

Thursday 20th October 2016

# Duncombe News

Such an exciting week! Duncombe Bear or DB as he is being affectionately called, headed to the outer stratosphere following a 'Sent into Space' assembly and workshop experience. That's right; he really went to the very edges of space! It was wonderful to see the enjoyment and engagement of our pupils as they learnt about the technology and science behind the journey that he was to take. Then watching, as staff, pupils and visitors got completely caught up in the tracking, as DB made his way to 35,500M high above the earth whilst we all stared at large screens.

The footage that followed the next morning showed the first images beamed from DB's space pod. We could see the glory of the Earth as seen from space and the story of his return to earth where he landed in some trees. Just the most engaging and exciting experience for us all.

It is my genuine hope that many of our pupils will have been so inspired, that at some point in the future, they may wish to explore further learning and even careers linked to the space industry. Who knows, they might even end up as Duncombe School's first Human Astronaut following in the paw steps of our very own Duncombe Bear? Such a wonderful experience!

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Parents' Evening events this week. I know that there was plenty to celebrate and some clear next steps to follow to help with our pupils' learning and development. Year 6 have a big few months ahead of them and I shall be encouraging them to step up another gear as we come back after the half term break. Likewise, with all of our pupils, I am looking forward to seeing further hard work after the holiday as we host Parents' Evenings for Years 4 and 5 in the first two weeks back.

The Treetops Sharing Afternoon was a most joyous occasion with parents and pupils celebrating their learning journeys. As someone who gets to travel the journey of a pupil from Early Kindergarten to Year 6 on an almost daily basis, such events as these really are very special.

Mr Le Tissier and the Year 6 Digital Prefects spoke to all pupils this week about our ongoing e-safety learning. An excellent story was told about a young chick and her use of the internet! We know that the internet has so many applications to assist our children in their learning. It is important that we, as parents, also have a good understanding of how we can support our children to get the best from the web whilst being safe. Please do take a look at the link here which offers some good advice to follow <http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers> We are looking forward to more work from the Digital team over the coming months and will be sharing further links as the terms progress.

There are significant works planned during the half term which Mr Thomas has shared. If you do need to contact the school next week, the most effective way will be via email to [office@duncombe-school.co.uk](mailto:office@duncombe-school.co.uk)

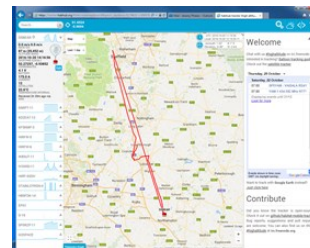
Finally, we are looking forward to welcoming back Mrs Takawira in November. She plans to return from maternity leave on November 21<sup>st</sup> and has been liaising with teaching staff in preparation. I can scarce believe that nearly a year has gone by. Where does the time go? Do have a wonderful half term break and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday October 31<sup>st</sup>. *Mr Phelan.*

## Space Adventures of Duncombe Bear (DB)



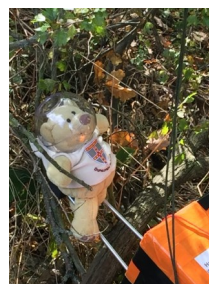
DB watches excitedly as the balloon is blown up.

Goodbye my Duncombe friends!



Now I know the National Space Centre is near .....Leicester?

It's oh so quiet ...



We're going on a bear hunt - he landed in a very tall tree!

**Here are this week's Pupils who received a Headmaster's Award. Well done to them!**



### Diary Dates

- Friday 21st October** - Half Term begins. School is closed.
- Monday 31st October** - School Resumes.
- Tuesday 1st November** - Year 4 Parents' Evening. 4.30pm to 6.30pm.
- Thursday 3rd November** - Year 4 Parents' Evening. 6.30pm to 8.30pm.
- Friday 4th November** - PA Fireworks Evening.

### Sports Fixtures

- Tuesday 2nd November** - U11 A, B & C Football and Netball v Sherrardswood (away). 2.30pm start.
- Wednesday 9th November** - U11 A&B Football v St Christopher School (away). 2.30pm start.
- Monday 14th November** - U7 A&B Football v St Edmund's Prep (home). 4pm start.
- Tuesday 15th November** - U11 Netball v St Joseph's in the Park (home).
- Wednesday 16th November** - U11 Hockey A&B v Heath Mount (away).
- Thursday 17th November** - U8 A&B v St Edmund's Prep (away).

### Looking Forward

- Thursday 10th November** - Open Morning for Prospective Parents. Year 5 Parents' Evening. 6.30pm to 8.30pm.
- Friday 11th November** - 1T Assembly (Parents Welcome). 8.50am start.
- Monday 14th November** - Upper School assembly at Holy Trinity Church (children only). Year 4 Parents' Evening. 4.30pm to 6.30pm.
- Wednesday 16th November** - Year 3 Roman Day. Moving to Kindergarten Meeting . 6.30pm in Treetops.
- Thursday 17th November** - Open House Coffee Morning 8.30am in Treetops. Miss Ruskin, Mrs Vinall, Mrs Wiscarson, Mrs Hills, Mr Foley, Mrs Coughlan, Mrs Sopher and Mrs Turner will be in attendance.
- Friday 18th November** - 2LA Assembly. (Parents Welcome). 8.50am start. Year 6 to Amaravati Buddhist Monastery.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Georgiana F (4G) who competed in the gymnastics Regional Final last Saturday (National Voluntary Level 5). The 18 gymnasts competing had all qualified for this competition by coming first, second or third in their respective County Finals in the East of England Region. In the Regional Final Georgiana gained a first place medal for floor and second place for bars. She came fifth overall, narrowly missing the podium by just 0.25. Well done Georgiana.



### PA Fireworks Night

Tickets are selling fast! If you haven't already purchased yours, please return your order form asap to make sure you don't miss out.

### PA Christmas Fair – Date For Your Diary

As we approach Half Term, planning has already started for this year's Christmas Fair. Thank you to the enthusiastic team of volunteers (see photo below) which met last Friday, to begin getting everything in place for a fun packed afternoon on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December.



The Team is currently seeking prizes for the raffle and companies to advertise in the programme. Please get in touch with Alison at [alisonholly@hotmail.com](mailto:alisonholly@hotmail.com) or Katy Bensley at [katybensley@btinternet.com](mailto:katybensley@btinternet.com) if you can help.

### Lost

Named maroon football socks belonging to Rupert Douglas.

### Warren Restaurant Menu for the week commencing 31st October

Warren restaurant					Weekly Menu
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Dish of the Day Beef Bolognese with Spaghetti	Dish of the Day Country Chicken Stew	Dish of the Day Beef Chilli Tacos with Sour Cream and Salsa	Dish of the Day Roast Chicken with Gravy and Cranberry Sauce	Dish of the Day Freshly made Salmon Fishcakes with Tar tare Sauce	
Vegetarian Option Quorn Bolognese with Spaghetti	Vegetarian Option Brie and Red Onion Tart	Vegetarian Option Cheese and Spring Onion Quesadilla	Vegetarian Option Sweet Pepper and Mushroom Frittata	Vegetarian Option Mac n Cheese	
Jacket Potato Bar Tuna Mayonnaise Cheese	Pasta Bar Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato Bar Baked Beans Cheese	Pasta Bar 3 Cheese Sauce Cheese	Jacket Potato Bar Coleslaw Cheese	
Vegetables Steamed New Potatoes	Vegetables Savoury Potatoes Steamed Green Beans Peas with Carrots	Vegetables Steamed Rice Steamed Sweetcorn Mixed Salad	Vegetables Roast Potatoes Honey Roasted Carrots Cauliflower and Broccoli Gratin	Vegetables Jacket Wedges Garden Peas Baked Beans	
Dessert Creamy Rice Pudding with Jam Sauce or Choc Chips Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Custard Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Choc Chip Cookie Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Strawberry Jelly with Cream Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Iced Carrot Cake Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	
Daily Salad Bar With a Selection of Home cooked Meats & freshly Prepared Salads Fresh fruit salad available daily					