

24.11.2023

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy and exciting week at Duncombe Primary School! All the children have been full of life and an absolute pleasure to teach and work with. This week in assembly, the children were taught about internet safety. They learnt about how to safely use online platforms, like Roblox, Fortnite and Snapchat and to NEVER speak with anyone online that they don't know. The NSPCC has some really helpful advice and tips for parents that can be found here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Thanks to the many parents that have responded to the Islington Council Consultation about the proposed merger of Montem and Duncombe Primary Schools. If you have not responded, please do! Islington Council needs to hear the views of as many Duncombe parents as possible to help secure the future of our school. You can find the consultation here:

<https://www.letstalk.islington.gov.uk/duncombe-and-montem>

I hope you all have a lovely weekend. Make sure you wrap the children up warm on Monday because the temperature is due to drop!

Best wishes

Helen

Important messages:

REMINDER: If you have a concern about another child in school, do **NOT** speak to the child or the parents/carers on site. Please instead, ask to speak to the class teacher or a senior member of staff.
Thank you.

The School Office opening hours are 8am – 4:30pm. Calls will not be answered outside of these hours but please feel free to leave a message and we will get back to you.

Important dates:

Year 4 WS swimming
Monday 27th November –
Friday 1st December

Bright Starts Coffee Morning
Thursday 30th November

Winter Fair
(parent volunteers needed!)
Thursday 7th December

**See more important dates for
this term below.**

Important Dates

Monday 27th November – Friday 1st December – Year 4 swimming WS class

Thursday 30th November – Bright Starts Coffee morning 8:45am

Friday 1st December – Archway Library visit IN class

Monday 4th December – Friday 8th December – Year 4 swimming CB class

Tuesday 5th December – Year 6 trip to the Natural History Museum

Tuesday 5th December – Catch-up Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 7th December – Winter Fair 3:40pm – 4:40pm

Tuesday 12th December – Parents Evening 3:30pm – 7pm

Wednesday 13th December – Parents Evening 3:30pm – 6pm

Tuesday 19th December – Reception class Nativity

Thursday 21st December – Last day of term (1:45pm finish)

Monday 8th January – INSET day (school closed)

Tuesday 9th January – Nursery (EC & JD class) closed

Tuesday 9th January – Reception – Y6 children back to school



Winter Fair

Thursday 7th December

3:40pm – 4:40pm



If you are interested in helping to organise the Winter Fair or want to share any of your ideas, speak to Camilla in the office.



Coffee Morning

Thursday 30th November

8:45am

Join us to find out more about the **free** local services provided by **Bright Start**.



Whittington Health
NHS Trust

ISLINGTON
For a more equal future



School Attendance



Julia Donaldson

82%

Isaac Newton

88%

Eric Carle

77%

Michael Faraday

95%

Tony Ross

91%

Charlotte Bronte

92%

Harriet Tubman

92%

William Shakespeare

92%

Greta Thunberg

96%

Emmeline Pankhurst

81%

Florence Nightingale

95%

Martin Luther King

91%

Marie Curie

91%

Marcus Rashford

94%

Nelson Mandela

94%

The whole school's attendance for this week is **92%**



Celebration Awards



Julia Donaldson 2YO Nursery: Omer

For starting to interact with adults and joining in with songs by dancing and singing the tune.
Well Done, Omer.

Eric Carle 3YO Nursery: Eevent

For trying really hard to communicate in English, you are learning so much! Great job Eevent.

Tony Ross Reception: Raul

For your wonderful story innovation of Little Jack. he learnt the story well and was able to use key elements in his own dinosaur version.

Harriet Tubman Year 1: Ibrahim

For starting at a new school with such enthusiasm and following our school rules: ready, respectful and safe.
Well done, Ibrahim! Keep it up!

Greta Thunberg Year 1: Maria

For showing enthusiasm to learn new things and persevering even when faced with a challenge.
Keep it up Maria - you are a star!

Florence Nightingale Year 2: Jasmine

For being so enthusiastic about the new story we are learning in English. Jasmine retold the story beautifully with a loud and clear voice. Keep up the hard work Jasmine.

Emmeline Pankhurst Year 5: Antuan

This week, Antuan has worked super hard during English. He demonstrates his motivation through his engagement within his group. It is also very lovely to see his confidence growing day by day. Well done Antuan.

Martin Luther King Year 5: Aakif

Aakif is showing enthusiasm in his learning and excellent computing skills by creating powerpoints at home on anti bullying week and MLuther King. I love his ambition to be the best he can be. Well done Aakif!

Marcus Rashford Year 6: Asra

For always following Duncombe rules. Asra is always one of the first to follow a teacher's instructions; she is always ready to learn and treats everyone with respect. She is an excellent example of how to behave. Great job Asra!

Nelson Mandela Year 6: Aaryan

For making an impressive effort this week to show excellent behaviour for learning. He has been focused and motivated to improve his writing and is working hard on his reading skills. Keep it up Aaryan!

Marie Curie Year 2: Sophie

We are so proud of Sophie. She is trying her best, producing great writing with imaginative ideas and speech. Well done Sophie - you are a star!

Isaac Newton Year 3: Daniel H.

For his perseverance in both his English lessons and his English speaking. He is becoming more and more confident and it is great to see! Well done Daniel.

Michael Faraday Year 3: Yusra

Yusra has shown perseverance in lessons this week. She worked hard to develop her writing and add detail. Well done Yusra!

William Shakespeare Year 4: George

George has worked incredibly hard to improve his handwriting. He has taken pride in his presentation and shown self-esteem Well done George.

Charlotte Bronte Year 4: Keyaan

Keyaan has shown great enthusiasm and perseverance in English this week. He created his own mythical creature and has been really engaged in the writing of his setting description, whilst working really hard on his handwriting.
Keep up the good work Keyaan!

Fantastic Work and Learning at Duncombe this week:

Year 6

Year 6 have been continuing their learning about Charles Darwin and evolution. They carried out an experiment to look at how different shaped tools could help us understand how bird's beaks may vary depending on what they eat. A tricky task with some tools!



Year 5

Year 5 has worked incredibly hard in their Science lesson. They have been learning all about Earth and Space. The children have created wonderful posters that showcase the beauty of our solar system. Most importantly, it helped them understand the order of the planets. They have also built on their knowledge and understanding that the Sun is at the centre of the Solar system and the planets move around it in their orbits.



Update from Fiona, UKS2 Phase lead:

In maths, Year 6 have focused on calculating numbers with decimals. They have worked hard and used their knowledge of place value to support them effectively.

In Geography, the children have been searching all about human and natural resources in the UK.

In Maths, Year 5 have continued to develop their multiplication and division skills. They have learnt to multiply and divide numbers using a written method.

In addition, we had the pleasure of taking our wonderful Year 5 to the Harry Potter Warner Studios. They had the opportunity to have a tour of the studio and come face to face with the wonderful props and costumes. They thoroughly enjoyed their time!

A massive well done to our Year 5 and 6 Football Team. They represented Duncombe incredibly and emerged victoriously.

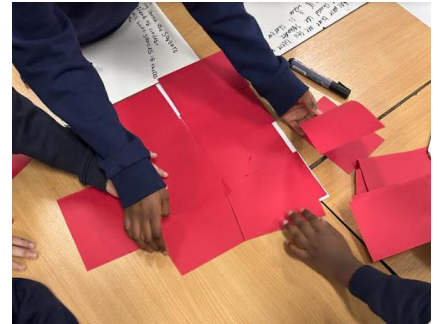
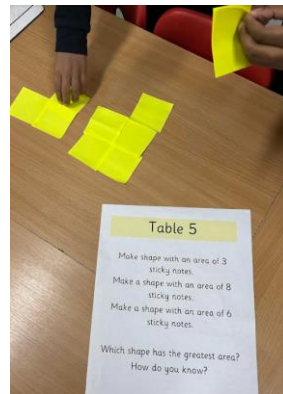
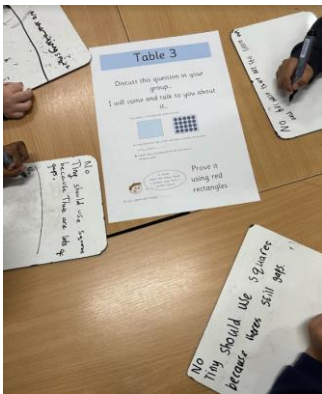
Here are the scores:

Girls 3-0 (Mia, Aniya, Carla, Mysie, Gaby, Tiffany, Asra, Najma and Morgan)

Boys 2-0 (Ali, Yonatan, Mohammed, Omar, Bacar, Mason W, Benjamin, Hamza and Ibrahim)

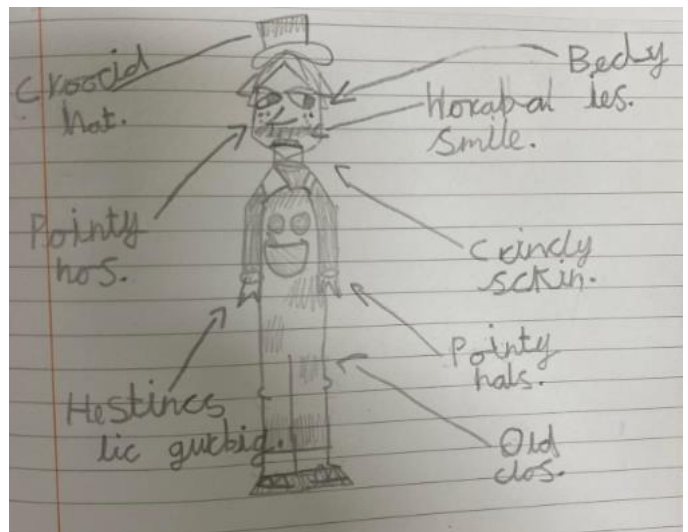
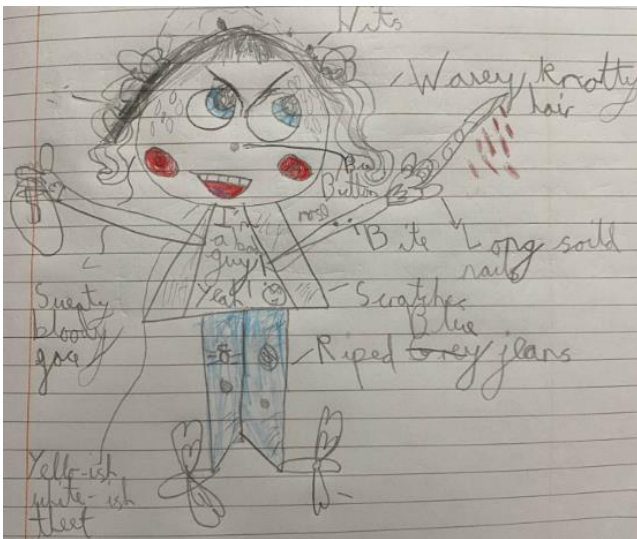
Year 4

Year 4 worked at different stations to develop their understanding of finding the area of shapes. They worked collaboratively and tackled both reasoning and practical problems. Through this, they understood that to accurately find the area of a shape, there cannot be any gaps!



Year 3

Year 3 have been working on creating our own evil characters for a story we will be writing based on The Magic Finger by Roald Dahl. These are two amazing examples by Amelia (MF) and Sophia (IN)!



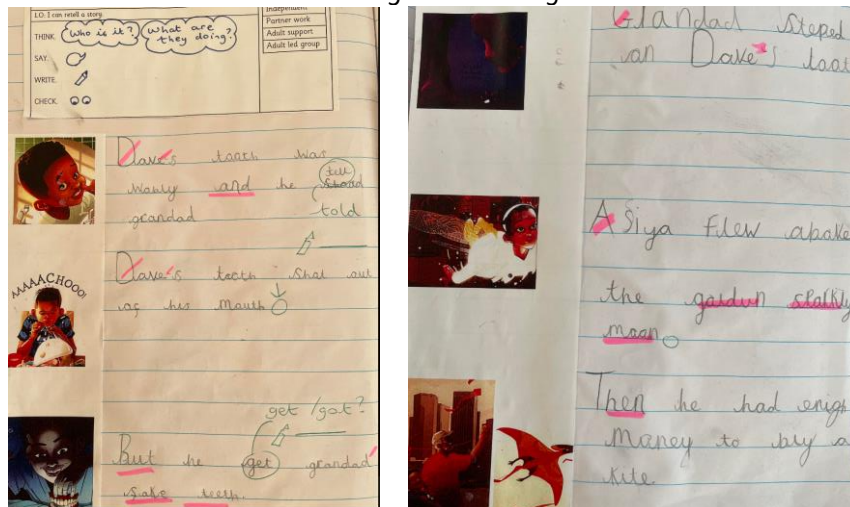
Update from Nazia, LKS2 Phase lead:

Year 3 has been learning about magnets. This week we explored magnetic materials and non-magnetic materials. Children looked at items around the classroom and discussed what material they were made out of and then tested if the materials were attracted or not attracted to the magnets. We are finding magnets fascinating!

Year 4 had a great time learning about electricity. They made a simple circuit using a battery, wire and bulb. They watched in amazement when they completed the circuit and the light bulb lit up. They also made a simple circuit using a buzzer and were very excited when they created a complete circuit and the buzzer buzzed!

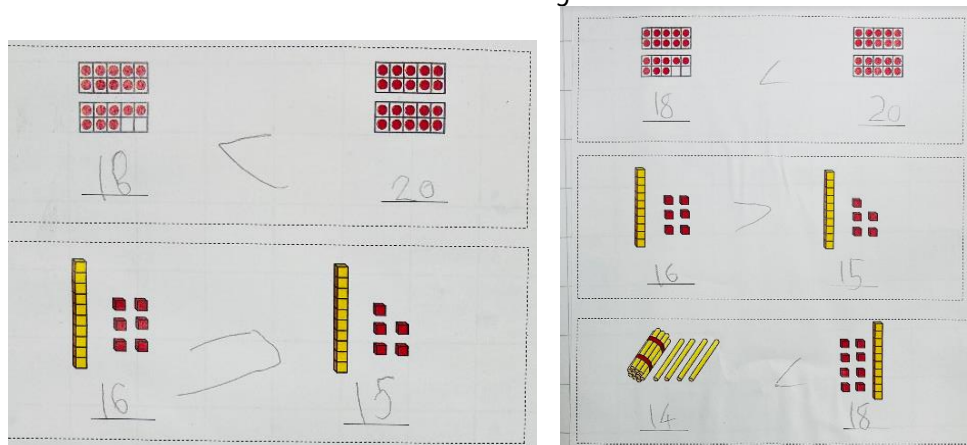
Year 2

Year 2 children have been retelling the story of *Dave and the Tooth Fairy* by Verna Wilkins. Here is Radina's retelling of the story.



Year 1

This week Year 1 have been learning to compare teen numbers using the greater than and less than symbols. Take a look at some great work!



Update from Saffa, KS1 Phase lead:

In Year 1, the children are learning to add two numbers within 20. They have been using the tens frames to help them make the numbers and count the total. They will also use numbers lines to see how two numbers added together make a bigger number!

Year 2 have been extremely excited this week in our english lessons as we have started our new story 'Dave and the tooth fairy'. The children love this book as many of them can relate to Dave that has a wobbly tooth! We are very excited to retell the story in our own way!

Inclusion update from SENDCo:

Tip of the week: Speech and language development can vary widely between different children. This [poster](#) can help you to understand typical speech and language development. If you have concerns about how your child is talking or communicating, please speak to your child's class teacher or one of the SENCOS.

Amazing work: We are delighted to introduce Zubi, our new speech and language therapist. Zubi provides NHS therapy sessions to eligible children in school and supports our intervention groups. She has been enjoying getting to know the children and is currently reviewing and setting new targets.

Reception

Reception have been learning about seasons and our natural world. What a better place to do this than forest school.

The colours of the leaves on the trees and ground are amazing at the moment.

Take time to explore them with your child this week.



Nursery

Nursery have had a great week getting into character as the bear from our focus story 'We're going on a bear hunt'. The children have loved acting out the story using actions and drawing out their very own story maps.

Ask them to show you at home.



2YO

The children have been very busy exploring nursery and getting more independent. The children have been helping the adults look after the fish and they also have been helping with the washing up and putting away the snack equipment. Thank you for your help.



Update from EYFS Phase lead:

In EYFS the children have explored more the natural world around them in our amazing reception garden. Children were encouraged to work in small groups to build an outside shelter from sticks, leaves, moss, etc. We encouraged the children to present their shelters to each other, describing the particular features they have included and explaining the reasons why.

In reception the children learnt to stick shapes to a background to make a collage. They used the primary colours and learnt interesting facts about Piet Mondrian.