

Friday 22nd January 2016



Duncombe News

Our week began with an assembly from Mr Le Tissier, our Director of Learning, on the topic of being prepared to take a risk even if we make mistakes in the process. He shared a number of inventions which were made by accident as a result of accidents. He encouraged all pupils to keep having a go, be involved and not to let the occasional wrong answer put them off. This was extremely well received and several pupils spoke to me about it during the week. Why not ask tonight, which inventions came about by accident? I think you may be surprised!

Phase assemblies followed up on this mid-week and then picked up in the 2LA assembly on the theme of 'Courage'. As ever the comic timing from both pupils and Miss Ashcroft was exceptional. The children had remembered the script and performed with radiant smiles on their faces. We had art, drama, poems, dance, jokes and a very serious message about the importance of taking courage, dovetailing into the theme of the week perfectly. Well done 2LA, a wonderful effort.

I greatly enjoyed visiting a number of lessons this week in Lower School and Upper School. I was very pleased with the level of commitment on show from our pupils and the discussions around a variety of topics including making healthy lifestyle choices in Science, adding fractions in Year 3 Maths, use of 'er' blended sound in Year 1 and giving and receiving directions in French. A wide and varied experience for our pupils which they are really getting stuck in to. As part of Mr Le Tissier and Miss Micele's work this year our staff are sharing best practice in our work room and at staff meetings. I have invited Mrs Durham to share her '3 minute warm up' in a future assembly building on some of the brain gym work we have followed in the past.

We are looking forward to another very busy week ahead with class assemblies, matches and the Yr 4 and 5 Future Schools Evening on Wednesday at 7pm. Have a wonderful weekend. *Mr Phelan.*



Diary Dates

Monday 25th Jan - 5V Assembly (Parents Welcome). 8.50am start.

Wednesday 27th Jan - Year 4 to Sikh Temple (am only). Future Schools Evening in Old Hall. 7pm start.

Friday 29th Jan - 1D Assembly (Parents Welcome). 8.50am start.

Open Morning for Prospective Parents.

Looking Forward

Wednesday 3rd Feb - Year 1 Setpoint Circus Workshop.

Thursday 4th Feb - Open House Coffee Morning in Old Hall. Miss Ord, Mrs Frost, Mrs Watson, Miss Angus, Mrs Davies, Mrs Takawira, Miss Roberts, Mrs Howes, Mr Sopher and Mr Douglas will be in attendance.

Friday 5th Feb - Breakfast Concert (including Year 3 recorders)

Saturday 6th Feb - Ski Trip Departs.

Tuesday 9th Feb - Parents' eSafety Evening. 7pm start in New Hall.

Thursday 11th Feb - School finishes at normal time and all After School Clubs will be on as normal.

Friday 12th February - Half Term begins.

Sports Fixtures

Monday 25th Jan - U9 Netball v St Joseph's in the Park (away). 4.15pm start.

Wednesday 27th Jan - U11A&B Hockey v Heath Mount (away). Time tbc.

Thursday 28th Jan - U8A, B & C Tag Rugby v St Edmund's Prep (away). 3.45pm start.

Monday 1st Feb - U9 A&B Quick Stick Hockey v St Edmund's Prep (away). 3.45pm start.

Wednesday 3rd Feb - U11 A&B Rugby and Netball v Friends' School (away). Time tbc.

Thursday 4th Feb - U8 A&B Netball v Westbrook Hay (away). 2pm start.

Thursday 11th Feb - Year 3 A&B Netball v Kingshott School (away). Time tbc.

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



Congratulations

Congratulations to Thomas S (NB) who reached his class goal this week. Well done Thomas !



Congratulations to Penny B (NM) who reached her class goal this week. Well done Penny !

Fire Brigade Visit Treetops

Last week, an optician and this week Hertfordshire's Fire and Rescue Services came to call. It's all very exciting in Treetops this term as the children learn all about 'people who help us'.

Nursery, KG and EKG all had the opportunity to see a fire engine up close and those who were feeling adventurous were able to climb up and sit in the cab. The helpful fire crew also showed us their protective clothing and gave the children demonstrations of how they put out fires. The children had an informative and exhilarating morning.

We are looking forward to next week when we are expecting a visit from the police!



Year 3 Trip to Verulamium

The weather was bitter and threatened snow but the intrepid pupils of Year 3 armed with hats and gloves, buttoned up in coats and carrying a full pack set off for St Albans and Roman Verulamium. During the morning the children ferreted out facts and information about the Romans in the museum or handled genuine artefacts and objects. A variety of interesting items revealed the ingenuity of the Romans and tested the investigative powers of the children. Who would have thought a piece of slate was, in fact, a makeup palette? Or that a beautifully made brass tool was for measuring the tesserae in a mosaic? There were more challenges as the undaunted team answered the many questions asked of them on their worksheets and navigated their way around the different areas of the museum.

In a final act of courage, the children held an orderly line during the battle of the Gift Shop and successfully spent their money.

With heads full of information we ate our rations in the Inn on the Park and then braved the elements for some outside research. The wind was strong but we were stronger as we fought our way to the Hypocaust and mosaic floor in the park and then on to the Roman theatre. The loud cheering at the theatre as we egged on the gladiators frightened sheep far away in the next field.

We returned triumphant and on time after a really great day.



eSafety Evening - Tuesday 9th February

May we remind you that all parents are encouraged to attend what promises to be an eye opening and informative eSafety evening on Tuesday 9th February. The event will include vital information on how to keep our children safe online. **Please note that this is an adult only event.** The presentation covers a variety of topics, some of which are not suitable for children. The evening will start at 7pm and finish at 8.30pm.

Future Schools Evening

We would like to remind you that the Year 4 and Year 5 Future Schools evening takes place on Wednesday 27th January at 7pm. There will be lots of useful information to help you choose a senior school.

Absence from School

Could we please ask that if your child is going to be absent from school you phone or email the School Office (office@duncombe-school.co.uk) as early as possible. Thank you.

Late Arrival at School

Please can we remind you that if your child arrives late to school you must sign them in at the School Office.

After School Club

Can we remind you to sign your child out of After School Club every day please. This is part of our safeguarding practice and ensures we are all aware that children have been safely collected from After School Club.

After School Football Club

Could we please remind the children who do after school club football to bring warm clothes and their shin pads.

Señor Torres

We are delighted that Señor Haro Torres will be with us on Thursday and Friday each week working with several Spanish classes until the end of term. Señor Torres re-joins us to assist Señora Couzens, having taught here at Duncombe in the Autumn Term of 2014.

Hatfield Charity Events

Wallace and Gromit's Children's Charity

Just a reminder that the Comic Strip Competition is now underway. This is your chance to showcase your creative ideas by coming up with a cartoon story all about Wallace, Gromit or Shaun the Sheep's adventures. It can be a retelling of an old Wallace and Gromit story or it can be a completely new idea. There will be prizes for the most creative and entertaining entries from Upper and Lower School. The closing date is Friday 29th January. It costs £1 to enter. Entry forms are in book bags.

Our second event is our 'Wrong Trousers Day' on Monday 14th March. This is open to Treetops, Lower School and Upper School, you need to come into school wearing the craziest trousers (or skirt) you can possibly find! But you will need to wear your regular school blouse and cardigan or shirt, tie and jumper. It is £1 to take part.

A big thank you to everyone for supporting our Charity.
The Hatfield Charity Team.

Lost

Named tracksuit top belonging to Francesco Franchini
Named fleece hat belonging to Emily Hefer.

Warren Restaurant Menu for the week commencing 25th January

Weekly Menu				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dish of the Day Gammon and Sweetcorn Pasta Bake	Dish of the Day Cottage Pie	Dish of the Day Barbecue Chicken Thighs Served with Red Slaw	Dish of the Day Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding and gravy	Dish of the Day Freshly made Salmon Fishcakes
Vegetarian Option Mixed Cheese and Red Onion Tart	Vegetarian Option Creamy Mushroom Pancakes	Vegetarian Option Vegetable Goulash with Rice	Vegetarian Option Spanish Omelette	Vegetarian Option Roasted Vegetable and Pesto Pasta
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 Green beans	Vegetables Risssole Potatoes Steamed Mixed Vegetables	Vegetables Risssole Potatoes Steamed Sweetcorn Sauté Courgettes with Red Peppers	Vegetables Roast Potatoes Cauliflower Cheese Carrots and Broccoli	Vegetables Jacket Wedges Garden Peas Baked Beans
Dessert Apricot Crumble with Cream Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Jam Sponge with Custard Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Apple Flapjack Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Eaton Mess Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Chocolate Fudge Cake Fresh Fruit Yoghurt
Daily Salad Bar With a Selection of Home cooked Meats & freshly Prepared Salads Fresh fruit salad available daily				