

Duncombe News

The pupils greatly enjoyed the start to the week with 5V taking the class assembly on Monday. The theme was that of St George and the Dragon. Along with the historical elements to the legend and an alternative sports battle between George and the purple dragon (you had to be there) they explored why Edward III decided to adopt St George and his story as the national patron saint. With a comic element combined with some serious research and reflection, 5V really did challenge us all to think about the numerous dragons we have to slay as we move through life. Well done to all 5V and Miss Varney, a great effort.

Challenge remained a significant theme as we hosted our NACE Challenge evening for parents led by Ann Nelson. Parents had the opportunity to apply their strategic thinking, riddle solving and logic to a number of challenge based activities as Ann unpacked the NACE programme and its many benefits for Duncombe pupils. We remain the only school in the area to have such a programme for our pupils and I was delighted with the feedback that was shared both from parents and Ann.

Building on this, today has been dedicated to the Happy Puzzle Challenge Day. All children worked as teams to tackle a number of seemingly impossible tasks. With the adoption of combined thinking, teamwork and strategy guidance, pupils were amazed at what could be tackled and achieved. Thank you to Miss Watson who is leading the NACE programme and to the support given by Miss Micele and Mrs Takawira for the evening.

Next week sees the second round of the Bake Off for Upper School and Lower School. Good luck to all involved. Fixtures really begin in earnest and 4M will be leading assembly on Friday. Sunday 7th May is the PA May Fair which is greatly anticipated by all.

Do have a wonderful Bank Holiday weekend and we shall see you all on Tuesday 2nd May. *Mr Phelan.*

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



Diary Dates

- Monday 1st May** - Bank Holiday. School Closed.
- Tuesday 2nd May** - Upper School Bake Off.
- Thursday 4th May** - Open House Coffee Morning 8.30am in Old Hall. Mrs Durham, Miss Burton, Miss Varney, Ms Rea, Mrs Pannett, Miss Theobald, Mrs Marrion, Miss Barton, Miss Flowers and Mrs Sheriff will be in attendance. Lower School Bake Off.
- Friday 5th May** - 4M Assembly. Parents welcome. No Self Defence.
- Sunday 7th May** - May Fair. Middy to 3pm.

Sports Fixtures

- Tuesday 2nd May** - U11 Cricket v St Joseph's in the Park. 2.30pm start.
- Wednesday 3rd May** - U10 Rounders v Westbrook Hay. Time 2.30pm.
- U11 Cricket v Westbrook Hay. Time 2.30pm.
- Thursday 4th May** - U9 seven-a-side Rounders v Westbrook Hay. 2.30pm start.
- Friday 5th May** - U9 Cricket v St Christopher School. 2pm start.
- U11 Tennis v St Edmund's Prep. 3.45pm start.
- Tuesday 9th May** - U10 & U11 Rounders v St Joseph's in the Park (away). Time TBC.
- Wednesday 10th May** - U10 Cricket v Walden School (away). 2.30pm.
- Monday 22nd May** - U9 Cricket v Heath Mount (away). 3.15pm start.
- Wednesday 24th May** - U10 Cricket v Walden School (away). 2.30pm start.
- Thursday 25th May** - U9 Rounders v Bishop's Stortford College (away). Time TBC.

Looking Forward

- Monday 8th May** - 3C Assembly. Parents welcome.
- Friday 12th May** - 4G Assembly. Parents welcome.
- Thursday 18th May** - Year 4 Come Dine with Us and York Meeting.
- Friday 19th May** - Music Assembly. Parents Welcome. 8.50am start in Old Hall.
- 5T Assembly. Parents Welcome. 8.50am start in New Hall.
- Whole School Sports Afternoon (pupils only).
- Year 2 Activity Evening and Sleepover.
- Monday 22nd May** - Year 6 to Normandy. 3F Assembly. Parents Welcome. 8.50am start in New Hall.
- Friday 26th May** - Half Term - School Closed.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Ava B (5V) and Sadie C (5S) who play for Turnford U10A Netball team and won the Milton Keynes Tournament at the weekend. Well done girls!



Congratulations to Ava B (5V) who passed her Grade 1 Piano exam.

Congratulations to Sophia G (5V) who passed her Grade 2 Piano exam with Merit.

Well done to Reece H (3B) and Ellis H (1D) who took part in the St George's Day parade in Ware with the Great Amwell Beavers. As you can see Reece was the very proud flag bearer. Well done boys!



Well done to Bea D (3C) who also took part in the St George's Day parade in Ware with the 7th Ware Brownies. As you can see Bea was the very proud flag bearer.

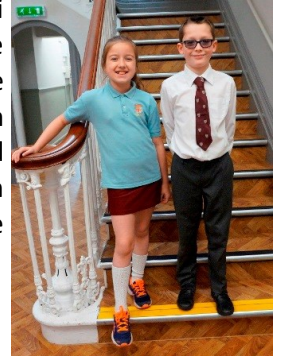


Well done to 5V who delivered a brilliant assembly this week.



Break a Leg!

Good luck to Elliot F (5S) and Maddi B (5S) who are performing in the Rare Production of Hairspray at the Hawthorne Theatre, Welwyn Garden City on Thursday 27th and Saturday 29th April. They are both very excited and keen to take to the stage. Break a leg Elliot and Maddi!



Holiday Club 2017/2018

I am pleased to be able to communicate the dates for our Holiday Club for the 2017/2018 academic year.

As previously communicated, next year we will be offering Holiday Club in the October, February and May half terms in addition to our offering at Christmas, Easter and the Summer.

October Half Term Holiday Club

Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October 2017

Christmas Holiday Club

Monday 18th to Friday 22nd December 2017

February Half Term Holiday Club

Monday 12th to Friday 16th February 2018

Easter Holiday Club

Monday 26th to Thursday 29th March 2018

Tuesday 3rd to Friday 6th April 2018

Monday 9th to Friday 13th April 2018

May Half Term Holiday Club

Tuesday 29th May to Friday 1st June 2018

Summer Holiday Club

Monday 23rd to Friday 27th July 2018

Monday 30th July to Friday 3rd August 2018

Monday 6th to Friday 10th August 2018

Monday 13th to Friday 17th August 2018

Monday 20th to Friday 24th August 2018

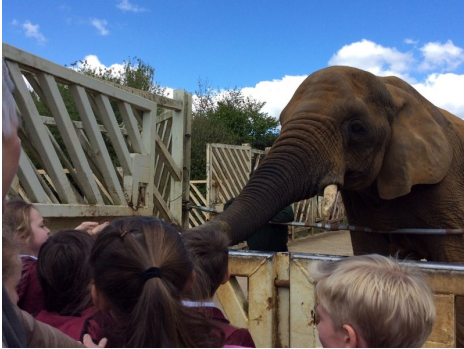
Tuesday 28th to Friday 31st August 2018

Ian Thomas, Business Manager

Colchester Zoo

On Tuesday, Year 5 went on a Science field trip to Colchester Zoo. The children had a very interesting minibeast classification workshop and exploration time of the zoo looking at different vertebrates and invertebrates. They were able to get up and close to some animals including hand feeding the giraffes and elephants. Some children handled a Giant African Land Snail in the Discovery Centre. The Chimps were really lively and the Meerkats were delightful at feeding time.

A lovely day had by all and really lucky with the weather!
Mrs Marrion



We Did It!!

Hi Guys, it's me DB.

Now that we've nearly recovered from the London Marathon on Sunday, Mr Le Tissier and I wanted to take the opportunity to thank all of you for your amazing support both before, during, and after the race.

The training was hard at times, but when we crossed the finish line after only 3hrs 42mins (we came in 7,102 place out of 40,000 runners) it was worth every moment of the gruelling training.

The atmosphere on Sunday was amazing and we were thrilled to see a few familiar faces on the sidelines supporting us. Lots of you this week have been telling Mr Le Tissier how you were tracking our progress via the London Marathon App, we knew we could feel that Duncombe Community spirit in the air.

Anyway, I won't keep you any longer but once again a BIG thank you for your support, we've raised nearly £2,500 and we truly appreciate your sponsorship and so does Cancer Research. If you haven't sponsored us already but wish to do so our page is still open.

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/thomas-le-tissier-SAVMLMBONDS3332017-86629380>

Thanks guys, I had better start thinking about my next adventure now ... all suggestions welcome!

Duncombe Bear 



NACE Parents Evening

Thank you to all the parents who came along and participated in our NACE Challenge Workshop on Thursday evening. With activities in Maths, English and NACE challenges to complete, it proved to be a very busy evening, with parents participating enthusiastically and gaining valuable insight into how Duncombe pupils are challenged at school.

A big thank you goes to Ann Nelson from NACE as well as Mrs Takawira and Miss Micele for their input into the evening.

Well done to everyone.

Miss Watson

NACE Co-ordinator

Waiting Outside School

May we please remind you not to wait on the double yellow lines outside school. Please also try to avoid blocking the entrance to the staff car park. Thank you for your co-operation.

Safely Parking at School

Please can I ask that when parking in the car park both in the morning and afternoon that great care is taken when manoeuvring, particularly reversing. We had a very near miss incident this morning and obviously we want to ensure that all are safe when entering and leaving the school. Can I also remind you not to allow children to walk unaccompanied when going to and from cars.

Thank you.

Mr Phelan

Self Defence on 5th May

Please be aware that there will be no Self Defence on Friday 5th May. Please let the School Office know if you still require after school care. *Thank you. Mrs Price.*

Upper School Art Aprons

Could we please remind you that all children should have an art apron or old shirt to cover their clothes when doing Art. Can you please ensure that this is named.

Jokes for Red Nose Day

Thank you to all the children who submitted a joke for Red Nose Day. We certainly enjoyed reading them and have selected the following winners:

Upper School - Jake Wiltshire (6S)

One day at snake school the teacher said to Charlie "What is 9 - 6?" Charlie replied "I can't do it Sir, I'm an Adder!".

Lower School - Charlie Ripp (3C)

Q. What do you call a pig that does karate?

A. Pork Chop

Treetops - Mia Kasoulis (Reception Oak)

Q. Why should you never give Elsa your balloon?

A. Because she will "let it go, let it go"!

Their prizes will be given to them next week.

The donations totalled £40, which we have forwarded on so that they can be put towards one of the many projects undertaken to transform the lives of those in need across the UK and the World's poorest communities.

The PA Team

May Fair

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help out with a stall next Sunday. We are nearly there with our preparations, but do still need bottles and sweets for the two tombola stalls. Any donations would be gratefully received. Also if anyone has a gazebo they could lend us for the day it would be much appreciated. Please let the School Office know if you can help with this.

Thank you from the PA Team

Warren Restaurant Menu for the week commencing 1st May

|  Week 3 | | THIS WEEK'S MENU | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| Monday | Tuesday Soup of the Day with Fresh Homemade Bread | Wednesday Soup of the Day with Fresh Homemade Bread | Wednesday Soup of the Day with Fresh Homemade Bread | Wednesday Soup of the Day with Fresh Homemade Bread | |
| Bank Holiday | Dish of the Day Pork Sausages with Warm Onion Gravy | Dish of the Day Beef Pasta Rigù | Dish of the Day Maple Glazed Gammon with Gravy and Cranberry Sauce | Dish of the Day Freshly made Salmon Fishcakes with Lemon and Tartare Sauce | |
| Bank Holiday | Vegetarian Option Veggie Sausages with warm Onion Gravy | Vegetarian Option Roast Pepper & 5 Bean Fajitas | Vegetarian Option Spring Green Omelette with Rocket and Pesto drizzle | Vegetarian Option Macaroni Cheese | |
| | Pasta Bar Tomato & Herb Sauce | Jacket Potato Bar Baked Beans | Pasta Bar 3 Cheese Sauce | Jacket Potato Bar Coleisaw | |
| | Vegetables Mashed Potato Carrots and Broccoli | Vegetables Steamed Sweetcorn Leafy Mixed Salad | Vegetables Rustic Roast Potatoes, Vegetable Medley Leek Mornay | Vegetables Chips, Garden Peas, Baked Beans | |
| | Dessert Strawberry Jelly with Cream Fresh Fruit | Dessert Cherry Oaty Cookie Fresh Fruit | Dessert Lemon Sten Mess Fresh Fruit | Dessert Rich Chocolate Fudge Cake Fresh Fruit | |

