

Duncombe Digest



Ground Control to Duncombe School! This has very much been the theme for this week with National Space week providing the opportunity for all pupils to engage in learning and discussions around the theme of space and the awe and wonder it inspires. There have been a number of activities about which I have greatly enjoyed speaking with the children. Year 5 and Reception pupils had the chance to engage in a space related Buddy Workshop which I know was a particular highlight for the children. There was also the creation of 3D Solar Systems in ICT for Year 6 which were amazing to look at. Do please look out for the reports and talk to the children about their experiences and what they have picked up along the way. The Virtual Reality tour of the Universe will be rescheduled for later in the term.

Back on Earth our pupils have engaged in matches with some very pleasing outcomes including well earned U11 football victories against Heath Mount this week. Last week at the Regional IAPS finals Duncombe secured 5th place out of 14 schools, losing in the Quarter Finals to the eventual winners. Congratulations to all involved.

Our School community has celebrated Harvest Festival today and I do wish to say a very sincere thank you to you all for your kind donations that will be extremely well received by Hertford Foodbank. The children in Treetops and Lower School sang beautifully in the morning assembly and Upper School very much enjoyed the opportunity to congregate at Holy Trinity this afternoon. It was lovely to see so many of you there for what is always a very enjoyable service.

There are a number of matches, theatre trips for Year 4 and 5 and also Parents' Evenings for Nursery to Year 3 next week. Another busy week to look forward to. Do have a wonderful weekend. *Mr Phelan.*

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



Lower School Harvest

This morning Year 2 led us superbly in our Lower School and Treetops Harvest Festival. The festival was a true celebration of words and songs, focussing on how fortunate we are and how wonderful it is to be able to give something of what we have.

The Year 2 children took us on a journey around the world describing how different countries celebrate Harvest and then acted out a short Harvest story. They were all wonderful performers, flawless in presentation and using voices that we could all hear. Well done!

Thank you to everyone who donated gifts to Hertford Foodbank.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Estelle who was awarded a Distinction at the weekend and achieved her yellow belt, promoting her to the rank of 9th KYU. Well done Estelle!



Well done to the Lower School Stars of the Week



Duncombe Digest



Diary Dates

Tuesday 15th October

Nursery to Year 3 Parents' Evening from 4.30pm to 6.30pm.

Wednesday 16th October

Nursery to Year 3 Parents' Evening from 6.30pm to 8.30pm.

Thursday 17th October

Year 4 to Hertford Theatre to see Ancient Egyptians.

Friday 18th October

Music Assembly in Old Hall from 8.50am.

Year 5 to Hertford Theatre to see Terrible Tudors.

Looking Forward

Monday 21st October

Year 5 to Hindu Temple.

Thursday 24th October

School finishes at normal time and all After School Clubs will be on as normal.

Friday 25th October - Half Term begins. School closed

Sports Fixtures

Monday 14th October

U9 Netball v St Edmund's Prep (home). Time TBC.

U9 Football v St Edmund's Prep (away). 3pm start.

Wednesday 16th October

U11 Football v Heath Mount (away). 2.30pm start.

Tuesday 22nd October

U10 Netball v Stormont (away). 2.30pm start.

Wednesday 23rd October

U11 Football v St Christopher School (away). 2.30pm start.

Important Notices

Year 1 to Year 3 Parents' Evening

Please be aware that Year 1 to 3 Parents' Evenings will take place in New Hall and not in classrooms.

Car Park Safety & Pedestrian Entrance

Can we please remind you to be vigilant when walking across the car park with children when getting in and out of your car.

May we also remind you to always use the pedestrian entrance when walking in and out of school. Please do not walk through the main gates to the school office or to the side gate.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Academic Year Term Dates 2020-2021

Autumn Term

Thursday 3rd September to Friday 11th December
Half Term: Friday 23rd October to Friday 30th October

Spring Term

Wednesday 6th January to Friday 26th March
Half Term: Friday 12th February to Friday 19th February

Summer Term

Tuesday 20th April to Friday 9th July
Thursday 8th July – Term ends for EKY, KG & N
Half Term: Friday 21st May to Friday 28th May
May Day Holiday: Monday 3rd May
[Speech Day 9th July]

Duncombe Digest



Reception Visit Bekonscot Model Village

All of the children enjoyed our trip to Bekonscot Model Village! We used some fairy dust to sprinkle over the children to make them giants so when we walked around the village we would be really big and the buildings and people would be really small. Everyone was really excited and pointed to all of the things that they could see. They were most impressed with the model railway running around the village!



Half Marathon for Mr Sopher

Mr Sopher is about to take up the challenge of running a half marathon for Parkinson's UK on Sunday 13th October. Here is a link to Mr Sopher's Just Giving page in case you would like to donate. Good luck Mr Sopher and we look forward to hearing how you get on!

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jamessopher>

Year 3 Trip to Celtic Harmony Camp

On Wednesday 10th October, as part of our History studies, two intrepid Duncombe Year 3 tribes, the Wolves and the Snakes, travelled 2800 years back in time to visit the Celtic Harmony Camp. As soon as we arrived, whilst exploring a Celtic roundhouse, we learned that King Prastagus, Chief of the Iceni tribe, had died. Queen Boudicca, his wife and new leader of the Iceni had been treated badly by the Romans and was leading a rebellion against them! She needed our help, so a crash course in Celtic Warrior training ensued. Both tribes performed brilliantly at archery. We learned how to create a shield formation and drove out our pesky Roman teachers. Having painted our faces with woad we were able to retain our fierce stances whilst braiding Celtic headdresses. We used our trading skills to gain required products for daily life such as wood, yarn, cloth, grain and gems. Finally, we completed a trail around the woods to solve riddles about Warriors and Druids using Runes. Fortunately, we were able to transport ourselves back to the present day without any time travel mishaps. Here are some thoughts shared about the day:

"I liked the bit when I went on the Path of the Druid. There are Celtic letters and clues. I knew the Celtic letters because there was a chart, that's how I worked it out." Ethan

"I loved the bit where we defeated our teachers with our shields. We even went to a shop and they gave us three pence. I bought three amethysts." Joey

"My favourite bit was the quest. We had to find clues, when we got to the end, we found out the secret word. It was...drum role please...Chariot. It was super duper fun." Isabella

"The best part of the day was going to the workshop. I bought stones." Leila



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Space Week

What a superb 'Space Week'! The whole school took part in an abundant range of space themed activities throughout the week. Lessons ranged from meteor showers in PE to playing 'Walking on the Moon' by The Police using Boomwhackers in Music!

Early Kindergarten and Kindergarten enjoyed a week of activities based on the story 'Whatever Next'. The children learnt about space through role play, dance, exploration of moon dough and collaging rockets. Nursery enjoyed literacy, art and maths activities based on 'Aliens Love Underpants', even their Labtots session was space themed! Reception focussed on 'Back to Earth with a Bump', counted aliens and had a special visit from their Buddies. Together they created beautiful planet suncatchers, which are hanging in the windows of Treetops.



Lower School had a fantastic week learning about amazing astronauts, designing space rockets and writing about what they could see through their spaceship window. Year 3 created a space themed dance and Year 1, as a whole class, produced the most stunning rockets, in the style of Mondrian, if



you get the chance go and have a look!

Upper School had numerous space themed lessons. In English, the children wrote creatively using some fantastic space imagery as a stimulus for their writing. During maths, Year 4 found the distance of the planets from the sun and used a ratio of 1 piece of toilet paper = 50,000,00km to make a model. They particularly enjoyed using calculators. Year 6 created some very impressive constellations using protractors to accurately measure the various angles and draw them precisely.

Year 5 and Year 6 had a fascinating space talk from Bob Ferguson. Bob is a Structural Engineer with over 20 years of space craft experience. He captivated the children with many interesting facts about all things space and shared his own experiences with them of various projects he has worked on for Airbus. In



Science, during a chemistry lesson, Year 4 created 'Fizzy Planets'. They made a chemical reaction by mixing an acid (vinegar) with an alkali (bicarbonate of soda). They were very excited to see the bubbles of carbon



dioxide! Year 6 were given the challenge to design and make a manned spacecraft to land safely on Mars. They rose to the challenge and I was extremely impressed with how they worked together as a team to complete the task. We will be testing their incredible designs next week!

We have enjoyed this week immensely and in true Duncombe style, children and staff have fully immersed themselves in the great vacuum of Space Week!

Mrs Ferguson



Duncombe Digest

Lost

Named coat belonging to Jamie Richardson.

Charity of the Term

As mentioned last week, Knebworth will be raising money for The Brothers Trust this term which helps small charities.

Here are the fundraising events coming up:

Design a Mask for Spiderman Competition

We will shortly be launching this competition which will be £1 to enter.

Dress Up Day — Friday 15th November

We invite all children from EKG to Year 6 to come to school in their onesies or pyjamas. Entry for this will be £1.

Movie Night — Friday 22nd November

We will be hosting a movie night for children in Years 3 to 6 where we will be showing Toy Story 4. Tickets will be going on sale after half term.

Warren Restaurant Menu

Week commencing 14th October 2019

Duncombe School Lunch Menu - Week 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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	The Soup Kettle Seasonal soup with 50/50 homemade bread
TAKE AN ENTREE	Beef Chilli con Carne Served with sour cream and Guacamole	Lemon Paprika Chicken with Rice and Crunchy Slaw	Beef Pasta Bolognaise	Honey Roast Gammon	Pupils Choice Cod Fillet Fingers with Homemade Tartare Sauce
VEGGIE LOVERS	Cherry Tomato and Basil Quiche	Vegetable Sausages with Gravy	Macaroni Cheese with Garlic Bread	Braised Quorn Fillet with Onion Chutney	Halloumi Cheese and Vegetable Fingers with Sweet Chilli Dip
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	Crushed New Potatoes Glazed local Carrots Cauliflower	Garlic Bread Peas Mixed Garden Salad	Roast Potatoes Green Beans and Carrots Roasted Parsnips	Chips Peas Baked Beans
TASTY PUDS	Choc Chip Cookie Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt	Yoghurt Sundae with Mixed Berry puree	Peach and Honey Crumble	Chunky Fruit Jelly Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt	Chocolate Ice-cream

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