



## JANUARY 2010 NEWSLETTER

### Closure due to Snow

We were very disappointed to have to close school last week. Duncombe has wonderful staff but many live far away in Essex & Hertfordshire. It is only the attraction of coming to such a superb school like Duncombe that encourages them to travel so far. Unfortunately, severe weather like last weeks can make travel over long distances difficult or impossible. We also have to bear in mind how safe both your route to school and the school itself would be in severe weather. Everyone has been very understanding, however we would much rather have been at Duncombe with the children we love & care for. Please note that our text service & school website

[www.duncombepimary.co.uk](http://www.duncombepimary.co.uk) will keep you informed of any future difficulties

### Wellington Boots!

If parents wish to send their children to school in Wellingtons or boots & then change into their comfortable school shoes this may be more appropriate for really bad weather.

### Welcomes!

We would like to welcome all our new members of staff to Duncombe School, Louise Ledger, Katie Oudyn & Michael Connolly who are teaching staff. Maria Skoullou, Fran Wood & Katie Scrase, who are Teaching Assistants. Jerell Green, our new Mid-day Meals Supervisor & Theresa Balding who is replacing Joyce in the office.

### Reception Intake September 2010

If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2005 & 31<sup>st</sup> August 2006, you should have notified Islington's Admission Section (**telephone number 020 7527 5517**) that you wish to apply for a Reception place at Duncombe for September 2010. The closing date for applications is 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2010. We were oversubscribed last year & many parents lost places by not applying in

time! Please come & speak to Tina in the office if you are having any difficulties.

### Nursery Intake September 2010

If you have a child born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2006 & 31<sup>st</sup> August 2007 & you would like them to be considered for a Nursery place for September 2010, then please call into the school office to complete an application form, if you have not done so already.

### School Uniform

School Uniform is compulsory in Duncombe Primary School from Reception Class to Year 6 (with no exceptions). Children will be sent home if inappropriately dressed. **Plain Black Shoes** came into force as from September (**trainers are not permitted**). Please find attached a list outlining the **compulsory** school uniform. Please note Duncombe logo Polo & Sweat Shirts are our uniform NOT non-logo tops purchased elsewhere.

### New Nursery

Just to keep you updated on all the building works

which are causing us a little disruption. The builders are on schedule & still hope to be finished by the end of this half term. You may have noticed the first part of the roof is now on we await a dry spell to finish it. Windows went in this week as well so they can get on with laying the floor without interruptions from the weather.

### **Kokayi**

Kokayi School for Afro Caribbean boys in Years 5 & 6 restarted on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010. Children will be collected at 3.30 pm from the junior playground & returned to the school between 5.40 pm & 6.00 pm. If you haven't registered yet, forms can be collected from the school office. Please speak to Mr. O'Shea if you missed the Parents Meeting.

### **Parents Email**

#### **Addresses**

We wish to try & use parents email addresses to contact you in addition to our texting system. In the future we may be able to open up the schools Learning Platform to you to support your

children's learning at home. If you have an email (parents not children) would you please complete & return the slip attached & hand it into the school office. A small prize will be given to every child who hands in their parents email address next week. We hope this will inspire a rapid response.

### **PE at Duncombe Primary School**

Parents are again reminded that PE is compulsory & that children should bring their PE Kit on days that PE is taught. If your child is unwell or unable to participate in lessons a signed letter from their parent/guardian is required. Parents who wish children to be excluded from PE for more than one week will be required to produce a medical certificate from their Doctor. No child will be excused on religious grounds but these children may wear tracksuit bottoms that do not reach the floor as this is hazardous. For further details, please read the sub-section in this newsletter by Mustafa. Duncombe will provide PE Uniforms

clearly marked as school property for those children who fail to bring their own kit. This is to ensure that we fulfill our statutory teaching requirements in PE & to deliver lessons that are safe & enjoyable.

### **Angela Haldearn**

We are delighted to announce the arrival of Angela's baby girl, Annabelle, who was born very early but was released from hospital on New Years Day! Angela & her husband, Richard send their thanks for all the good wishes received.

### **Uniform Shop**

Our next Uniform Shop will be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2010 from 9.00 am until 10.00 am

### **Non-uniform Day**

We will be holding a non-uniform day next Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010. Please see the attached letter for details.

### **Half Term Break**

Advanced notification that we break up for half term on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2010 & children will return to school on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010.**