

Duncombe Digest



Quick march! This was the clarion call in assembly this morning as 2A took us on a journey through the world of Mathematics using the Armed Forces as the vehicle to take us there. As I stood and watched the class deliver this delightful assembly, I had to remind myself that they are Year 2 pupils and not older. If ever there was an example of lifting the lid on expectation and learning this was it. 2A sang, marched, danced and acted their way through their learning in a fully integrated and interactive way. They all rose to the occasion and it is fair to say that all pupils, parents and staff rightly gave a well-deserved round of applause at the end. Congratulations to all of 2A, Miss Angus and Miss Burton for yet another fabulous assembly.

I had the opportunity to observe some digital learning in class over the past few days and was delighted with the work being covered using computer aided design software. I remember being at University where this was being used by architecture students I shared a house with and to think that Year 4 and 5 pupils were using this same styled software in lessons was wonderful to see. Judging by the level of progress and skill development on display, I think we may well have several architects in the making.

Our Open Morning this week was extremely well attended, and a good number were able to reference current families who had given recommendations. Such endorsements are extremely important, and I am very grateful for the continued support the parent body shows. This has been exemplified today with our whole school community supporting the Woburn Charities dressed as animals or in green as we showed support for those helping the displaced and injured wildlife in Australia (see photo below).

Next week sees 2W lead assembly on Friday and several matches taking place. Nursery and Reception have Drama Workshops planned and we shall be visited by a representative of Paradise Wildlife Park to talk to the children about an environmental exercise that we can all support which is much closer to home. It really never stops here at Duncombe!

Do have a wonderful and restful weekend. *Mr Phelan.*

Woburn Dress Up Day!



Well done to these pupils who received a Headmaster's Award today.



Well done to the Lower School Stars of the Week



Thank you to 2A for a Brilliant Assembly Today!



Nursery Class Goal

Leo from Nursery Maple was excited to achieve his class goal this week. Well done Leo!





Duncombe Digest

Diary Dates

Wednesday 29th January

Nursery and Reception Drama Workshop at Duncombe.

Thursday 30th January

Future Schools' Evening. 7pm start in Old Hall.

Friday 31st January

2W Class Assembly (Parents Welcome). 8.50am start in New Hall.

Looking Forward

Monday 3rd February

4S Class Assembly (Parents Welcome). 8.50am start in New Hall.

Thursday 6th February

Chinese Workshop for Years 1 to 3 at Duncombe.

Friday 7th February

Music Assembly (Parents Welcome). 8.50am start in Old Hall.

Tuesday 11th February

Year 1 Glass Workshop in Ware.

Year 4 Sikh Temple Trip.

Years 5 and 6 Swimming.

Wednesday 12th February

Year 1 Glass Workshop in Ware.

Parent Event - Relationships, Education and Diversity. 7pm in New Hall.

Thursday 13th February

Last day half term.

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

Friday 14th February - Half Term begins. School closed.

Sports Fixtures

Wednesday 29th January

U11 Rugby v Westbrook Hay (away). 2.30pm start.

Thursday 30th January

U9 Rugby v St Edmund's Prep (away). 3.15pm start.

U9 Hockey v St Edmund's Prep (away). 3.15pm start.

Wednesday 5th February

U10 Rugby v Kingshott (away). Time TBC.

Wednesday 12th February

U11 Netball v Westbrook Hay (away). Time TBC

U11 Rugby v Manor Lodge (away). 2.30pm start.

Thursday 13th February

U9 Rugby v Kingshott (away). Time TBC.

Important Notices

Year 4 & 5 Future Schools' Information Evening

Thursday 30th January

On Thursday 30th January we are holding a Year 4 & 5 Future Schools' Information Evening. The intention is to help you understand the process of selecting the right senior school for your child, how senior schools select pupils and also what Duncombe does to prepare pupils for entry to these schools. This will be an informative evening that will be of great benefit to all Year 4 and 5 parents. Please see the Parentmail sent last week for further information.

Upper School Swimming Gala

Our Upper School Swimming Gala will be taking place on the morning of Tuesday 24th March at Haileybury. As usual parents are invited to come and watch and support their child/children. We will be sending full details out about this event very soon.

In the meantime we would like to inform you of the following changes to swimming lessons:

Tuesday 11th February

Years 5 & 6 will be swimming

No swimming for Years 2 & 3

Tuesday 24th March

Upper School Swimming Gala day

No swimming for Years 2 & 3

Mrs Johnson

Gluten Free Accreditation from Coeliac UK

I am delighted to be able to share with you the news that following an external audit last week, our catering provider, Thomas Franks, have been awarded an A Grade Gluten Free Accreditation from Coeliac UK.

This accreditation backs up our commitment to pupils and staff with coeliac disease, and other people who require significant gluten free products.

I would like to thank Mr Goulston, our Chef Manager, and the Thomas Franks Team for their hard work in achieving this award, which is a great result.

Ian Thomas, Business Manager



Duncombe Digest



Treetops take to the High Seas!

Treetops are enjoying taking to the high seas in their new pirate ship!



Year 3 Roman Day

On Monday 20th January, Year 3 travelled back in time to Ancient Rome thanks to the workshop run by 'History off the Page'. The children engaged in a variety of activities, including making pottery, producing their own ink and even using a strigil and oil to clean their arms! At the end of the day a grand banquet was held where the children provided entertainment for their peers and were waited on them.



500 Words Creative Writing Competition

Last week, pupils in Upper School took part in a Live Lesson hosted by the BBC, to support the development of creative writing for the 500 Word Writing Competition. Now in its tenth year, the lesson celebrated the world's biggest creative writing competition, by travelling through time and gathering inspiration from amazing stories that defy time and space. We all listened, captivated by the ideas of celebrated children's authors Frank Cottrell-Boyce, Francesca Simon and Charlie Higson. With the creative juices flowing, pupils planned out ideas for a short story which, no more than 500 words in length, could showcase their imaginative ideas.

Pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 have been given an invitation in their English lessons to opt out of their usual comprehension weekend homework and instead draft their 500 word story. It is entirely optional and children can do their regular English homework task instead. Pupils who would like to opt into creative writing this weekend have been asked to show their drafted story to their English teachers for an in-house Duncombe writing competition by next Tuesday. These can be typed or handwritten. After redrafting and improving, final versions should then be handed in by **Friday 7th February**. You can listen to last year's winner here: <https://www.duncombe-school.co.uk/the-life-of-a-toothbrush/> We would heartily encourage children to electronically submit their entries to the National 500 Words competition too. Details about online submission can be found here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/59TwKqqLp3LTpRVfPIsKtx9/submit-a-story>

The deadline for entries to the official competition is **Thursday 27th February**. The only rule is that the story can be no longer than 500 words; the only limit is the children's imaginations!

Miss Cartwright
Head of English





Duncombe Digest

Warren Restaurant Menu Week commencing 27th January 2020



Duncombe School Lunch Menu Week 1

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday



Chicken Rogan Josh Curry with Steamed Basmati Rice	Pork Sausages with Onion Gravy	Golden Shepherd's Pie with Gravy	Lemon and Thyme Roast Chicken Breast with Gravy	Cod Fish Fingers with Lemon
Falafel with a Cucumber and mint yoghurt dip	Vegetable Sausages with Gravy	Cheesy Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread	Roast Quorn Fillet	Brie and Tomato Quiche
Baked Jacket Potato Baked Beans	Pasta Penne with Cherry Tomato and Salmon Sauce	Baked Jacket Potato Baked Beans	Pasta Spirals with a Nut-free Green Pesto	Baked Jacket Potato Baked Beans
Braised 50/50 Rice Broccoli Corn with Roast peppers	Crushed New Potatoes Glazed local Carrots Savoy Cabbage	Garden Peas Buttered Swede Puree	Roast Potatoes Green Beans and Carrots Roasted Parsnips	Chips Peas Baked Beans
Yoghurt Sundae with Mixed Berry puree	Blueberry Cookies	Pear and Honey Crumble	Chunky Fruit Jelly	Short Bread Biscuit/Cookie

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

