

29.09.2023

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week draws to a close at Duncombe. Year 6 ended the week today with a brilliant trip to The British Library to participate in the African Writes Children's Day. They attended poetry and illustration workshops and met some wonderful writers. It was fantastic to see the Duncombe children participating in such a wonderful festival and we were super proud of all of the children.

Elsewhere in school, year 5 have been busy working on their writing skills, looking at short film called the 'Monk and the Fish' for inspiration. Year 1 have been writing posters to catch the pesky 'Cat in the Hat', who has apparently escaped somewhere in Duncombe Primary School! I have loved reading Year 3's writing on 'Owl Babies' and Year 4 have been writing a very informative information booklet on 'The Iron Man'.

Some parents have contacted me to express their concern that snacks of bagels and fruit are no longer available at Duncombe for the children. As a quick explanation, our ever-decreasing budget meant that we had to raise some money to continue this essential service. We have been fortunate that a generous parent and local business have been able to fund snacks in the morning/playtime for the rest of the academic year. So, bagels and fruit will be once again available. Thank you very much to our parent donors.

We are also opening the annual donation fund for the Duncombe Food Bank. This opens on a Friday, every fortnight for the academic year. If you would like to donate, please click on the link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/duncombeprimaryschool>

Alternatively, we have a basket in the front reception at school for parents to donate dry and canned goods.

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Helen

"Little by little the bird builds its nest" - Nigerian Proverb. Taking small, consistent steps towards our goals can lead to great results. Just as a bird builds its nest one twig at a time, we can achieve great things by focusing on small, manageable steps.

Important messages:

JustGiving™

Donate to Duncombe Food Bank
<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/duncombeprimaryschool>

We are also collecting food items for Duncombe's food bank. If you would like to donate, please leave non-perishable food items into the basket at reception.

We appreciate all donations made, no matter how small.



Follow us on our new Instagram page: @duncombeprimary

Important dates:

Year 6 Secondary Transition Meeting

Thursday 5th October – 6pm

Headteachers attending:

Ms Service - AMSI

Mr Streeter - Beacon High

Mr Ali (Vice Principal) – COLAHH

Ms Whyte – St Aloysius

Mr Fox – Highbury Fields (TBC)

Half Term

Monday 23rd October –

Friday 27th October

INSET day

Monday 30th October

See more important dates for this term below.

Important Dates

Thursday 5th October – Year 6 Secondary Transition Meeting 6pm

Thursday 19th October – Year 1 Phonics Screen parents meeting 3:30pm

Thursday 19th October – 2YO & Nursery closed (Staff training day)

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October – Half Term

Monday 30th October – INSET day (school closed)

Tuesday 31st October – Children back to school

Wednesday 8th November – Year 6 SATs & Boosters parents meeting 3:30pm

Monday 27th November – Friday 1st December –

Year 4 swimming (class TBC)

Monday 4th December – Friday 8th December – Year 4 swimming (class TBC)

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)

School Council

Last week the children elected their new school council members across KS2. Many children wrote fantastic speeches to convince their classmates to vote for them. They have already made some great suggestions about how to improve the school even further, such as more visits from interesting speakers and raising money for local charities. Watch this space for their first event which will be happening soon.

Our elected School Council members are:

Class	Name:	Name:
MF	Rosa-May	Fatima
IN	Sebastian	Raina
CB	Francis	Kyra
WS	Nathalia	Abdulrahman
EP	Kane	Sumaya
MLK	Noah	Dijana
MR	Ibrahim	Dila
NM	Gaby	Omar



School Attendance



Julia Donaldson

96%

Isaac Newton

95%

Eric Carle

88%

Michael Faraday

96%

Tony Ross

92%

Charlotte Bronte

95%

Harriet Tubman

92%

William Shakespeare

94%

Greta Thunberg

94%

Emmeline Pankhurst

92%

Florence Nightingale

95%

Martin Luther King

96%

Marie Curie

96%

Marcus Rashford

99%

Nelson Mandela

94%

The whole school's attendance for this week is **95%**



Celebration Awards



Julia Donaldson 2YO Nursery: Medina

For being a big girl in leaving mummy at drop off and for exploring little nursery independently. You're our star!
Well done.

Eric Carle 3YO Nursery: Ayman Ahmed

For settling well into nursery. He is showing he is becoming ready for full time! Well done!

Tony Ross Reception: Ayana

For your enthusiasm to learning and being a great role model to your friends in reception.

Harriet Tubman Year 1: Oliver

Oliver always shows ambition and tries his very best in everything he does. Well done Oliver, you are super!

Greta Thunberg Year 1: Kyra

For showing enthusiasm in English when retelling our class story. What a great start to Year 1 - Keep it up Kyra.

Florence Nightingale Year 2: Asna

Asna is the perfect role model in our class. She is always so respectful to the children and adults. During lessons she shows great ambition and I am very proud of her. Well done Asna!

Emmeline Pankhurst Year 5: Isabella

Isabella has shown great self-esteem and perseverance in class. She is positive about her learning and it is great to see her confidence flourish this week! Well done!

Martin Luther King Year 5: Aakif

Aakif has shared some brilliant ideas when discussing Kensuke's Kingdom this week. It has been amazing to see his confidence grow during whole class discussion. Well done Aakif!

Marcus Rashford Year 6: Dila

Dila has shown self-esteem this week in our writing lessons. She has drafted an excellent passage with beautiful presentation. She even proof-read her work to make improvements! Great work Dila!

Nelson Mandela Year 6: Mohammed

Mohammed consistently demonstrates high self-esteem and enthusiasm in school. He is always keen to share his thoughtful and interesting ideas with the class and pushes himself to do the best he can in all his work. We are all very proud of you - a great start to year 6!

Marie Curie Year 2: Yusuf

For being ready, respectful and safe at all times. Well done Yusuf!

Isaac Newton Year 3: Shakir

For his enthusiasm during English lessons. His contributions to class discussions are always very helpful!

Michael Faraday Year 3: Harrison

Harrison has worked hard this week in Maths and shown perseverance and developed his self-esteem. Well done Harrison. Keep up the hard work!

William Shakespeare Year 4: Zuleyha

Zuleyha has shown self-esteem this week by volunteering answers in class. She also always supports and encourages others. Well done Zuleyha!

Charlotte Bronte Year 4: Alexia

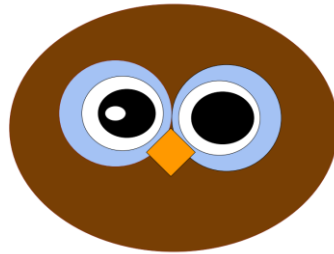
Alexia is always respectful to all adults and other children. She is Kind, helpful and has become a lot more confident with volunteering answers in class. Keep up the good work!

Fantastic Work and Learning at Duncombe this week:

Year 5

Year 5 are learning about, and making, vector drawings in their Computing lessons. They are experimenting with using different shapes and colours to digitally recreate images of objects and animals.

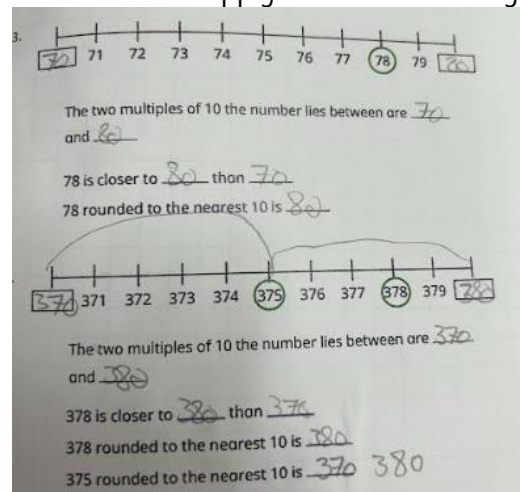
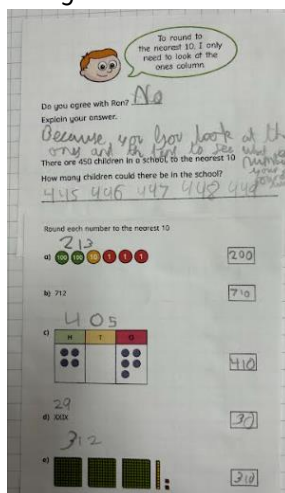
This example was made by Morgan in MLK:



Year 4

Year 4 were learning how to round this week.

They were focussed and worked hard to apply their new learning.



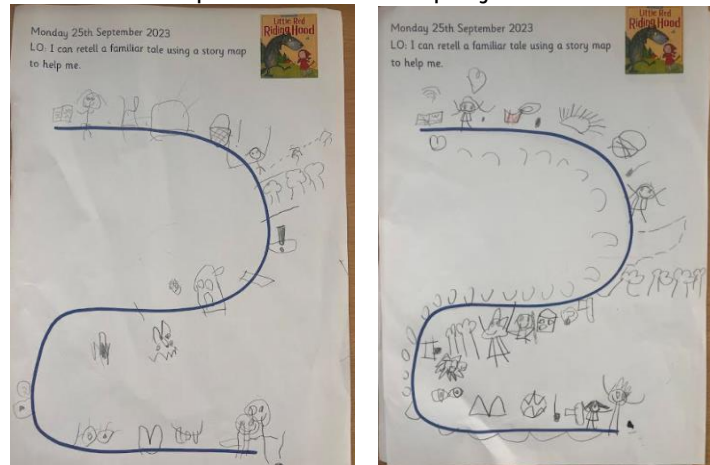
Year 3

Year 3 have been exploring rocks. We tested different types of rocks to see if they could be scratched, if they floated and if they were permeable.



Year 1

This week Year 1 have been learning to retell the traditional tale Little Red Riding Hood. They then performed their stories to Reception and did a super job - Well Done Year 1!



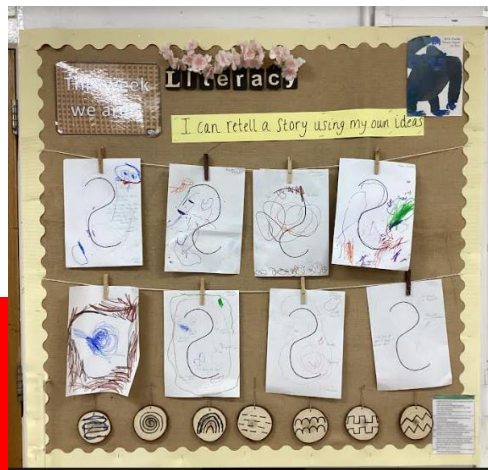
Reception

In reception children are enjoying music lessons with Lena and can move well to a beat. We are learning our first core book through the Talk 4 Writing approach which is Owl Babies and they have already learnt lots about owls and enjoyed becoming the characters in their masks.



Nursery

This week Nursery have enjoyed reading our book of the week 'From Head to Toe' by Eric Carle. We have enjoyed retelling part of the story using a story map and actions 'I am a buffalo and I raise my shoulders. Can you do it? I can do it'



2YO

We have had a busy week. We have been very creative at the creative table, using what we can find to make our pictures. Here are some of the work we have been doing.



We would also like to congratulate the 2 year olds and parents for their 100% attendance last week!

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) needed!

Duncombe is in need of a team of parents that could come together and help with events that bring the community together!

Events such as:

- Summer Fair
- International Evening
- Cake sales
- Charity Fundraising



**If this is something that you are
interested in, please speak to
Camilla in the office.**