

# Duncombe Digest



We have had a vibrant and purposeful week where the children have continued with their excellent start to the academic year. Staff have fed back at how well their classes have picked up the baton of learning and have got up to speed very effectively. As I have travelled from classes and to outside lessons I have been delighted with the calmness and engaged levels of conversation between pupils and staff and in peer to peer work. This is an excellent indicator of high level learning and a culture that is well established. In my discussions with some Year 6 pupils this week, I was most encouraged with the willingness to be challenged and the security to seek advice and help where it is needed. Several pupils shared aspects of learning that they had found to be tricky and articulated extremely well the strategies they have learnt and how they apply these to overcome such challenges. This metacognition, or awareness of how we learn and what we can do to be better learners, is exactly what we work to build right from Early Kindergarten through to Year 6 and beyond.

I'm exceptionally proud of our children and the staff for the thriving working environment we have here at Duncombe, so I was delighted to receive the following email this week which I have been asked to share with you all.

*Dear Mr Phelan,*

*Thank you to you and your staff for a very informative evening last night. It was both helpful and interesting. I was particularly interested to hear from Ms Sands about the upcoming Wellbeing day. I also wanted to let you know how happy we are with the care our boys have received. Your staff were just wonderful. As a mother I really couldn't have wished for anything more. Staff have been so warm and caring and have helped our sons to find their feet this week. They're delighted to have earned so many House Points! I am so pleased that Duncombe is a school where you're not afraid to get down on the children's level and give them a hug! It's just what my boys need! Knowing that the boys have such high quality consistency of care at Duncombe is a real weight off my shoulders. Thank you – I know how hard it is working in education – I think you're all doing a super job!*

Wow! I have shared this with staff and I know that feedback such as this is a true delight to receive.

This week in assemblies I focused on the skill of listening and being kind- taken from our Golden Rules. With Year 5 returning next week Miss Sands will focus on the Fire and

Lockdown drills and Mrs Micele-Jones will focus on online e-safety and the work of CEOPs. Do please speak with the children about these themes over the coming days.

Our Meet the Teacher and Reception Workshop events were very well attended, and I was delighted with the positive energy and opportunity to share the direction of travel for the coming year. I'm pleased to say that Mr David Baldwin, Chair of Governors and Director of Education will be visiting on 25<sup>th</sup> September to speak to parents at 6.30pm. It is hoped that he will be joined by Mr Stuart Rolland Chief Executive Europe although this is yet to be finalised. This will be a wonderful opportunity to hear about Duncombe and to put faces to names. This will be immediately followed by our PA AGM which you are welcome to attend.

In addition, please do make a note of **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** for our Bi-annual Senior Schools Fair starting at 6.30. A wonderful opportunity for families to meet with the Year 7 teams at leading local Independent Schools and consider the option for life after Year 6 at Duncombe.

Congratulations to our U11 boys football team who gained fourth place in the Haileybury Prep Schools U11 football tournament. Despite not making the final the team grew in confidence over the course of the tournament and achieved some notable wins including a pleasing pool match 1-0 victory over Heath Mount. Well done to all who took part. This positive start bodes well for future matches this year.

A big thank you to the Year 5 team at Mount Cook for their dedication and hard work. I am sure they and the children will be very tired. We look forward to hearing all about their adventures.

With Swimming at Haileybury commencing next Tuesday, matches, Year 1 to Audley End and Year 2 Parent to Lunch we really have got to full pace, so a good rest I am sure, will be most welcome this weekend. *Mr Phelan*

## Headmaster's Award

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



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## Diary Dates

### **Tuesday 17th September**

Swimming resumes for Years 2, 3 and 4 at Haileybury.

### **Wednesday 18th September**

Year 1 to Audley End.

Year 2 Parent to Lunch. 2W at 12.20pm and 2A at 12.30pm.

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## Looking Forward

### **Wednesday 25th September**

Year 6 to Duxford.

Reception to Bekonscot Model Village.

PA Macmillan Coffee Morning. 8.30am in Old Hall.

PA AGM 7.30pm in Old Hall.

### **Thursday 26th September**

Open Morning for Prospective Parents.

### **Friday 27th September**

Global Be Well Day. Whole school to Cuffley Camp.

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## Sports Fixtures

### **Wednesday 18th September**

U10 and U11 Netball v St Joseph's in the Park (home). 2.30pm start.

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

### **Thursday 19th September**

U10 and U11 Football v Bishop's Stortford College (away). 3.30pm start.

### **Tuesday 24th September**

U 8 & U9 Netball v St Joseph's in the Park (home). 3pm start.

### **Wednesday 25th September**

U11 Netball v Stormont (away). Time TBC.

U11 Football v Sherrardswood (away). Time TBC.

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## Importance Notices

### **Drainage Work on Port Hill**

May we remind you that from Monday 16th September, drainage work will be carried on on Port Hill from 9.30am to 4pm all week. This may add extra time to your journey to and from school.

### **Uniform and Lost Property**

Could we please ask that you name your child's uniform clearly please. We still have a lot of unclaimed, unnamed uniform each week. Thank you.

### **Pedestrian Entrance**

Unfortunately some people are still using the car park entrance to walk in to school. Please ensure when entering the school site on foot that you use the pedestrian entrance.

## Congratulations!

We are delighted to inform you that one of last year's Year 6 pupils, Alex recently spent a week at the end of August at Port Regis School with the U11 National Children's Orchestra of Great Britain 2019. Alex loved the experience and the concert at the end of the week was incredible.



In addition to this Alex also had an audition for the U11 NCO and has been invited to join them as a clarinettist.

## Well done Lower School Start of the Week

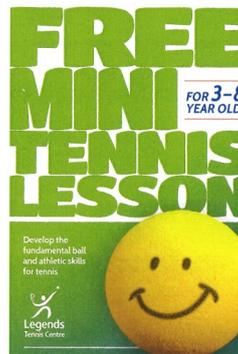


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## Macmillan Coffee Morning

The PA are holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Wednesday 25th 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 to raise money for this worthy cause.



**Congratulations**

to Tracy @ Legends

You were such a super star tennis player today that you are now invited to attend a FREE tennis session at the Legends Tennis Centre in the Flood Heath. Please choose one of the times below and call us to book your place.

	3-4 year olds	4-5 year olds	6-8 year olds
Monday	1pm or 3pm	4pm or 5pm	5pm
Tuesday	-	4pm	4pm
Wednesday	1pm	5pm	4pm or 5pm
Thursday	1pm	-	-
Friday	1:30pm	-	-
Saturday	9am	9am or 10am	10am or 11am
Sunday	10am	11am	-

01992 476880  
www.legendstennis.co.uk  
Hilkeybury, Hertford Heath, SG13 7NJ

## Warren Restaurant Menu

### Week commencing 16th September 2019



- Monday**
- The SOUP Kettle**  
Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread
- TACO ENTREEE**  
Vegetable Lasagne
- VEGGIE LOVERS**  
Thai Green Quorn and Vegetable Curry with Basmati Rice
- Light BITES**  
Baked Jacket Potato Chef's Special
- on the SIDE**  
Green Beans Sweetcorn
- TASTY PUDS**  
Yoghurt Sundae with Sliced Peaches

### Duncombe School Lunch Menu - Week 3

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread	Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread	Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread	Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread	Soup of the Day Served with Fresh Homemade Bread
Vegetable Lasagne	Chicken Tagine	Ham and Pineapple Pizza	Roast Beef Yorkshire puddings and Gravy	Breaded Fish Fillet
Thai Green Quorn and Vegetable Curry with Basmati Rice	5 Bean and Soya mince Tagine	Pizza Margarita	Stuffed Roasted Butternut squash	Vegetable Spring Rolls
Baked Jacket Potato Chef's Special	Penne Napolitana	Baked Jacket Potato Chef's Special	Pasta in 3 Cheese sauce	Baked Jacket Potato Chef's Special
Green Beans Sweetcorn	Roast Cauliflower Cous Cous and Pomegranate	Potato salad Red Cabbage Slaw Corn on the cobs	Roast Potatoes Parsnips Broccoli and Carrots	Chips Mushy Peas Baked Beans
Yoghurt Sundae with Sliced Peaches	Banana and Cinnamon Cake	Yogurt With Fresh Fruit and Coulis	Orange Jelly and Fruit	Chocolate Brownie

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

