



21st June 2019

So, the Sun shone, and Sports Day happened here at Duncombe! How lovely it was. I'm delighted with the effort and endeavour that was on show. As ever, Miss Varney and Mr Sopher ran a highly efficient event which saw all pupils fully engaged and doing their bit for their houses. A brilliant Team Duncombe event as the T-Shirts showed! Thanks to all who were able to attend, it really did make for a wonderful atmosphere. A huge congratulations to Woburn for securing the Lower School Cup and also for winning the Upper School Cup! The first lock out for a number of years. The feedback from parents was extremely positive about the whole event and I'm delighted we had such a wonderful day.

This afternoon Treetops have their Sports Day. This is always a wonderful celebration of our youngest pupils and the Treetops Team once again have planned a wonderfully engaging and enjoyable event. Congratulations to all our pupils for taking part and getting fully involved! Thank you to all who attended and as ever, to Mrs Copeman and her exceptional team.

The LAMDA exams have been completed this week and I know Mrs Coley is again expecting great outcomes when the results come in over the holiday. The children will be involved in sharing their pieces over the course of assemblies in a couple of weeks and I'm greatly looking forward to it. Next week we have a series of Breakfast Concerts celebrating our pupils' musical endeavours. These are always such a joyous occasion and I'm sure that we are in for a real treat.

Today Miss Sands and I are attending the Wellington Festival of Education. Cognita are a main sponsor and I'm looking forward to hearing from a number of keynote speakers on a wide range of educational matters. I'll report back next week, but what is striking, is the number of Cognita leaders who are sharing on metacognition and the significance of wellbeing in pupil learning. It is a real privilege to work in an organisation that is at the forefront of 'thought leadership'.

Congratulations to James, Sophie and Lois of Year 5 who have been selected by Queenswood School as finalists for their Poetry Competition. Having taken submissions from numerous schools we are very excited to have three of our pupils nominated for the finals hosted at Queenswood in the first week of July. As part of the event, they will participate in a Young Writer's Activity with performance poet Professor Pango Mango and Carnegie Medal nominee, Catherine Johnson, presenting the overall winners prize. Do look out for our entries in the newsletter.

Much to look forward to in the coming week, so a good rest is certainly in order.

Have a wonderful weekend. *Mr Phelan*

Diary Dates

- Monday 24th June** - Breakfast Concerts Week.
Year 6 Speech and Drama Concert. 2.15pm in the **New Hall**.
- Tuesday 25th June** - Nursery to Paradise Wildlife Park.
Year 6 to Rye Meads Nature Reserve.
Reception Parent to Lunch. Both classes to arrive at 11.45am.
- Wednesday 26th June** - Reception to Willows Farm.
Kindergarten to Lee Valley Park Farm.
Nursery Parent to Lunch. Both classes to arrive at 11.40am.
- Thursday 27th June** - Last Speech and Drama Lessons.
- Friday 28th June** - Moving from Reception to Year 1 meeting. 8.55am start.

Looking Forward

- Monday 1st July** - Speech and Drama Assembly. 8.50am in New Hall.
- Tuesday 2nd July** - Speech and Drama Assembly. 8.50am in New Hall.
Year 6 at Hertford Theatre for play rehearsals.
- Wednesday 3rd July** - Speech and Drama Assembly. 8.50am in New Hall.
Year 6 Production at Hertford Theatre. 7pm start.
- Thursday 4th July** - Move Up Day.
Nursery and Reception Move Up Meeting. 6.45pm for 7.15pm start in New Hall.
- Saturday 6th July** - PA Summer Ball.
- Monday 8th July** - Bake Off Final in the Marquee from 9.00am.
Year 6 'Ritz at Duncombe'. 5.30pm drinks reception for 6.00pm start in the Marquee.
- Tuesday 9th July** - Reception Graduation (children only).
Evening Music Concert for invited performers. 7.00pm start.
- Wednesday 10th July** - Lower School Play. 5pm in the Marquee.
- Thursday 11th July** - Term Ends for EKG, KG and Nursery at normal time.
- Friday 12th July** - Speech Day
Term Ends.

Sports Fixtures

- Thursday 27th June** - U9 Cricket v St Edmund's Prep (away). 3pm start.

Treetops Sports Day



Year 2 have Fun at the Seaside

Year 2 had a fabulous time in Southend this week. The sun came out when we were on the pier and we saw some jelly fish. We had chips and ice cream for lunch and were entertained by a singing waitress who got us all up dancing. After lunch we made sandcastles on the beach. What a wonderful day!



Language Books

We have sent home a storybook donated by One Third Stories. They are giving away books to children all over the country as a commitment to their mission to put another language on every child's bookshelf. They create monthly story boxes with books, games, flashcards and activities to encourage language learning in children. You can check them out at: www.onethirdstories.com

'How the Dinosaur got his Shoes' is a great introduction to learning a second language. Read it together at bedtime or have it on in the background as you drive. You can access your free audiobook here:

www.onethirdstories.com/audiobooks

Alongside their new storybook, there's also a little activity. If you share your child's finished activity on social media, please tag One Third Stories, who would love to see how their books are being used. Don't forget the [#onethirdstories](https://twitter.com/onethirdstories) hashtag!

There's a special school discount code 'giveaway', for families that love the books and would like to receive more products from One Third Stories. You can find these on their website. *Señor Torres*.



Nursery Stars of the Week

Congratulations to Stirling, Macsen and Isabella who all reached their class goal this week.



Financial Capability Week

As part of Financial Capability week, Year 6 created their own pop up business making lemonade, lead by ex parent Duncan Martin. They tasted products already on the market, wrote up a business plan and sold their product to the rest of the school in the afternoon.



Murderous Maths Talk at Queenswood.

A handful of Year 5 and 6 pupils, went to Queenswood this week, to listen to Kjartan Poskitt, author of the Murderous Maths series, speak about the exciting world of Maths. The pupils learnt many of the Maths tricks from his books and were challenged to complete some problem solving activities which have not yet been published.



Queenswood Annual Poetry Competition

Pupils in Years 4 and 5 have recently been invited to submit entries to Queenswood's Annual Poetry competition. We received such an incredible array of fantastic poems based on the specified theme of 'Freedom'. These justly showcased the creativity of pupils at Duncombe as well as providing a variety of thought-provoking interpretations of this powerful theme. Well done to all who entered. Huge congratulations to Lois P (5Sa), Sophie G (5Sa) and James P (5Su) for being selected by the English team at Queenswood School for the impressiveness of their entries.

They have been invited to attend their Young Writers' Activity Afternoon, as part of the prestigious annual Queenswood Literary Festival, where they will have the opportunity to take part in a workshop with performance poet Professor Pango Mango. The overall winner of the poetry competition will be announced by Carnegie Medal nominee Catherine Johnson.

They are sure to have an informative and inspiring time and an update about their experiences will follow! Below are the three selected poems:

Miss Cartwright.

FREEDOM

Freedom, to be able to climb a tree
And take a breath of fresh air
To be able to get injured, as your parents watch in suspense
Then you scramble down the tree, ready, begging to climb again.

Freedom, to be able to surf the salty water
Or to relax with an ice cream
And later, enjoying some fish and chips
Then sitting on the sand, watching the sun go down behind the sea.

Freedom, to be able to go fishing
Casting a line into a lake
Dreaming of catching a beautiful big fish
Then coming back and telling your friends all about it.

By James

Freedom from my siblings

Arghh sibling make me annoyed,
sometimes happy but they are mostly aggravating
They sometimes scream in my ear, call me names,
wake me up and so many more annoying things
YAY today is the day where I have no screaming just
peace and quiet in my ear, no name calling and no waking
me up. Ahh
Today I am sibling free.
My sister is at a sleepover and my brother is at a party so I
can do anything I want for a whole day!
This is true freedom.

By Lois

Unchained

Oppressed in chains, my life is hopelessness,
Locked in a stable, like a gloomy dungeon,
In my mind I'm free,
Dreaming of galloping somewhere.....

But one day the chains were broken,
My life was restored,
I galloped,
For miles and miles, far, far away,

Elation envelopes me,
Thundering along the golden beach,
My mane flows in the wind,
My hooves pounding the wet sand,

I am a horse,
Wild at heart,
A herd animal,
I should have a life.



By Sophie

Instrumental Tuition

Nearly all spaces have now been allocated for lessons commencing in September, however there is still limited availability in brass, flute and clarinet / sax.

Please contact Mrs Sutton on jo.sutton@duncombe-school.co.uk if you are interested in your child taking up a place.

Children in the current Year 1 moving into Year 2 in September will be considered if they are physically ready.

Choir Updates

We are very excited to tell you that Junior Choir and Senior Choir are having a reshuffle!

From September, children in Years 2 and 3 will form the Junior Choir and children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will form the Senior Choir.

This is in response to interest from the younger children. If your child would like to join either choir, they simply need to come along – no auditions are required and we welcome everyone who loves to sing.

The rehearsal days will be published once we return to school for the Autumn Term.

ABRSM Exams

ABRSM examinations are running at school tomorrow. We wish all our pupils taking exams the best of success!

Moving to Nursery and Reception Meeting, 4th July

Please could you confirm to Mrs Sawyer in the school office if you are able to attend this meeting, which will take place on Thursday 4th July. Refreshments will be provided at 6.45pm for a prompt start at 7.15pm.

Music Concerts Week

We are looking forward to our Breakfast Music Concerts which will take place on the dates below. Please be aware that all pupils learning these instruments will be taking part.

Here are the dates, times and locations:

- **Flute** - Monday 24th June at 8.50am in the Music Studio
- **Piano** (Mrs Davis) -Monday 24th June at 8.50am in Old Hall
- **Clarinet** - Tuesday 25th June at 8.50am in the Music Studio
- **Guitar** - Wednesday 26th June at 8.50am in Old Hall
- **Drums** - Wednesday 26th June at 8.50am in the Music Studio
- **Brass**– Wednesday 26th June at 8.50am in the After School Club Room.
- **Voice** - Thursday 27th June at 8.50am in the Music Studio.
- **Violin**– Thursday 27th June at 8.50am in New Hall.
- **Piano** (Mrs Robinson) - Friday 28th June at 8.50am in Old Hall.

Thank you. *Mrs Sutton, Head of Music.*

Duncombe Sports Kit

Please can you make sure that all Duncombe sports kit is returned by Wednesday 3rd July at the latest. Thank you. *Miss Varney.*

Warren Restaurant Menu for the week commencing 24th June 2019

Duncombe School Lunch Menu - Week 1 (22/04, 13/05, 03/06, 24/06)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
SOUP Kettle	The Soup Kettle Seasonal soup with 50/50 homemade bread	The Soup Kettle Seasonal soup with 50/50 homemade bread	The Soup Kettle Seasonal soup with 50/50 homemade bread	The Soup Kettle Seasonal soup with 50/50 homemade bread	The Soup Kettle Seasonal soup with 50/50 homemade bread
ENTREE	Beef Chilli con Carne Served with sour cream and Guacamole	Butchers Sausages with Onion Gravy	Turkey and Butterbean Casserole	Spiced Roast Chicken	Cod Fish Fingers
VEGGIE Lovers	Cherry Tomato and Basil tart	Vegetable Sausages with Gravy	Stuffed Mushrooms	Halloumi & Rocket Buns	Roasted Tomato And Pasta Bake
Light BITES	Baked Jacket Potato Chef's Special	Pasta Penne with Tomato Sauce	Baked Jacket Potato Chef's Special	Pasta Spirals with a Nut-free Green Pesto	Baked Jacket Potato Chef's Special
on the SIDE	Braised 50/50 Rice Broccoli Corn with Roast peppers	Mashed Potatoes Savoy Cabbage Cauliflower	Steamed New Potatoes Green Beans Roasted Parsnips	Rustic Roast Potatoes Steamed Carrots and Peas Corn on the Cob	Chips Peas Baked Beans
TASTY PUDS	Baked Rice pudding with cinnamon topping	Yoghurt Sundae with Mixed Berry puree	Apple Crumble	Yoghurt Sundae with Mixed Berry puree	Chocolate Ice-cream

Salad Bar available everyday
Chunks of fresh fruit and Homemade Wholemeal bread