

17.11.2023

## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

By now you will know about the planned merger of Duncombe Primary School and Montem Primary School. The proposal is in consultation stage and it is really important that as parents, you make your views known. We will be running a series of workshops for parents with translators for different languages, please look out for the letter. Here is the link for the consultation:

Although the news this week is very important, I want to stress to you that Duncombe staff are 'keeping calm and carrying on'. We know that the most important thing is to ensure an excellent education for all children. I have been observing the teachers this week and can confidently say that all teachers at Duncombe are really good. I am especially impressed by the thought that is going into stretching our more able pupils.

As part of our PSHE programme, all children have been participating in Anti-bullying week. The theme this year is 'Make Some Noise' and stand up to bullying. At Duncombe, instances of bullying are rare. But we are totally committed to ensuring that all children feel safe and all children feel heard. Staff have received specific training on listening to children and also on how to spot signs of bullying. If you want to support your child in their understanding of what bullying is there are some nice resources here :

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/curations/anti-bullying-week>

Finally, the new Duncombe PTA is planning a Winter Fair in December. See below for more details!

Have a lovely weekend.

*Helen*

### Important messages:

**REMINDER:** 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:

#### **Flu Vaccinations**

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November

#### **Fluoride Application Rec - Y2**

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

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Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

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

## **Important Dates**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November** – Flu Vaccinations

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November** – Fluoride application (Reception – Year 2)

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 5 trip to Harry Potter World

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December** –

Year 4 swimming (class TBC)

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 4 swimming (class TBC)

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 6 trip to the Natural History Museum

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December** – Winter Fair 3:40pm – 4:40pm

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December** – Parents Evening 3:30pm – 7pm

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** – Parents Evening 3:30pm – 6pm

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – Reception class Nativity

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December** – Last day of term (1:45pm finish)

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January** – INSET day (school closed)

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January** – Nursery (EC & JD class) closed

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January** – Reception – Y6 children back to school



## Winter Fair

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December

3:40pm – 4:40pm



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





## School Attendance



**Julia Donaldson**

**75%**

**Isaac Newton**

**97%**

**Eric Carle**

**77%**

**Michael Faraday**

**94%**

**Tony Ross**

**83%**

**Charlotte Bronte**

**96%**

**Harriet Tubman**

**95%**

**William Shakespeare**

**92%**

**Greta Thunberg**

**94%**

**Emmeline Pankhurst**

**94%**

**Florence Nightingale**

**93%**

**Martin Luther King**

**94%**

**Marie Curie**

**94%**

**Marcus Rashford**

**96%**

**Nelson Mandela**

**94%**

The whole school's attendance for this week is **94%**



## Celebration Awards



### **Julia Donaldson 2YO Nursery: Harir**

For settling in so well. She is so keen to learn and try new things. She always comes in with a big smile.  
Well done, Harir.

### **Eric Carle 3YO Nursery: King**

For always being so enthusiastic when retelling stories and Nursery rhymes! Keep up the great work King!

### **Tony Ross Reception: Alexander**

For your quick learning of more English words and remembering some of the set 2 phonics sounds.

### **Harriet Tubman Year 1: Kruze**

For working so hard during the phonics sessions. Well done for holding a sentence and reading your phonics' book every night at home. Keep it up!

### **Greta Thunberg Year 1: Treasure**

For showing respect to the adults and her peers in the classroom. You are always ready to learn and set a great example to your friends. Keep it up Treasure.

### **Florence Nightingale Year 2: Musa**

For persevering with his handwriting! He has tried really hard to make sure he is writing slowly and carefully so that his writing is neat. Well done Musa, keep it up!

### **Emmeline Pankhurst Year 5: Sumaya**

Sumaya is a very hardworking girl and is positive about her learning. She contributes well to class discussions and shows her utmost respect to her adults and peers. Well done Sumaya!

### **Martin Luther King Year 5: Mumina**

Well done Mumina! You show endless enthusiasm for learning and always strive to do your best. You show a respectful attitude to everyone and always volunteer to help or support others.

### **Marcus Rashford Year 6: Mason**

For showing great enthusiasm in our science lessons. Mason was eager to share his ideas with the class and was very enthusiastic when doing independent research to complete his work. Great job Mason!

### **Nelson Mandela Year 6: Zane**

We have all been so impressed with Zane's hard work in all his lessons. He has been ambitious and shown an excellent attitude towards his independent writing. We are all very proud of his hard work and progress. Well done!

### **Marie Curie Year 2: Lalia**

For being a kind friend and always helping children and adults. She is also a great thinker and we love hearing her insights in lessons. Well done Lalia - you are a star!

### **Isaac Newton Year 3: Batul**

For her kindness and respect towards her classmates and anybody outside of Isaac Newton. She shows enthusiasm and positivity at all times. Well done Batul!

### **Michael Faraday Year 3: Fatima**

Fatima is hard working and a fabulous role model. She is always ready, respectful and safe. This week she worked extra hard in English to write an interesting letter!  
Well done Fatima.

### **William Shakespeare Year 4: Brianna**

Brianna always works hard and shows independence by developing her own ideas. This week, she wrote fantastic show, don't tell sentences. Well done Brianna!

### **Charlotte Bronte Year 4: Asma**

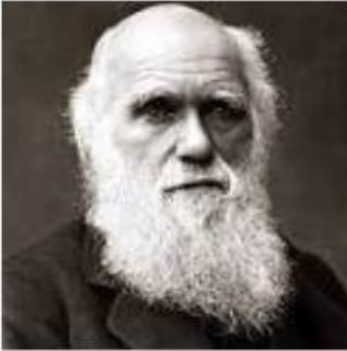
She always shows respect to adults in school and is a lovely role model to others. She is positive and kind and is always offering to help other children and adults. Keep it up Asma!

## Fantastic Work and Learning at Duncombe this week:

## Year 6

Year 6 have been learning about evolution in science lessons. They made presentations on Charles Darwin and why he is famous. Mohammed (NM) and James (MR) made some excellent slides. We will also use this information to write a diary from the perspective of Darwin! Tiffany (MR) made some excellent notes in our lessons.

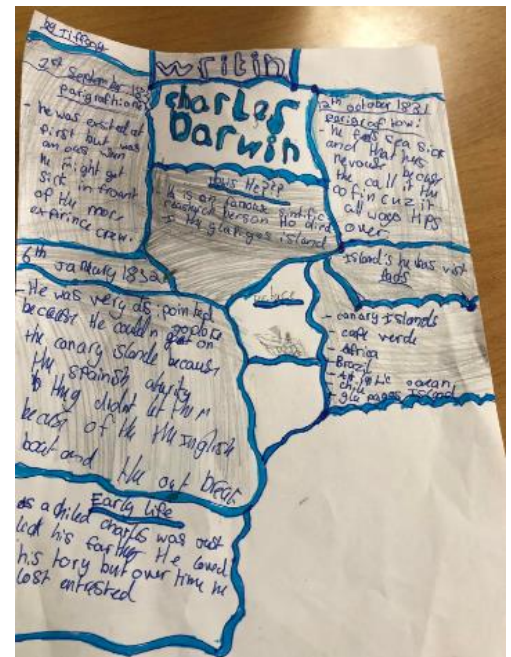
## Why Charles Darwin is Famous.



The reason why he was famous not only he was an expert naturalist and also wrote a book 'On the Origins of Species' but he came up with the theory of 'Evolution'. His book was an international bestseller. People all over the world read his theory. People- who believed god- was against 'Evolution'. Now scientist believe that Darwin was correct in his theory. He is no doubt an exceptional Victorian scientist.

## The Galapagos Islands

On 15 September 1835, Charles Darwin went on a boat to the Galapagos Islands just off the coast of South North America. The dog breed, Beagle, was named after Charles' boat. There he learnt and researched about nature in the Galapagos Islands. He also learnt that the birds have different genes.



### Update from Fiona, UKS2 Phase lead:

In Year 5, children have been looking closely at the features of a poem in their English lessons for e.g similes, metaphors and onomatopoeia. They have been able to identify them within a poem and give their own examples too! They are currently really enjoying the Highwayman poem.

In Year 6, children have really enjoyed writing their diary entries about Charles Darwin. They have used the web effectively to research a lot of interesting facts about him. Well done UKS2!



## Year 4

Year 4 wrote fantastic poems about fireworks using personification. They created firework art to illustrate their poems using crayons and oil pastels.

I wait patiently, looking up at the dark sky.  
I hiss quietly, to be blown in the night clouds.  
I shout happily, screaming as I leave my cage.  
I fly joyfully, through the air soaring into the darkness.  
I scream excitedly, flying through the clouds.  
I stretch my diamond arms restfully, to the cheering crowd.  
I dance delightedly, in the dark sky.  
I gaint softly, beside the crowd.



I squat nervously, my wings attached to the crowded ground, I am eager to finally escape.  
I "hiss" and giggle as I gradually wiggle as I excitedly jiggle.  
I pound gleefully, I hoot as I leave my cage, the crowd is out of my sight!  
I soar bravely in to join my brothers and sisters to light up the sky.  
I rocket jubilantly into the ebony night sky - I have fled my cage!  
I elongate my magenta, enormous fiery wings enthusiastically.  
I hearken to the cheering crowd, who are whooping with delight.  
I wash and fade out of dramatically and existence.



I squat irritably, my rigid legs dug into the long, tall grass.  
I wriggle anxiously, with rainbow, darting spots, determined to escape.  
I pound eagerly, humming as I leave my imprisoning cage.  
I glide bravely, reaching for the twinkling, spectacular stars.  
I howl and growl boldly - that's how I have escaped the gloomy ground.  
I respectfully extend my shiny, exquisite fingertips.  
I perform elegantly, joyfully waving at the noisy crowd.  
I vanish calmly away into the endearing, glimmering night sky.



## Year 3

Some lovely work on column subtraction with exchanges by Anayah in Isaac Newton and Faith in Michael Faraday!

1) -	H T O	23 46	-	055	291
2) -	H T O	68 13 2	-	041	691
3) -	H T O	3452	-	080	372

H T O	H T O	H T O
23 46	68 13 2	3452
- 055	- 041	- 080
291 ✓	691 ✓	372 ✓
H T O	H T O	H T O
45 15	45 15	45 15
- 066	- 066	- 066
489 ✓	489 ✓	489 ✓

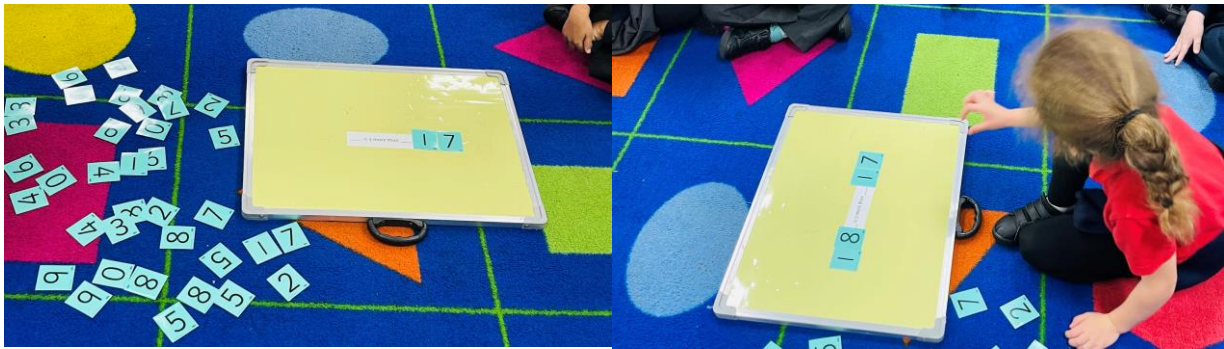
### Update from Nazia, LKS2 Phase lead:

In Year 3, children have enjoyed getting into character and writing a letter as Mr Gregg. We had great fun thinking about our character turning into a duck and writing a letter with description and action. It was so much fun to describe the Gregg children flying around with wings and beaks.

In Year 4, children wrote amazing poems about fireworks using similes, metaphors and personification. They used powerful vocabulary to create mesmerising images in the reader's mind!

## Year 1

In Year 1, this week we have been learning about one more and one less than a given number. They have learnt to check their answers on the number line. The children were challenged to write their numbers in words as well.



## Update from Saffa, KS1 Phase lead:

In Year 1 this week, children have been learning all about their numbers to 20. They are using practical resources to create the number and then discussing what comes before and after the number. The children in Year 2 have been writing a narrative based on the poem 'The owl and the pussycat'. They have used their excellent ideas to innovate and make the story their own. Once the children are done, we will be sharing them with year 1 at story time. We can't wait! We are very proud of all the hard work happening in KS1!

## Reception

In reception we started a new core story - Little Jack. The children have really immersed themselves in it, role playing the characters and using the key words in writing and play.



## Nursery

This week Nursery have enjoyed making patterns. They have really thought about the colours they can see and what comes next. Some children even made their very own patterns using cubes. Next week we will use our pattern making skills to make our very own Rangoli patterns for Diwali.





## 2YO

Little nursery has been looking at one of my favourite books, "Room on the broom".

We have been looking at this book since being back and some of the children are now starting to recall the book in their own words. We have also been busy making wands, hats and bows to go with our storytelling. Well done Nursery.



### Update from EYFS Phase lead:

This week in EYFS children have learnt about migration. Migration is magic. They have learnt that many birds begin their migration to warmer climates. Some birds, such as swallows, swifts and nightingales will leave the UK to spend the winter months in Africa. Do you know which birds migrate? Not all birds migrate – common garden birds, such as blue tits and robins may never move far from where they were born.

### Inclusion update from SENDCo:

**Tip of the week:** Routine is so important. Keep your morning routine the same if you can to help have a great start to the day. For example, "Now we brush our teeth, next we will get dressed". If you want any more advice about resources including visuals to support this, speak to one of the SENCo.

**Amazing work:** Our colleagues from the Bridge Outreach Service hosted a coffee morning on routines for autistic and neurodivergent children this week. It was wonderful to see so many families there. We look forward to more coffee mornings in the future and will let you know the date of our next inclusion parents' clinic.



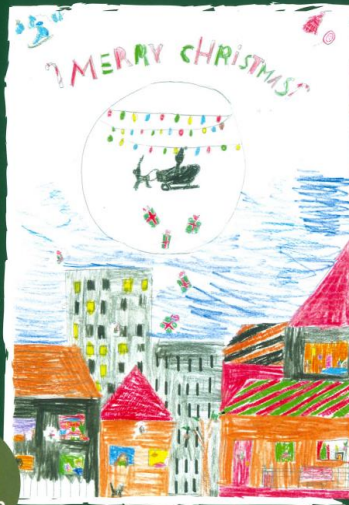
# Archway's Christmas Spectacular!

Festive Market from 12pm

Santa's Grotto

Live Music & Food Stalls

Face Painting & Crafts from 3pm



Christmas Treasure Trail

10% off with this flyer at participating shops on the day

Special Activities in Archway Library

[www.archwaylondon.com](http://www.archwaylondon.com)

Navigator Square, N19 3TD  
12-7pm Wednesday 29 November  
Lights switched on at 4.45pm

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## MAKE-DO PLAY

### BIG SWAP

#### TOYS - CLOTHES - BOOKS

Fundraising for  
another year of play!

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 10.30-1.30

St Mary's Hornsey Rise N19 3AD

Bring along any unwanted toys,  
books and children's clothes.

Take whatever you need  
and pay as you feel.  
(Bringing items is not required)

Plus a free outdoor play session for all ages.

[www.make-do-play.weebly.com](http://www.make-do-play.weebly.com)

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