stock of the framework formed by the main stems, cutting off any that are heading in the wrong direction. You'll cut these back further in late winter. Water in some tomato feed after you're done.

While you've got the watering can out, give any *Camellias* a good drench too: it's important that they don't get too dry

over the summer as this is when they are forming the buds for next year's flowers. If you don't give them the water they want and they get too dry, they will shed those buds – the botanical equivalent of throwing their toys out of the pram, I suppose.

I've got a fig *Ficus carica* 'Madeleine de Deux Saisons' planted in the corner of a sunny border – you can buy a special bag to control the roots if you don't want to plant in a container – and now is a good time to cut off the tips of side shoots after they've developed five leaves to encourage a better crop. I have a summer-flowering rambling rose 'Paul's Himalayan Musk' flinging itself into a greengage tree and over an old shed and now is a good time to prune it. Thin and shorten excessive growth by cutting out one in three of the oldest stems completely and shorten side shoots by a third, then tie in.

But don't spend all your time in the garden in a pruning, pest-killing muck sweat, make sure you take some time to enjoy your hard work with a glass of Pimm's... or three.

Don't forget to check our website www.dedhamgardening.wordpress.com for latest updates on our events during Covid19 restrictions.

Elliot Frisby

Dedham Parish Council

DPC held its first 'Zoom' meeting on the 1st of June. A number of residents joined the meeting, which seemed to run smoothly! At this meeting Kevin Taylor was elected as Chair up to May 2021, when the postponed local elections are expected to take place. Thank you to our outgoing Chair, Sheila Beeton, who has steered the ship with energy and enthusiasm for the past eight years. Sheila remains as one of eight Councillors whose role is to represent the views of all residents within the *Parish* and to listen to the views and needs of different groups in the community.

Litter: Dedham Parish Council has been working with a variety of local partners to try to effect some improvement in the amount of litter left behind down by the river after a sunny day. We released the press statement below, as a result of which our new Chair was interviewed on BBC Essex (Radio). The situation will be closely monitored.

"Dedham and the disappearing litter bins!
Dedham has long been a tourist 'hot spot' and visitors are welcome in our lovely part of Essex!

However, during the recent fine weather and following the easing of Covid-19 restrictions the village, along with many other beauty spots across the country, has been inundated with visitors. Sadly, a small number of these visitors have left a trail of rubbish and

detritus in their wake. The area down by the river has been a particular focus. Not only is this rubbish unsightly, it is also dangerous to the cattle and wild animals that access the River Stour here. As well as leaving items such as disposable barbeques, items of clothing, bottles and cans and human excrement behind, visitors are also piling up rubbish beside the litter bins which have been emptied by Colchester Borough Council staff twice a day on particularly busy days.





**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**

The MBE for volunteer groups

This is not sustainable so, having discussed with partners including the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Stour Valley Project, the landowner, Stratford St Mary Parish Council (this side of the river is across the county boundary and so therefore in Stratford St Mary Parish), and Colchester Borough Council it has been agreed to remove the litter bins from beside the gate leading to the river footpath. The idea is to remove the focal point which seems to encourage visitors to dump their rubbish here and to encourage them to take it home with them. There will be new signage to this effect which will also discourage barbeques and clarify that this area is not a public open space but simply a footpath along which to enjoy a walk along the river.

This approach has been shown to work in other locations and will be for a trial period, which will be closely monitored. The dog waste bin will also be re-located, but not removed completely as it is recognised that it is unsanitary to take dog waste home by car.

The dangerous practice of 'tombstoning' from the bridge is under consideration by Suffolk County Council which owns the bridge.

Dedham Parish Council is extremely grateful to the volunteer litter pickers who have been out in the mornings and evenings to clear up the rubbish and we hope they will continue to help their community in this way."

First Responders:

Manningtree Community First Responders are volunteers who are trained by the NHS to attend life-threatening 999 calls prior to the arrival of an ambulance. The area covered by the team is Manningtree, Lawford, Mistley, Brantham, Bradfield, Ardleigh and Dedham: New volunteers are needed, especially in the Dedham and Ardleigh areas. Volunteering hours are to suit you, e.g. an evening, a whole day, every other weekend. You can find out more at their website,

www.manningtreefirstresponders.co.uk

or you can give them a call on
07522 420564.

Footpaths: Our new contractor has begun cutting the footpaths in the Parish. We are also grateful to our volunteer who helps us to tackle any emergency work.

Nicola Baker

Parish Clerk, Emma Cansdale,
on 01255 871483
clerk@dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk

Kevin Taylor, Chair,
kevin.j.taylor@dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk

John Goldsbrough
for any updates for the website
webmaster@dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk

Constable Country Medical

Coronavirus Update: We have put in place many measures to enable patients to continue to receive medical advice and treatment, whilst minimising risk to both patients and staff. These measures have worked well so far and will remain in place until further notice. Although the number of confirmed cases nationally has fallen, if we relax these measures too early then the number of cases may well increase again

Our primary objective at the practice is to minimise the need for patients to come to the practice at all, but if they need to then to minimise the risk. Here is a summary of the measures we have put in place:

- If possible, submit any medical or admin query via our online eConsult service. As we are operating with reduced staff levels, this will help us considerably. Visit our website and follow the link. We aim to respond to all eConsults within 2 working days.
- If you cannot use eConsult or if your need is urgent, our receptionists will place you on a triage list and one of our doctors or nurse practitioners will call you back.
- After triaging, our clinicians can set up a video consultation, or may decide they need to see you in person.
- If you need to come to the practice, the clinician will ask you to wait in your car with your mobile. The clinician will call you when they are ready to see you.
- You must tell us if you are experiencing any Covid symptoms such as fever, a new cough, or loss of taste and smell.
- Please wear a mask or wrap a scarf around you face when you come to the practice, and sanitise your hands.
- Our nurses and phlebotomists are still seeing patients whose need cannot wait.

This includes blood tests requested by a doctor, dressings, cervical screening and child immunisations.

- Our Capel site is open at limited times through the week for patients who need to be seen but cannot get to East Bergholt.

- The front doors at Capel remain closed to practice patients though are open for pharmacy customers, though a maximum of 2 pharmacy customers are allowed in the building at any one time.

Practice patients seeing a phlebotomist, nurse or doctor at Capel are asked to wait in their car until they are called on their mobile number and asked to enter through the rear door.

Finally, we are still here to help our patients. Please feel free to contact us if you feel you need to speak to a clinician about any health concerns you may have. Also, please look out for vulnerable patients and if you have concerns regarding their health, please inform us.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

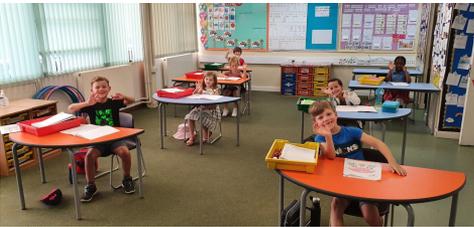
Pete Keeble, Practice Manager

Dedham Primary School

On Monday 8th June, we welcomed back children from Reception, Class 1 and Class 6. Following weeks of preparation and communication with parents, there was understandably a mix of emotions felt by the staff, parents and children that morning, however the overwhelming emotions were certainly relief and happiness; some children skipped through the front gates!

The size of our classrooms has meant that class groups (bubbles) have had to be limited to ten children and owing to

groups needing to remain apart from others, two members of staff have been assigned to each group for the whole day. With two-thirds of children remaining at home but all staff required to cover the eight groups of children in the school building, a part-time timetable has allowed staff to continue to provide vital online home learning support alongside the provision required for those children in school.



Classrooms do look bare with furniture removed and worktops cleared but despite the changes to the physical environment, classrooms are still a happy place to be. The children have enjoyed the comfortable familiarity of phonics and maths lessons and staff have also planned in lots of creative opportunities and activities to support personal, social and emotional development.



Children in all three of the returning classes were asked about their feelings on returning to school and all shared

how much they had been looking forward to seeing their friends and teachers. Being able to run around on the playing field with a football was also top on their lists of things they wanted to do! When asked about their worries, children in Class 6 shared that they had been worried about school being different and had worried about what playtimes would be like. One child shared that it was strange because even though they'd not seen each other in months, it was difficult to find things to talk about. In the end though, Class 6 shared that they'd enjoyed coming up with new ideas for games at a 2m distance and many children have enjoyed having their own tables with their own resources!

Over the coming weeks, we anticipate having more guidance over what school will look like come September and we certainly hope to be in a position to safely welcome back all of our children. March 20th seems like an incredibly long time ago now but with



light at the end of the tunnel, we are excited to now be planning for September. We've a new school logo to launch too so that's something else to look forward to

Laura Valentine
Deputy Headteacher

For those who do not mind watching at home, this is a great time to catch up on culture. My website lists almost 50 operas available free online, almost all with English subtitles. There are plenty of musicals (you have to pay for some) and a lot of theatre. And not all operas end with the soprano killing herself. The ENO's delightful **Mikado** is still available. There is a very sexy and funny **Don Pasquale** from Glyndebourne and a jolly if slightly over the top spy operetta from the Komische Oper in Berlin. You can check details on my website which has clickable links.

www.eamaa.org

Max Wilkinson

THEATRE

Marquee TV, Many productions, including from the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Royal Opera House, Glyndebourne, Free trial then £8.99 per month.

BBC iPlayer, **Shakespeare: eight plays, one ballet**, from The Globe: The Tempest and A Midsummer Night's Dream. From the Royal Shakespeare Co: Much Ado about Nothing, Othello, The Merchant of Venice, Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth, Hamlet. from The Royal Ballet: Romeo & Juliet- Beyond Words

Globe Theatre London, free online, **Shakespeare: Macbeth**, available until schools re-open. Or rent or buy most **Shakespeare** plays via Globe Player online

Royal Shakespeare Company, **Shakespeare: Six plays**, Macbeth, Hamlet, Romeo & Juliet, Much Ado About Nothing, Othello, The Merchant of Venice. Free via YouTube

WhatsOnStage, **An excellent list**, of free online stage shows, musicals and opera

Thursday 2 July

National Theatre, **Les Blancs**, confronts the hope and tragedy of revolution, to 9 Jul

Thursday 9 to 16 July



National Theatre, **Terence Rattigan: The Deep Blue Sea** (above), with Helen McCrory.

Thursday 16 to 23 July

National Theatre, **Peter Shaffer: Amadeus**, with the Southbank Sinfonia orchestra live.

MUSIC

Schedule of online free musical events, from ClassicalMPR

London Philharmonic Online, series of free concerts

Barbican Centre London, a variety of online offerings

[Berliner Philharmoniker Orchestra](#),

Concert Archive, Some 600 concerts are in the archive. Free trial.

[English Touring Opera](#), **A series of events on You Tube**

[London Symphony Orchestra](#), **Always Playing**, Archive recordings of full-length concerts are being streamed at 7.30pm on Thursdays and 7pm on Sundays. More than 500 videos on the LSO YouTube channel

[Monteverdi Choir and Orchestra](#), **A selection of concerts**, including: Monteverdi: Vespers and Beethoven's first five symphonies.

[Music in Felixstowe](#), **Wednesday concerts**, at 11.30 am. Previous live streams also available, via Facebook [Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment](#). Includes sessions with musicians playing ensemble from home.

[Orchestra of the Royal Opera House](#), **Bach: Double Violin Concerto in D Minor, Handel: Alleluiah Chorus**, played remotely while social distancing.

[Saffron Hall](#), **Chineke! Orchestra and Sheku Kanneh-Mason (cello)**, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor and other events on the website

[Wigmore Hall](#), **video library**, almost 50 concerts available to stream. Plus a recent lunchtime recital series

OPERA/MUSICAL

Broadway shows, a wide selection via Broadway HD, \$8.99 per month after 7-day free trial.

Andrew Lloyd Webber, different shows streamed free on Fridays for 48 hours.

Marquee TV, Many productions, including from the Royal Opera House, Royal Shakespeare Co, Glyndebourne, Free trial then £8.99 per month.

Les Misérables, the West End show in a staged version, download for £9.99, of which £5 goes to charities.



English National Opera: **The Mikado**

[English National Opera](#), **Gilbert & Sullivan: The Mikado**, The famous Jonathan Miller production: ENO's 14th revival staged in 2015. Still fresh.

[Garsington Opera](#), **Mozart: Le Nozze di Figaro**. A lively production

[Glyndebourne Opera Online](#), **Howard Moody: Agreed**, and **Open House**, from the opera house every Sun at 5 pm; some free operas and **Donizetti: Don Pasquale**, great fun but not free.

[Komishe Oper Berlin](#), **Jaromír Weinberger: Spring storms**, an espionage operetta, to 24 Jul;

Massenet: Pelléas et Melisande, to 8 Jul; **Arnold Schönberg: Moses and Aron**, to 12 Sep;



Metropolitan Opera New York: a free show every day, including some superb productions from the Met's archive of 700 shows.

OPERA continued

[Komische Oper Berlin](#), **Tchaikovsky: Eugene Onegin**, to 31 Jul; **Puccini: La Bohème**, to 17 Jul. All have English subtitles.

[La Monnaie / De Munt](#), **Wagner: Tristan & Isolde**, Sung in German with English subtitles.

[Metropolitan Opera New York](#), **The Mother of Us All**, opera by Gertrude Stein and Virgil Thomson and **daily free operas**.

[Monteverdi Choir and Orchestra](#), **Monteverdi's three great operas: Orfeo, L'incoronazione di Poppea and Il Ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria**, Superbly sung, semi-staged productions filmed at Teatro La Fenice, Venice.

[Opera North](#), **Wagner: the Ring Cycle**, All four operas from the 2016 semi-staged productions. And **Britten:**

The Turn of The Screw- powerful and moving production.

[Opera/Ballet Vlaanderen](#), **Dvorak: Rusalka**, with English subtitles. Each character represented on stage by a singer and a dancer, to 14 Aug

[Royal Opera House](#), **Antonio Pappano** explores his favourite opera pieces, singing at the piano; House Music via Facebook. Not to be missed.

[The Grange Festival Hampshire](#), **Bernstein: Candide**, with The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, to 5 Jul,

[Vienna State Opera](#), **Daily performances**, online, free and **Bizet: Carmen**, The Zeffirelli production, via YouTube

[Royal Opera House](#), **Mozart: The Magic Flute**, the 2017 production conducted by Julia Jones with Roderick Williams as Papageno, to 3 Jul

Sunday 12 July to 12 Aug

[The Grange Festival Hampshire](#), **Mozart: Le Nozze Di Figaro**, With The Academy of Ancient Music and The Grange Festival Chorus, from the 2019 festival.

ARTS

[Ashmolean Museum Oxford](#), **Young Rembrandt**, with an introduction from exhibition curator.

[Royal Academy London](#), **David Hockney**, exhibition on Screen.

[The British Museum](#), **Online access**, [Victoria and Albert Museum](#), online exhibition – **Kimono: Kyoto to Catwalk**, a five part curator's tour

Max Wilkinson

WHITTLES

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

www.whittles.co.uk

**Sound, clear advice
Personal, practical
approach**

Business advisory, tax, audit and
accounting services for companies,
charities, trusts and individuals.



The Old Exchange, 64 West Stockwell St, Colchester CO1 1HE
T: 01206 762200 E: mail@whittles.co.uk

15 High Street, West Mersea CO5 8QA
T: 01206 385049 E: mail@whittles.co.uk



01206 230882

www.blandlandscapes.co.uk

Ivydene, Frating Road
Colchester, Essex, CO7 7SY

Bland Landscapes Ltd

Our services include:

Treework Specialists	All types Fencing Inc.
Felling	Equestrian Fencing
Pruning	Driveways
Reducing	Patios
Reshaping	Turfing
Stump grinding	Planting
Seasoned Logs	Grass Cutting

MARK FAGE ARCHITECT

MODERN AND TRADITIONAL DESIGN
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL PROJECTS
LOCAL KNOWLEDGE AND SUCCESS

Tel **07976 655387** www.markfage.com

e mail mark_fage@btinternet.com