



14th Sept 2018

I never thought I'd say this in a newsletter, but the Baby Shark/Duncombe Bear phenomenon has certainly been a hit! With thousands of views it really seems to have resonated. I found myself reflecting on why this might be? I think there are several factors linked to popular culture and a sense of belonging to our time; which is a strong and important part of identity. However, I also think it was about seizing opportunities and taking a risk. Our Marketing team wanted to be *first to market*; the chance to do something exciting, original and attention grabbing. Our pupils, who knew nothing about Duncombe Bear's plans, saw an opportunity to join in with something different and exciting. No encouragement needed, they just dived straight in. As Headmaster this is indicative of a school culture where pupils and staff are willing to engage in the new and take some risks. It was low stakes risk, but a risk all the same. What if no one joined in? What if no one knew what to do or no one wanted to watch it? Despite the *what ifs* the staff and children took the risk and what a great and enjoyable outcome for all.

I'm delighted to announce that Mrs Marrion and the Green Team have been successful in their pursuit of the Woodland Trust Gold Award. Submitted over the summer holidays the Duncombe application was greeted with significant praise and a wonderful new plaque can be seen in our reception area. Mrs Marrion and the team will now be aiming for the Platinum Award. Please do look at the article further in. It was lovely to see so many of you at our Lower School Meet the Teacher and Reception events this week. The information about our significant quarter of a million pound investment in ICT was very well received. I have been observing their use in lessons and learning this week. Over time this will continue to impact on teaching and learning and equip our pupils with the skills and interactive working practices that the future work place will demand. Tied to this, Mrs Micele-Jones and Señor Torres led assembly today focused on internet safety. I was delighted with the level of knowledge and understanding right across our pupil age range of how we can get the best out of the Internet whilst keeping ourselves safe. We will of course build on this across the school year and look out for the "*Señor Torres says*" sections that will be appearing over time.

Year 5 return this evening following a successful trip to Devon as part of the PGL trip. I expect they will all have some wonderful stories to share. I know the Reception Buddies are greatly looking forward to their return, as we all are.

Please do not miss the opportunity to register for the **Meet The Heads** Evening on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/duncombe-hosts-meet-the-heads-tickets-47165458155>

An exciting evening is planned to discuss current educational issues with the Heads of five leading Independent Schools all in one place!

Have a wonderful weekend

Mr Phelan

## Diary Dates

**Wednesday 19th September** - Meet the Heads Event. 7pm in New Hall.

## Looking Forward

**Tuesday 25th September** - Year 2 to Affinity Water. Year 5 Parent to Lunch. Time TBC.

**Wednesday 26th September** - Macmillan Coffee Morning. 8.30am in Old Hall.

**Thursday 27th September** - Year 1 to Audley End. Year 6 Parent to Lunch. Time TBC.

**Friday 28th September** - Year 3 to Hertford Theatre to 'Meet the Author' (AM). Years 1 & 2 to Hertford Theatre to see The Snail and the Whale (PM).

**Tuesday 2nd October** - Year 6 Parents' Evening in New Hall from 4.30pm to 8.30pm.

**Wednesday 3rd October** - Individual and Sibling Photographs.

**Thursday 4th October** - Open Morning for prospective parents, 9.45am start.

## Sports Fixtures

**Thursday 20th September** - U10 & U11 Football v Bishop's Stortford College (away). 3pm start.

**Monday 24th September** - U11 Netball v St Francis. 3.30pm start.

**Tuesday 25th September** - U10 Netball v Stormont (home). Time TBC.

**Wednesday 26th September** - U11 Sherrardswood Festival. 2.30pm start.

**Friday 28th September** - U11 ISFA Football Tournament at Chigwell School.

**Wednesday 3rd October** - U11 Football and Netball v St Edmund's Prep. 3.45pm start.

**Thursday 4th October** - U9 Football Tournament at Lochinver House. 1pm start.

## Safer Internet Assembly



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



**Congratulations**

Congratulations to Torri H (6TH) who was awarded Gymnast of the Year by Hertfordshire Gymnastics Club at their end of season awards night last Saturday.

Here is Torri receiving her award from the Head Acrobatic coaches. Well done Torri!



Congratulations to James M (5SA) who plays for St Margaretsbury Cricket Club in the U9 and U11 age groups. The U9 Team reached the County Quarter Finals and the U11 Team reached the finals. Here is James with his award for Colt Clubman of the Year. Well done James!

**Congratulations to the Lower School Stars of the Week**



**Term Dates for 2019/2020**

Our 2019/2020 term dates are now available on our website in the School Life section.

**Green Gang news!**

Our Eco Council are super proud, not only because of the amazing work they do but because we have now won The Woodland Trust Gold Award for the school and have been presented with a lovely wooden plaque for display. All our whole school efforts with recycling, upcycling, food waste, garden development, green awareness, battery recycling, tree planting and much, much more has taken us to this reward. A huge thanks to everyone for all the support we have received. We now have our sights set on the top Platinum Award!

One very proud Eco Council leader Mrs Marrion.



**Macmillan Coffee Morning**

The PA are holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning Wednesday 26th September to raise money for Macmillan Nurses. Please bring in your nut free (including ground almonds and almond essence) cake donations on the day. Your child may also bring in 50p or £1 to buy a cake at break time. Please join us for coffee in the Old Hall from drop off time to raise money for this good cause.

**PA AGM**

The Parents' Association are holding their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 26th September from 7.30pm in Old Hall. All are welcome so please join us to find out about last year's activities and for a look forward to the coming year over a glass of wine.



## Allergy Kitchen

I am delighted to be able to confirm that from Tuesday 18th September 2018 Thomas Franks, our embedded catering provider, will be operating a separate allergy preparation kitchen from our Treetops building. Although food preparation will take place in Treetops food will continue to be served in New Hall.

This is the first stage in our plan to apply for accreditation from Coeliac UK. As this project continues I will keep you up to date with developments.

*Ian Thomas, Business Manager*

## Found

A Next size 10 denim jacket was found after Speech Day in July. If you think this might be yours please come to the School Office.



**BENGEO FIELD**  
FUN RUN/WALK

A fundraising event against quarrying in Bengeo Field

**10am Sunday 23rd September**

Meet 9.30am at Sacombe Road/ The Wick play area

Choice of 3 distances: 1.2 or 4 km, all off-road, taking in the beautiful Bengeo Field plus an optional loop around the multi-balled Rickneys quarry

Two post-run yoga classes: for adults, and for families

Open to all ages, no dogs, unsuitable for wheelchairs/prams, children need to be supervised by their parents/guardians

Suggested entry fees: Adults £5, Children £1, Adult & Child £5  
(all donations go to Stop Bengeo Quarry campaign to fund health and legal experts)

Register at: [www.stopbengeoquarry.org.uk](http://www.stopbengeoquarry.org.uk)  
Email: [run@stopbengeoquarry.org.uk](mailto:run@stopbengeoquarry.org.uk)

STOP BENGEO QUARRY

Supported by 

## Warren Restaurant Menu for the week commencing 17th September 2018



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

<p><b>MONDAY</b> Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread</p> <p><b>Dish of the Day</b> Pork Sausages with Onion Gravy</p> <p><b>Vegetarian Option</b> Veggie Sausages with Gravy</p> <p><b>Jacket Potato Bar</b> Tuna Mayonnaise Cheese</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Steamed Green Beans and Carrots Cheesy Mash</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Bramley Apple Pie with Cream Fresh Fruit Yoghurt</p>	<p><b>TUESDAY</b> Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread</p> <p><b>Dish of the Day</b> Soy and Honey Glazed Turkey Strips with Egg Noodles</p> <p><b>Vegetarian Option</b> Quorn with Stir Fry Vegetables and Noodles</p> <p><b>Pasta Bar</b> Tomato and Herb Sauce</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Stir fried Cabbage Sweetcorn and Peas</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Custard Fresh Fruit Yoghurt</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread</p> <p><b>Dish of the Day</b> <b>Build a Burger</b> Homemade Beef Burger or Chicken Burgers built with your choice of Toppings</p> <p><b>Vegetarian Option</b> Sweet Potato and Five Bean Burgers with your choice of Toppings</p> <p><b>Jacket Potato Bar</b> Baked Beans</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Oven Baked Chips Steamed Sweetcorn</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Ginger Cookie Fresh Fruit Yoghurt</p>	<p><b>THURSDAY</b> Soup of the Day 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> Three Cheese Puff Slice</p> <p><b>Pasta Bar</b> Cheese Sauce</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Rustic Roast Leek Mornay Steamed Carrots and Broccoli</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Victoria Sandwich Cake Fresh Fruit Yoghurt</p>	<p><b>FRIDAY</b> Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread</p> <p><b>Dish Of The Day</b> Freshly made Salmon Fishcakes with Lemon and Tartare Sauce</p> <p><b>Vegetarian Option</b> Mixed Bean Burritos</p> <p><b>Jacket Potato Bar</b> Coleslaw Cheese</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Oven Wedges Baked Beans Garden Peas</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Berry Cheesecake Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt</p>
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