



# Duncombe Celebration News

## Celebration Newsletter

Hello to you all! This is a slightly different newsletter informing you of staff news, celebrating awards and highlighting some Treetops work. We hope you enjoy it.

## Headmaster Awards

Well done to all these pupils who have received a Headmaster's Award over the past few weeks!





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## Lower School Stars of the Week

Well done to all these Lower School pupils who have received a Lower School Star of the Week award this term.





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## Treetops Early Kindergarten

The whole of Treetops are doing the Teddy bears picnic topic this week!

Shown below are:

- Charlie, who has made some amazing Teddy bear ears ready to wear for the picnic on Thursday.
- Amelle, who is showing me her favourite Teddy bear at home.
- Rory who has enjoyed making a bear pizza for our cooking activity.

Well Done to all the children for their fantastic efforts and work during all of our topics.  
Miss Kavanagh.





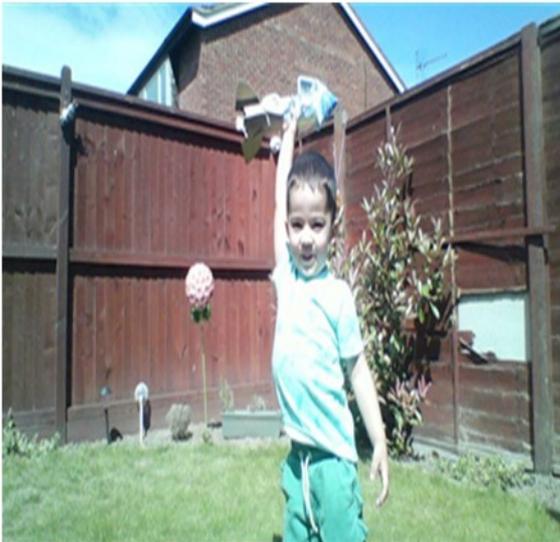
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## Treetops Kindergarten

What fantastic participation from Kindergarten this half term! We started off exploring modes of transport and how they move, secondly was the popular theme of superheroes and we all made our own 'Supertato'. Thirdly we explored the natural world in our gardens of minibeasts and made some super bug hotels! To finish off the term we have been looking at the theme of bears and the stories Goldilocks and Whatever Next! Finishing with a Teddy Bear picnic at lunchtime today - well done Kindergarten!

Also well done and a big 'Thank you' to Year 5 for creating your story forts and recording and sharing with the Treetops children your wonderful stories, they have really looked forward to hearing them every night this week!

Mrs L Baxter





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## Treetops Nursery

This week our topic is teddies. In Maths Nursery have been using different things to measure our teddy bears. Miss Ord.



Scarlett used a tape measure



We have been making story tents to enjoy our books in. Here is Charlotte's story tent.



Noah used his blocks to measure his teddies.



In art and craft we have been making masks. Leo enjoyed making a bear mask.

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## Treetops Reception

Reception have been building story forts and dens to read books to their teddy bears



Jack loved making this and is really keen to spend the whole day here!





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## Staff News

### Mrs Watson

Mrs Watson has decided to take a very well earned retirement after 33 years at Duncombe! When Mrs Watson joined Duncombe in January 1987 she started as a dinner lady and then after two years became a Teaching Assistant. There were only two classes in Lower School at the time and both of them finished at lunchtime. During her time at Duncombe, Mrs Watson has seen the New Wing, Treetops, and the Music Block built and has worked for 4 Headteachers. Mrs Watson says that she wouldn't have stayed so long if it hadn't been for the lovely staff and of course the wonderful children. We thank Mrs Watson for all her hard work and will certainly miss her. We wish her a long and happy retirement.

### Miss Ord

Miss Ord will be leaving at the end of Summer Term to start an exciting new role teaching Nursery at The British School of Lisbon which is part of The Schools Trust and a new international school. Miss Ord has been at Duncombe for 7 years and we thank her for all her hard work and support. Miss Ord is looking forward to her new challenge but says she will miss everyone very much. We will miss you too Miss Ord!

### A Goodbye from Mrs Turner

Goodbye Duncombe and thank you for 22 years! At the end of this term I will be retiring, and I have been allowed to write a few thoughts as I work towards the end of my teaching career. So here we go 22 years from the beginning to the end! After taking a few years away from teaching to be at home raising our young family, I decided to return to my chosen profession. A friend told me about a maternity leave post teaching music that was being advertised and I was lucky enough to get the job. That was the beginning of my time in Duncombe, I joined in October 1998.

I have had a marvellous time here and worked with so many wonderful and interesting people. The children are obviously a joy and I count myself blessed that I have been able to spend my 22 years here teaching your children. Life has never been dull, never been boring, and never been wasted. Working with 3 different head teachers has been fascinating to see the impact different leadership can bring to a school. Duncombe has flourished under each leader. Now to play a small part in the leading of the school, is a huge privilege.

I began my time in Year One in a job sharing role with Mrs Sally Ferguson ( our Mrs Ferguson's mother in law) and I leave the school, job sharing with Lucy Galsaka and our fantastic year one team. Both these job-sharing roles have been highlights of my time here. Working in a team is where I have always felt happiest, giving and receiving of support, working towards a common goal.

Spending so much time in one place could be construed as boring or limiting, but Duncombe has allowed me to develop in so many different ways and try so many different things. Boredom has never been part of my time here at all. I have many musical highlights which always involve working with other children or teachers. Those memories will always be very special. You are very lucky to have such a talented music teacher, Mrs Sutton; working alongside her has been a real delight. Playing duets early in the morning on our wonderful baby grand is a memory to treasure.

So, I will leave the school with great sadness, never quite believing I am actually at retirement age. I would like to say thank you to all the parents I have worked with, all children I have taught and all the staff who have been part of Duncombe School.

So, thank you Duncombe for being my second home for the last 22 years. *Mrs Turner*

**We shall find time towards the end of the term to say goodbye to them all properly in keeping with the current lockdown restrictions.**