

Duncombe News

As we reach the end of the first half term of 2017 I have been impressed with the positive outcomes of the Nursery to Year 5 reports. I am delighted to share that effort and achievement across the years continue to be very pleasing. Teachers have set 'Next Steps' for our pupils' learning so please do take some time to read these through with your son or daughter to help frame the start of the second half term and ensure they hit the ground running.

Mr Le Tissier led our assembly focus on E-safety this week. An extremely important element of the modern day curriculum and one which, as parents, I would strongly encourage you to keep up to date with. As part of the assembly and subsequently in lessons, pupils have been considering the number of ways we can utilise the internet whilst keeping safe and protecting identities etc. Our Year 6 Digital Leaders Initiative will build on these further, providing pupils with skills which they can share with our younger pupils over time. Please do take a look at the documents found on our website for further information.

<https://www.duncombe-school.co.uk/parent-portal/e-safety/>

The staff and I often receive lovely feedback from parents and pupils about their day to day experience at Duncombe which is always so lovely to read. I wanted to share an email I received last week from a parent about the power of learning and the excitement it can bring. With permission I share the following:

It always amazes me how much I learn from my children. I have recently learnt all about George Seurat and his pointillist technique and last week was the story of Guru Nanak. Tonight has been no exception, my daughter was full of so many facts following the trip to the Sikh temple that I suggested writing them down! Attached is what she has spent the last couple of hours doing...and practicing her power point skills which she insisted on doing!! I think you will agree there is a lot of information to absorb! I now feel I understand a great deal more about Sikhism than I did before! I think what struck me the most was genuinely how much she enjoyed doing this piece of work, completely on her own and in the couple of hours she has from getting home to going to bed!

Lovely! So encouraging reading that what starts in the class, on trips or at matches can filter through to home and beyond!

We return on Monday 20th February with a great deal to look forward to. Do have a wonderful and restful half term.

Mr Phelan

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



Diary Dates

Monday 20th February - Second half of Spring Term starts.

Tuesday 21st February - Year 5 Come Dine with Us.

Wednesday 22nd February - Year 4 to Natural History Museum.

Year 6 Parent to Lunch. 12.50pm 6LT and 12.55pm 6S.

Thursday 23rd February - Author Visit for Years 3 to 6. Morning only in Old Hall.

Friday 24 February - 5S Assembly (parents welcome).

Sports Fixtures

Tuesday 21st February - U11 Rugby v St Joseph's in the Park (away). 2.30pm start.

Wednesday 22nd February - U11 Netball v Westbrook Hay (away). 3pm start.

Friday 24th February - U9 Rugby v Milton Keynes Prep School at Hertford Rugby Club. 2.45pm start.

Looking Forward

Monday 27th February - Year 4 Victorian Day. Old Hall.

Year 6 to Crucial Crew. 9.45am at Morgans School.

Tuesday 28th February - Upper School Bake Off. 2pm in New Hall.

Thursday 2nd March - Open House Coffee Morning 8.30am in Treetops. Miss Ord, Mrs Frost, Mrs Watson, Miss Angus, Mrs Galaska, Mrs Howes, Mr Sopher and Mrs Ferguson will be in attendance.

Reception to Mill Green.

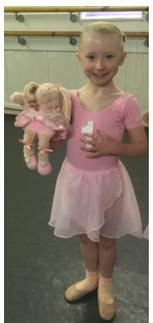
Lower School Bake Off. 2pm in New Hall.

Friday 3rd March - Dress as your favourite children's book character for World Book Week.

Book Quiz.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Isabella B (1T) who passed her ballet exam with top marks in all areas of Pre Primary classical ballet. Isabelle was also awarded a distinction grade by the Royal Academy of Dance which was signed by Darcey Bussell! Well done Isabelle.



Congratulations to Murray F (5S) who, as part of a team of 6 for 3rd Hertford Cubs Lions, won the British Legion Cup for Science competing against teams of Cubs from all around the local district. It is the first time their pack has won it since 2003! Well done to Murray and his team!



Safer Internet Day

This week we celebrated Safer Internet Day. The internet is an amazing resource at the children's finger tips. We want to make sure that this is always the case and we took on this year's slogan:

Be the change: unite for a better internet

The children shared an assembly together based around the power of image. Earlier in the year the whole school were read 'Chicken Clicking' by Jeanne Willis, a great story for children of all ages to learn about e-safety. This week's assembly started with a song to recap their learning from the story.

Children then furthered their learning about e-safety and the power of image in their classrooms. In Lower School the children met Smartie the Penguin, who made them think about searching for images and how to do this safely. In Upper School they thought about what images should and should not be shared, as well as what to do if we ever feel unsafe online.

Emoji advice posters were made by Year 6. Can you work out what advice this one is giving?



Safer Internet Day was great fun and delivered an important message, but most importantly at Duncombe, we know that e-safety does not come down to one day but is thought of and put into practice every day.

Tom Le Tissier, Director of Learning.

Swimming

In preparation for the Upper School Swimming Gala on 21st March, Years 5 & 6 will be joining Year 4 at Hartham for swimming lessons on the following dates:

Tuesday 28th February – 4, 5 & 6

Tuesday 7th March – 4, 5 & 6

Tuesday 14th March – back to normal for 2, 3 & 4

Tuesday 21st March – Swimming Gala

This means that Years 2 & 3 will not be swimming on the 28th February, 7th March and 21st March.

Events for World Book day

World Book Day Competition

As part of our celebrations for World Book Day there will be a competition to make a sock puppet. The sock puppet can be any book character; the children can decide. It can be made of any type of sock, old or new. Details can be sewn, drawn or glued on. The closing date for the competition is Wednesday 1st March. On Friday 3rd March, Elaine Penrose will be visiting the school to judge the competition and prizes will be presented in assembly the following week.



Tuesday 28th February

Swap your Books

If you have any children's books that are no longer age appropriate, then please feel free to donate your books for our book swap on Tuesday 28th February. Please bring them to the Old Hall and leave them on the tables provided. Children will be given the opportunity to swap books throughout the day.

Wednesday 1st March

Alice Hemming

Local author, Alice Hemming will be visiting Duncombe on 1st March. She will start the day with an assembly for children from Nursery to Year 2. Each year group will have a reading or writing workshop based on Alice's books. There will also be an opportunity to purchase a copy of a signed book.

Thursday 2nd March

Each child will receive a World Book Day token in their book bags.

Friday 3rd March

Bring your Favourite Book to School

Along with dressing as a book character, we would love the children to bring their favourite book in to discuss it with each other. Throughout the day, there will be a few opportunities to participate in some buddy reading too, so it would be lovely for the children to share their beloved reads during this time. Please ensure books are named clearly.

Book Fair

After school on Friday 3rd March, a wide range of books will be available for sale and the children will be able to use their £1 tokens towards the cost of a book. The sale will be held in 4G.

Lost and Found

If any of the items below belong to you, please come to the School Office.



Warren Restaurant Menu for the week commencing 20th February



Homemade Soup and Freshly Baked Bread available Daily

THIS WEEK'S MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Dish of the Day Pork Sausage with Onion Gravy	Dish of the Day Mild Chicken Curry with Poppadum's	Dish of the Day Freshly made Beef Burgers on a ½ Bap with Side Salad	Dish of the Day Roast Pork with Apple Sauce and gravy	Dish of the Day Oven Baked Fish Fingers
Vegetarian Option Quorn Toad in the Hole	Vegetarian Option Vegetable Korma with poppadum's	Vegetarian Option Potato and Cheese Layered Bake	Vegetarian Option Spanish Omelette	Vegetarian Option Cheese and Tomato Pasta Bake
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 Creamy Mash Potatoes Broccoli	Vegetables Steamed Rice Steamed Garden Peas With Sweetcorn	Vegetables Rissole Potatoes Steamed Sweetcorn Mixed Salad	Vegetables Roast Potatoes Green Beans and Carrots Cauliflower Cheese	Vegetables Jacket Wedges Garden Peas Baked Beans
Dessert Warm Apple Charlotte with Cream Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Jam Sponge with Custard Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Ginger Cookie Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Vanilla Ice Cream with Warm Chocolate Sauce Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Banoffee Pie Fresh Fruit Yoghurt

