

# **Duncombe News**

15th September 2017

It was wonderful to see so many of you last week at the Meet the Teacher Evenings; there was a great buzz and the feedback regarding the Duncombe Diploma was very pleasing indeed. The pupils have continued to settle well and I have been greatly enjoying the Mock Interviews with Year 6 which are still ongoing. I've been impressed with their willingness to engage in discussions about their learning, where they feel energised and how they tackle the tricky questions or difficult concepts. One pupil shared the following when asked why learning matters? "Learning shouldn't be taken for granted. Not everyone will have the opportunities we have so it's very important that we try our best and make the most of the chances we have!" I'm sure you can imagine how impressive that sounds as a completely unprompted dialogue. Just so very lovely to hear and absolutely spot on.

We will be welcoming Year 5 back from their exploration of Devon as part of the PGL trip. I expect they will all have some wonderful stories to share. I know the Reception Buddies are greatly looking forward to their return, as we all are. Mr Le Tissier and the staff have been talking to the pupils about E-safety and I would like to draw your attention to the Parent Portal section on our website where some very useful documents regarding advice and guidance for parents can be viewed. As the weeks progress we will highlight additional documents that are added.

Next week will see a Science Trip to Duxford for Year 6 and Year 1 heading to Audley End as part of their topic work. With a netball and football fixture for our U11 teams, Year 3 Parent to lunch on Thursday and 6LT class assembly on Friday, we are certainly back to the engines running at full steam. Do have a wonderful weekend. *Mr Phelan* 

# Here is this week's Pupil who received a Headmaster's Award. Well done to her!



# **Diary Dates**

**Tuesday 19th September** - Year 6 to Duxford.

Thursday 21st September - Year 1 to Audley End.

Year 3 Parent to Lunch. 3C at 12.40pm and 3FH at 12.45pm.

**Friday 22nd September** - 6LT Class Assembly. Parents welcome.

# **Sports Fixtures**

**Wednesday 20th September** - U11 Netball v Stormont (away). 2.30pm start.

**Thursday 21st September** - U11 Football v Bishop's Stortford College (away). 3.45pm start.

**Saturday 23rd September** - Football Tournament at Forest School. 8.30am start.

**Wednesday 27th September** - U11 Football Tournament at Haileybury.

**Saturday 7th October -** U10 Football Tournament at St Edmund's Prep.

# **Looking Forward**

Wednesday 27th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning at 8.30am in Old Hall. Miss Ord, Mrs Frost, Mrs Watson, Mrs Sheriff, Miss Angus, Mrs Galaska, Mrs Howes, Mr Sopher and Mrs Hodson will be in attendance.

PA AGM in Old Hall at 7.30pm.

Thursday 28th September - Year 2 to Affinity Water.

Year 6 Parent to Lunch. Times TBC.

**Friday 29th September** - 5V Class Assembly. Parents welcome.

**Friday 29th September** - Years 2 & 3 to see The Tiger Who Came to Tea at Hertford Theatre. (There will be no swimming for Years 2 & 3 on this day.)

**Tuesday 3rd October** - Year 6 Parents' Evening. 4.30pm to 8.30pm in New Hall.

**Wednesday 4th October** - Individual and Sibling Photographs.

**Thursday 5th October** - Open Morning for Prospective Parents.

Senior School Fair. 7pm to 9pm.

Friday 6th October - Year 5 visit Hindu Temple.

#### **Duncombe's 2017 Senior School fair**

We are pleased to share with you that we will be holding our Senior School Fair on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017 from 7pm to 9pm.

Duncombe will be host to an array of Independent Senior Schools, where you will have the opportunity to informally meet with representatives from the school and find out more about them.

Further details to follow via Parentmail.

#### **Autumn Term Curriculum Leaflets**

Curriculum leaflets for all year groups will be live on the website from Monday 18th September and can be found in the Parent Portal section.

#### Kindergarten meet Prof.

This morning Kindergarten had their first science visit from 'Prof'.

Prof (Sophie Mitchell) founder of Lab Tots, will be visiting Kindergarten throughout the autumn term and using the back drop of Science to create a truly unique learning experience. Prof and Lab Tots will be introducing scientific principles & concepts to the children though easy to understand games, experiments and real life metaphors.

The children this morning enjoyed learning all about 'sound and waves'. They learnt how sound is not just heard, but can also be felt through a range of different experiments including musical instruments, spinning vibrations, everyday straws, dancing chickpeas and 'Whining Winnie' the balloon.

We can't wait for our next visit form Prof and Lab tots.



#### **Admissions**

Places at Duncombe for entry during this academic year and for September 2018 are in high demand. We offer priority for siblings once they are registered with us. If you are considering entry for your child later this year or in 2018-2019 and are yet to register, please contact me or call in to the school office to collect a registration form. *Lucy Evans, Registrar.* 

Mrs Lucy Evans Admissions Manager

#### **Manic Ceramics ready for collection**

If your child made an owl or a mug with Manic Ceramics at the Summer Holiday Club, they are ready for collection from the School Office.

### **School Crossing Patrol**

Please be aware that there will be no School Crossing Patrol on Wednesday 20th September.

# **MacMillan Coffee Morning**

The PA are holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning Wednesday 27th September to raise money for Macmillan Nurses. Please bring in your nut free (including ground almonds and almond essence) cake donations on the day. Your child may also bring in 50p or £1 to buy a cake at break time. Please join us for coffee in the Old Hall from drop off time to raise money for this good cause.

Warren Restaurant Menu for the week commencing 18th September

