



# Duncombe News

5th January 2018



Happy New Year! Welcome back to the Spring Term 2018 and a very warm welcome to our new families who have joined us this week. As I always say, please do get involved, say hello to staff and parents and come along to the variety of events that are planned for the coming weeks.

Despite it being a short week, I have been very pleased with the way pupils and staff have hit the ground running with focus and endeavour. In assembly we discussed the idea of the choices we make at the start of a New Year. By looking at the top 10 UK New Year Resolutions as a starting point we soon discovered that we have the opportunity to shape 2018. The pupils reflected on three choices that we all face each day and how we might best respond to them. These included choosing whether we want to be helpful or unhelpful? Do we want to persevere or give up when faced with challenges? Do we want to be kind or unkind? The choices that we make today affect the future and importantly, they are our choices to make. I was impressed with the pupils' responses and would certainly encourage you to have a discussion around this topic with them.

Starting next week we shall be using a new recording system for first aid called *Medical Tracker*. This is a digital system which will replace the paper forms that have been in use for the past few years. Do look out for more information from Mr Thomas in this newsletter. In addition the link <https://vimeo.com/190496307> shows a short video of how the new system will be used.

We have so much to look forward to over the coming term I'm certainly very excited about all that will be achieved and experienced here at Duncombe. So do have a lovely weekend and we will continue our impressive start to the year next week. *Mr Phelan*

## Diary Dates

**Monday 8th January** - Toddler Group resumes.

**Thursday 11th January** - Speech and Drama resumes.

## Looking Forward

**Thursday 18th January** - Supercamps Representatives available for parents to meet from 8.30am to 9.30am and 4pm to 6pm.

**Tuesday 23rd January** - Upper School First Round of Duncombe Bake Off in New Hall. 2pm start.

**Wednesday 24th January** - No After School Chess Club.

**Thursday 25th January** - Lower School Bake Off Masterclass. 2pm in New Hall.

Future Schools Evening for Year 4 & 5 Parents. 7pm start in Old Hall.

**Friday 26th January** - 2G Assembly. Parents Welcome.

**Tuesday 30th January** - Author Visit for Years 1 to 3. 1.30pm in New Hall.

**Friday 2nd February** - Music Assembly. Parents Welcome.

## Sports Fixtures

**Wednesday 17th January** - U11 Netball v St Joseph's in the Park (home). 2.45pm start.

U11 Tag Rugby v Sherrardswood (away). Time TBC.

**Tuesday 23rd January** - U11 Tag Rugby v St Christopher School (away). 2.45pm start.

**Wednesday 31st January** - U11 Netball v Stormont (away). Time TBC.

U11 Rugby v St Joseph's in the Park (away). 2.30pm start.

**Friday 2nd February** - U9 Tag Rugby v St Edmund's Prep (away). 3.45pm start.

**Saturday 3rd February** - U11 Girls Football v St Edmund's Prep (away).

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Esme S (6T) who stepped in at the last moment to sing the solo verse of *Once in Royal David's City* at the annual Hertford Choral Society Christmas Concert on 16th December. Here is the review which was published recently:

"Another youngster who made a big impression was Esme Sabin, a year six pupil from Duncombe School, who delivered a stunning solo at the start of *Once in Royal David's City*. The church was silent as Esme delivered the first verse with clarity, confidence and precision. Each note was perfectly pitched and unhurried, providing an enchanting introduction to the classic carol."

Esme received a Headmaster's Award today (shown opposite) for this. Well done Esme!

## Well done to this week's Pupil who received a Headmaster's Award.



## Year 4 & 5 Future Schools Information Evening

### Thursday 25th January

On Thursday 25th January we are holding a Year 4 & 5 Future Schools Information Evening. The intention is to help you understand the process of selecting the right senior school for your child, how senior schools select pupils and also what Duncombe does to prepare pupils for entry to these schools. This will be an informative evening that will be of great benefit to all Year 4 and 5 parents. The evening will start promptly at 7pm and we hope to see you there.

### Medical Tracker

I am pleased to inform you that from Monday 8th January 2018 we shall begin integrating a system called Medical Tracker into our first aid treatment notification process.

Medical Tracker is an electronic secure web based system for recording first aid treatments, care plans and medications.

This new system will record first aid treatments electronically rather than using the first aid treatment forms we currently use.

The system will allow us to notify you via email of any first aid treatment given to your child rather than via a paper copy of the form.

In the event of a serious injury or significant head bump you will still receive a phone call to notify you of this in addition to the email.

The information that Medical Tracker holds is exactly the same information that is currently recorded.

Whilst the system becomes embedded in the day to day routine of the school you may for the first couple of weeks, receive a mix of email and paper notifications. If for any reason we do not hold an email address for you a paper copy of the first aid treatment report will be sent home in the normal way. You may also receive a paper copy if an incident occurs off site.

Medical Tracker as the name suggests will give us much greater analysis of first aid incidents and treatments.

If you do have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me I thank you for your understanding whilst we integrate the system.

*Ian Thomas, Business Manager*

## Christmas Holiday Site Works

Over the Christmas Holiday period I am pleased to confirm we have been able to undertake the following improvement and upgrade works across the site:

- Redecoration of First Floor Landing Area to match the new colour scheme.
- Redecoration of Treetops Entrance with Designer Inspired Wallpaper
- Redecoration of Treetops Half Landing Area with Designer Inspired Wallpaper
- Repainting of Woodwork in Old Hall with harder wearing paint
- Removal of broken and obsolete equipment
- Replacement of 3 rotten fence posts in Treetops Garden
- Installation of Emergency Telephone in The Dell

*Ian Thomas, Business Manager*

### Supercamps

As mentioned previously Supercamps representatives will be available to meet parents on Thursday 18th January from 8.30am to 9.30am in Old Hall, and again from 4pm to 6pm in Classroom 4MJ. Please do come along if you are interested in finding out more.

### Swimming

Please be aware that if your child has a verruca they should still be attending swimming lessons but they should wear a verruca sock. Thank you.

*Miss Varney.*

### Spring Term Pocket Calendar

The Spring Term Pocket Calendars have been sent home this week. Please contact the School Office if you have not received one.

### **Warren Restaurant Menu for the week commencing 8th January**

Homemade Soup and Fresh Baked Bread available Daily		G- Gluten D-Dairy F-Fish S-Soy		Week 2
<b>MONDAY</b> Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread G	<b>TUESDAY</b> Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread G	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread G	<b>THURSDAY</b> Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread G	<b>FRIDAY</b> Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread G
Dish of the Day Beef Bolognese with Spaghetti G	Dish of the Day Chicken and Broccoli Pie Pie S,D	Dish of the Day Tuscan Sausages with Cannellini Beans in Tomato Herb Sauce G	Dish of the Day Roast Beef with Gravy and Yorkshire Pudding D	Dish of the Day Homemade Salmon F,G Fritcakes with Lemon and Tartare Sauce
Vegetarian Option Quorn Mince Bolognese With Spaghetti G,S	Vegetarian Option Winter Vegetable and Bean Stew with Herby Dumplings G	Vegetarian Option Roasted Vegetable Wraps G	Vegetarian Option Sweet Pepper and Mushroom Frittata D	Vegetarian Option Pasta Primavera G
Jacket Potato Bar Tuna Mayonnaise D,F Cheese	Pasta Bar G Tomato Sauce Cheese	Jacket Potato Bar Baked Beans Cheese	Pasta Bar G Cheese Sauce G Cheese	Jacket Potato Bar Baked Beans Cheese
Vegetables Spaghetti G	Vegetables Steamed New Potatoes Steamed Sweetcorn	Vegetables Savory Layer Potatoes Sauté Courgettes	Vegetables Rustic Roast Potatoes Roasted Beetroot D Steamed Medley of Vegetables	Vegetables Jacket Wedges Steamed Garden Peas Baked Beans
Dessert Apple and Blackberry Cumble G with Cream Fresh Fruit	Dessert Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Custard G,D Fresh Fruit	Dessert Oaty Cherry Cookie G Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Raspberry Ripple Mousse D,G Fresh Fruit	Dessert Mixed Berry Cheesecake G,D Fresh Fruit Yoghurt

