



Duncombe News



16th March 2018

I don't know if you noticed but this Wednesday was World Pi day! So I was delighted when I observed a Year 5 Maths lesson which focused on diameter, radius and circumference. The relationship between the diameter and the circumference was explored and our good friend Pi made an appearance with 3.14 to the second decimal place. It was a joy to watch the pupils work with real perseverance as they developed their technical skills using a pair of compasses. They were confident in asking questions and exploring best techniques in an environment where tackling challenge is greatly enjoyed and desired by all. A very fitting way to mark the day I thought.

I also greatly enjoyed observing a Nursery PE lesson looking at sequencing of movement in dance. The language encouraged the level of communication and articulation from the pupils and the high expectations really showcased the excellent work and experiences our youngest get here at Duncombe. Such strong foundations really do pay dividends as our children move through the school.

I had the opportunity to visit a newly re-formed Independent Co-Educational Secondary School in Hadley Wood this week. Mount House Head, Mr Matthew Burke spoke with me about his plans for the future including further building of sports facilities and his desire to encourage links. I am regularly meeting with Heads of Senior Schools and will be sharing information with the Leadership Team to help inform parents about the next steps in to Year 7 and beyond.

Our U11 Netball team acquitted themselves well at the National IAPS finals last week. Despite not winning this tournament they played well and really did Duncombe proud. We congratulated them all in assembly on Monday. Do look out for the reports about the numerous sporting successes in the next Duncombe Sport edition which will capture all that has gone on in the past few months.

The Upper School Swimming Gala was a joyous occasion as ever with pupils participating and encouraging their Houses in a delightful way. Well done to Miss Varney and Mr Sopher who organise the event with the excellent support of the staff. Well done too to all our Upper School pupils for their efforts and endeavours and of course congratulations to Knebworth who came away as the winning House.

Next week's newsletter will be briefer as we break for the Easter holidays. I will, as ever, write over the holidays with more detail about successes, progress and the things to look forward to in the Summer Term.

Do have a wonderful weekend . *Mr Phelan.*

Diary Dates

Monday 19th March - 4G Assembly. Parents Welcome.

Tuesday 20th March - Non Uniform day for pupils in Woburn.

Wednesday 21st March - Year 3 to Natural History Museum in Tring.

Year 5 Parent to Lunch. 5S arrive at 12.50pm, 5V arrive at 12.55pm and 5T arrive at 1pm please.

Thursday 22nd March - Year 5 to Hertford Theatre to see Gangsta Granny.

Friday 23rd March - No swimming for Years 2 & 3. End of Term.

Treetops and Years 1-3 - finish time 2.45pm,

Years 4-6 - finish time 3.00pm.

There will be no After School clubs but after school care will be available until 6.30pm. Please let us know if your child requires care.

Looking Forward

Tuesday 17th April - School resumes for Summer Term.

Thursday 19th April - Year 5 to Rye Meads Nature Reserve. Year 6 Enrichment and Normandy Meeting. 7.00pm in Old Hall.

Friday 20th April - Shaking up Shakespeare for Years 3 to 6.

Tuesday 24th April - Year 2 to Roald Dahl Museum.

Wednesday 25th April - Class and Sports Team Photographs.

Thursday 26th April - Open Morning for Prospective Parents.

Sports Fixtures

Monday 19th March - U9 Rugby v Heath Mount (away). Time 2.30pm.

Wednesday 21st March - U11 Rugby v Heath Mount (away). Time 2.30pm.

Wednesday 25th April - U11 Hardball Cricket v St Joseph's in the Park (away). 2.30pm start.

Winning House.

Congratulations to **Woburn** who won the most House points this term and can come to school in non uniform on Tuesday 20th March.

Waste Day!

The Green Gang would like to congratulate the children who ate all their lunch on Wednesday this week when the Eco Council were promoting 'Waste Day'. Here are some of the children who ate all their lunch -well done to them!



Mrs Marrison

Congratulations

Congratulations to Torri H (5S) who competed in the East Counties Acrobatics Championships in Milton Keynes last weekend. Torri won gold in the Grade 2 trio category with her fellow team members Brooke and Paige. They will now represent the Eastern Region at the National finals in May. This is the second year in a row Torri has gained a National competition place - well done Torri!



Congratulations to Jaxon C (5T) who won the U11 County Badminton Championships titles last weekend in the singles and doubles. Well done Jaxon!



The Duncombe Garden

The school garden is beginning to look fantastic. Upper School have been out decorating with butterflies, colourful buckets, dragonflies and ladybirds. The kitchen garden is looking productive with rows of parsnips and kale already planted out supervised by Miss Angus. All sorts of veg and flower planting has been going on in the Science room ready to plant outside. A lovely insect hotel is also being positioned for our very important garden visitors. Please pop along and have a look at the progress being made with the efforts of all. *Mrs Marrion - Head of Science*



Nursery Celebrate Spain

In Nursery we have had lots of fun celebrating Spain. We have dressed up in red and yellow to represent the Spanish flag. We decorated our own Spanish flags, enjoyed our Spanish lesson with Senor Torres, did some Spanish dancing and made frittata!



World Pi day

This Wednesday the school celebrated Pi day (14/3/18) by taking part in different activities relating to circles. Treetops studied the famous artist Kandinsky and created their own inspired art pieces. Year 1 searched the school grounds to see how many different circles they could spot. Upper School investigated the relationship between the different properties of a circle and used simple formulas to calculate the circumference using the diameter measurement. They have also been using compasses to draw circles with specific measurements and creating their own circle inspired patterns. Look out for more information on this event on the Maths Celebration Board. *Mrs Takawira.*



Nursery Trophies

This week Florence from Nursery Birch and Fraser from Nursery Maple took home the class trophies as they both worked hard and smashed their individual goals. Well done to you both, we are very proud of you!



Music Assembly

This morning we were treated to a packed music assembly with some outstanding performances by children across the school. Emily S started us off with 'Out In The Garden': an enchanting vocal performance. Mille K followed with 'The Owls', a technically challenging piece which she sung with great control. Joshua K began the guitar performances with 'Balletto' which he played confidently and with lovely legato melodies. Jonathan D then performed 'September Heath' capturing the lilting melodies beautifully. On piano, Ava B played 'The Rowboat' with amazing confidence. She was followed by Bella G who played 'Boogie pour Jean' which had the whole audience tapping their toes. Esme S then treated us to 'The Crocodile' with great awareness of pitching and lovely clear high notes. She was followed by Reece H who sang the jolly song 'Pirates!' leaving us all reaching for our cutlasses! Georgiana F played first for the woodwind instruments, performing 'Chosen Kale Mazel Tov' with great fluidity. Next was Thomas H with 'La Paix and La Réjouissance' which was a masterclass in technical skill. Freddie M played the traditional Spanish tune 'Ines' on the guitar. A lovely calm piece which he played with great sensitivity. Zane B was next, also on guitar, with 'Mona Lisa', a really pretty tune played with confidence. Kea W duetted with Mrs Burgess for her piano piece 'Lost in the Maze' demonstrating great dynamic control. The energising 'ModelT' was next, played energetically on the piano by Henry S. Our Music Captain Lucy H then treated us to a stunning rendition of 'All is Calm' a truly beautiful performance showing great technical skill and musicality. Rosie A then performed 'Coconut Man' a really fun song that she obviously enjoyed singing and which demonstrated great control of her high notes. Harriet C was next with 'Morning Has Broken' showcasing the lyrical quality of her voice to great effect.

Closing the show was Alex M-L who performed the technically challenging 'South Sea Bubble' on the clarinet with enviable confidence and amazing control of dynamics. A really accomplished performance. After the photographs, Ruby L treated us to one extra number, as she sang 'The Siamese Cat Song' from Lady and the Tramp especially for her family. What a lovely ending to the morning!

Our thanks as always go to Mrs Turner for her exceptional accompaniment, to the instrumental teachers for their guidance and support and to the parents and family members who encourage practice each week. These concerts would not be able to take place without you all. *Mrs Sutton, Music Team Leader.*



Farewell to Mrs Burgess

At this morning's music assembly we said a fond farewell to Mrs Burgess who is leaving us at the end of this term for pastures new. The staff and children all wish her every success in her new ventures. *Mrs Sutton, Music Team Leader.*



Additional Access Control Points

We continually review our site security to ensure the safety and security of our pupils and staff. As you will be aware over February half term we added additional access controls in Main School to the external door at the bottom of the New Wing staircase and the door into the car park adjacent to 5S.

These access controls will come into operation when we return after Easter. This will mean that both doors will be locked between the hours of **6.30pm and 8.15am**. As I am sure you will know 8.15am is the earliest children in Year 1 to 6 can be dropped off in school unless they are pre-booked into our Breakfast Club.

Breakfast Club is available on an ad hoc basis subject to availability. Bookings can be made via the School Office if you do need your child to be in school before 8.15am on a specific day.

Your support and understanding as always is much appreciated.

Ian Thomas, Business Manager

Fortnite - online gaming craze

A new online game, rated 12+, has come to our attention called Fortnite. As ever, it is important that we stay informed about what our children are doing online. Please do read the attached document which advises on the suitability of this game; gives further information and shares the possible impact that it can have on mood, sleep and friendships. Thank you.

Mr Tom Le Tissier, Deputy Head Academic.

Class and Sports Team Photos

Class and Sports Team Photographs will be taken on Wednesday 25th April. All children must wear their summer uniform and blazers please. If your child does not attend Treetops on a Wednesday and you would like them to participate, please speak to the class leader.

Duncombe Sports Kit

Thank you to those who have returned sports kit promptly. However we do still have a lot of missing rugby and football kit which does need to be returned by Friday 23rd March please. We do give a deadline for returning kit in the parentmail about the fixture, and we would be very grateful if you could adhere to this to ensure we have enough clean kit for each fixture. Thank you. *Mr Sopher.*

Dolly Peg Character Competition

An abundance of dolly pegs have filled the library after our action-packed Book Week! From *Fantastic Mr Fox* to *Harry Potter*, the creations entered into the competition, were truly astonishing. Elaine Penrose visited our school to judge them and was extremely impressed with the creative and ingenious designs. She found it extremely difficult to select a winner and as a result we decided that there should be two runners up!

Treetops

Winner-Hamish D (Reception Oak)

Runners up-Florence S and Hugo G (Nursery Birch)

Lower School

Winner- Isabella B (2A)

Runners up-Zadie B (3FH) and William I (1A)

Upper School

Winner-Jessica M (6LT)

Runners Up-Rupert D (5S) and Thomas H (5V)

Well done and thank you to ALL children who entered for their tremendous effort!

Mrs Micele-Jones.



Early Finish Time on Friday 23rd March 2017

As always on the last day of term, we will be finishing early as follows:

Lower School will finish at 2.45pm.

Upper School will finish at 3pm.

There will be no After School clubs but after school care will be available until 6.30pm. Please let us know if your child requires care.



May Fair Sponsorship

from Steven Oates Estate Agents

Steven Oates Estate Agents have very kindly offered to sponsor our May Fair again this year, which will be held on Sunday 13th May. They will provide us with advertising boards and will give a £10 donation for each one on display. Can you help us by agreeing to have one of the boards at your address for a period of approximately three weeks - two to three weeks before the Fair and one week after?

This is a fantastic and easy way of raising funds by simply displaying a board, so do please get in touch. If you are interested, please forward your name to Helen McAllister - helen.mcallister5@btinternet.com and many thanks to those who have already agreed to having one.

Many thanks, The PA Team

Lost

Named red wellington boots belonging to Bella Cornish.

Warren Restaurant Menu for the week commencing 19th March 2018.



Homemade Soup and freshly Baked Bread available Daily

G- Gluten D-Dairy F-Fish S-Soya

Week 3

THIS WEEK'S MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Seasonal Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread G	Seasonal Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread G	Seasonal Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread G	Seasonal Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread G	Seasonal Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread
Dish of the Day Pork Sausage Plait with Onion Gravy G	Dish of the Day Mild Chicken Curry with Poppadum's and Chutney D	Dish of the Day Chilli Beef Tacos with Sour Cream and Salsa D	Dish of the Day Roast Chicken with Gravy and Cranberry Sauce	Dish of the Day Oven Baked Fishcakes with Lemon and Tartare Sauce
Vegetarian Option Roasted Vegetable Strudel D	Vegetarian Option Vegetable Korma with Poppadum's and Chutney D	Vegetarian Option Sweet Potato and Bean Patties	Vegetarian Option Spanish Omelette Pasta Bar Cheese Sauce	Vegetarian Option Falafel Burgers
Jacket Potato Bar Tuna Mayonnaise F,D Cheese D	Pasta Bar G Tomato Sauce	Jacket Potato Bar Baked Beans	Vegetables Roast Potatoes Courgette Gratin Steamed Carrots	Jacket Potato Bar Coleslaw
Vegetables Creamy Mash Potato Potatoes Steamed Green Beans	Vegetables Steamed Brown and White Rice Sweetcorn and Peas Sagaloo	Vegetables Rissolle Potatoes Steamed Sweetcorn Mixed Salad		Vegetables Jacket Wedges Baked Beans Garden Peas
Dessert Apple Charlotte with Cream D, G Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Custard G,D , Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Dessert Chocolate Chip Cookie G Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt	Dessert Vanilla Ice Cream Pots with Strawberry Sauce G,D Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt	Dessert Banana Cake G,D Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt

