



# Duncombe News

3rd November 2017



Welcome back after the half term break. The clocks may have gone back but it's been all forward here at Duncombe as the pupils have returned well and fully engaged in their learning. I have been observing lessons and visited the Kindergarten class as they discussed and created Gruffalo Crumble! An imaginative lesson where the dialogue and interaction of our 2 and 3 year olds was superb. The food looked delicious and I left feeling so very encouraged having observed so much of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum being woven into an enchanting experience. I also observed Year 1 in Forest School as they worked in partnership to create alternative shelters using knots, small branches and tarpaulin. The interaction, the willingness to listen to each other and the creativity of ideas was most impressive. Each group came up with something quite unique and then dismantled their work because, as one pupil put it, 'that just wouldn't be fair Mr Phelan for the next group'!

We were taken to a galaxy far far away this morning as 5S treated us all to an assembly on the theme of Planets in our Solar System. The class had clearly worked well together and created an assembly that had a bit of everything. From music composition, to re-enactments of Star Wars scenes, to scientific discovery; we were all treated to a spell binding experience. I was most encouraged with the clear pronunciation, good timing and the generous sprinkling of comedy which is always well received on a Friday morning. Well done to all of 5S, Mrs Sutton and the team. The force was most certainly with you!

On Monday we looked at the fascinating story of Guy Fawkes and how the traditions of today stretch back to James I's reign. It is incredible to think that a monarch's orders some 400 plus year ago can still have an influence today. We greatly enjoyed the associated poem and I'm pleased to report that when recited in assembly all pupils and staff got fully involved! With our own PA Fireworks night tonight you might want to remind yourself; so I have put it below. Have a lovely evening and weekend. *Mr Phelan.*

Remember, remember,  
The fifth of November  
Gunpowder, treason and plot.  
We see no reason,  
Why gunpowder treason  
Should ever be forgot.

## Diary Dates

**Monday 6th November** - Upper School to Holy Trinity Church for assembly (children only).

**Wednesday 8th November** - Knebworth Charity Event. No After School Chess Club.

**Thursday 9th November** - Open Morning for Prospective Parents. 9.45am start.

Year 5 Parents' Evening in New Hall from 4.30pm to 8.30pm.

**Friday 10th November** - 1T Assembly. Parents welcome. Year 6 to Amaravati Monastery.

## Sports Fixtures

**Wednesday 8th November** - U11 Football v St Joseph's in the Park at Hartham.

**Thursday 9th November** - U8 Football v St Edmund's (away). 3pm start.

**Wednesday 15th November** - U11 Football v Heathmount (away). Time TBC.

U11 Netball v Westbrook Hay (away). Time TBC.

U9 Football v St Joseph's in the Park (away). Time TBC.

**Thursday 16th November** - U8/9 Netball v Westbrook Hay (away). Time TBC.

**Friday 17th November** - U9 Netball v St Joseph's in the Park (home). Time TBC.

**Wednesday 22nd November** - U11 Football v Westbrook Hay (away). 2.30pm

U11 Hockey v Kingshott (away). Time TBC.

**Tuesday 28th November** - U8 Netball v Heathmount (away). Time TBC.

## Looking Forward

**Tuesday 14th November** - Year 1 Light and Dark Workshop at Duncombe.

**Wednesday 15th November** - Moving to Kindergarten Information Evening. 6.30pm for a 7pm start in Treetops.

**Thursday 16th November** - Open House Coffee in Old Hall. Mrs Takawira, Miss Lewis, Mrs Hills, Mr Foley, Miss Coughlan, Mrs Sopher and Mrs Turner.

Last fencing after school club.

**Friday 17th November** - 2A Assembly. Parents welcome.

**Wednesday 22nd November** - Phil the Bag Year 3 Roman Day.

**Friday 24th November** - 1A Assembly. Parents welcome. PM: Shaking up Shakespeare for Years 3 to 6.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Jaxon C (5T) who won a silver in the U13 badminton doubles at Hampshire over the half term.



### Snacks

If you are providing your child with grapes for their snack please can you cut them length ways. This is to avoid them being a choking hazard.

### Lower School Girls' Pinafores

You may be aware that Kids Connection have been low in stock for Lower School girls' pinafores and blouses. We can now confirm that the pinafores will be in stock from Monday 6th November and the blouses will be in stock from Friday 10th November. In addition to this we do have a good stock of nearly new pinafores and blouses in our Uniform Shop as well.

### Fixture Change

Please be aware that the U7 Football Match scheduled for Tuesday 7th November will now take place on Tuesday 28th November. *Mr Sopher*.

### Head Bumps

We would like to inform you that head bumps are defined as anything from the neck up. As usual we will email home with any minor head bumps and will of course phone home for anything more serious.

### Christmas Card Orders

Christmas cards will be coming home in book bags today. Please place your order by the deadline of 16th November.

### After School Clubs

Please note that the following clubs finish on the dates listed below:

**Fencing - Wednesday 16th November**  
**Horse Riding - Monday 20th November**  
**Tennis - Tuesday 21st November**  
**Cookery - Tuesday 21st November**

If you still require care until the end of term please let the School Office know.

### Ballet

Please note that there will be no ballet on Wednesday 6th December. If you still require after school care please let the school office know.

### Well Done to 5S for a Brilliant Assembly Today!



### Knebworth Charity Events

#### SSAFA The Armed Forces Charity

As you are aware this term's charity is SSAFA, The Armed Forces Charity. This charity is the UK's oldest national tri-service military charity and exists to relieve need, suffering and distress amongst the Armed Forces, veterans and their families in order to support their independence and dignity. Here's a reminder of the events coming up:

- **Design a Medal Competition**  
Children will have an opportunity to 'design a medal'. Entry for this competition is £1 and forms have been handed out this week. This is open to children in Lower and Upper School
- **Create a Coin Poppy**  
On **Wednesday 8th of November** we invite all children to bring in £1 to fill a giant poppy, which will take pride of place in the school grounds. This is open to children in Treetops, Lower School and Upper School.
- **Dress Up Day - Thursday 30th November**  
On **Thursday 30th November** we invite children to dress in any shade of blue and/or any shade of green to represent our armed forces. Please do not dress in camouflage. Please bring in £1 to take part. This is open to children in Treetops, Lower School and Upper School.

*The Knebworth Charity Team*

### Singing Workshop at Princess Helena College

On Monday the Senior Choir joined other local schools for a wonderful day of singing at Princess Helena College. The children learned an incredible six new songs, some of which were in two, three or even more parts. They sang a traditional Hungarian folk song 'Stome', all about being strong in the face of adversity. They sang this with great conviction and managed it as a three part round. There was a beautiful arrangement of traditional Native American lyrics and an upbeat rendition of 'Great Day' which was sung in 4 parts. They also learned a 1920s love song. The children were very well behaved and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Many thanks to all the family members who came to watch the concert at the end of the day - your enthusiastic singing was wonderful too! *Mrs Sutton.*



### Phil the Bag

On Wednesday 22nd November the ladies from the School Uniform Shop are arranging a Phil the Bag collection. The PA will receive a payment based on the weight of clothing items donated, so please look out for any garments you no longer want, pop them in a black bin bag and bring them in on the morning of 22nd November. Please place your bags outside the Music Room for collection. Please do not bring bags in before the 22nd as there is nowhere to store them. This is a great opportunity for a clear out while helping to reach our fundraising goal!

Many thanks.  
*The PA Team*

### Year 4 Visit Paradise Wildlife Park

On Tuesday 31st October, Year 4 went on a Science trip to Paradise Wildlife Park. What an amazing day we had. Such a diverse wildlife park with animals from all continents and animal groups. The children particularly focused on the Rainforest environment and animals. They had a Rainforest talk where they learned about the different levels of the Rainforest and the animals that live there. They also learned about environmental threats to the Rainforest and I was particularly proud of their questioning and knowledge. The instructor at the park was very impressed with our Duncombe children!

While the children were visiting the tiger enclosure we had an added treat by meeting Martin Hill who is the Author of "The Tiger by my Bed". This tells the true story of when he took a tiger cub to Great Ormond Hospital to visit the sick children and the tiger was allowed to jump on the beds! That particular tiger is still at Paradise and is now 19 years old and was hand reared by Martin who also works at the Wildlife Park. They have a very special relationship and the children were delighted. A very special and informative day was had by all.

*Judith Marrion -Head of Science*



## Warren Restaurant Menu for the week commencing 6th November



Homemade Soup and Freshly Baked Bread available Daily

Where possible Gluten and Dairy Free  
equivalent dishes will be offered

### THIS WEEK'S MENU

Week 3

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p><b>Soup of the Day</b> Served with Fresh Homemade Bread</p> <p><b>Dish of the Day</b> Barbecue Chicken</p> <p><b>Vegetarian Option</b> Pasta Primavera</p> <p><b>Jacket Potato Bar</b> Tuna Mayonnaise Cheese</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Rissole Potatoes Steamed Sweetcorn Rustic Slaw</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Apple &amp; Blackberry Crumble with Cream Fresh Fruit Yoghurt</p>	<p><b>Soup of the Day</b> Served with Fresh Homemade Bread</p> <p><b>Dish of the Day</b> Sweet and Sour Pork with Rice</p> <p><b>Vegetarian Option</b> Roasted Butternut with Courgette, Feta and Cherry Tomato</p> <p><b>Pasta Bar</b> Tomato Sauce</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Stir fried Cabbage Steamed Carrots and Peas</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Marble Sponge with Custard Fresh Fruit Yoghurt</p>	<p><b>Wartime Memories Theme Menu</b></p> <p><b>Wartime Memories Theme Menu</b></p>	<p><b>Soup of the Day</b> Served with Fresh Homemade Bread</p> <p><b>Dish of the Day</b> Roast Gammon with Gravy and Cranberry Sauce</p> <p><b>Vegetarian Option</b> 3 Cheese Jalousie</p> <p><b>Pasta Bar</b> 3 Cheese Sauce Cheese</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Rustic Roast Leek Mornay Steamed Broccoli</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Vanilla Ice cream with Chocolate Sauce Fresh Fruit Yoghurt</p>	<p><b>Soup of the Day</b> Served with Fresh Homemade Bread</p> <p><b>Dish Of The Day</b> Oven Baked Cod Fingers with Lemon and Tar tare Sauce</p> <p><b>Vegetarian Option</b></p> <p><b>Jacket Potato Bar</b> Coleslaw Cheese</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Oven Wedges Baked Beans Sweet corn</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Bakewell Tart Fresh Fruit Yoghurt</p>

