

23/04/2021

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the summer term! We are very hopeful that the low rate of infections, vaccination programme and continued Covid protocols at school will mean that we are open all term. It has been a great week at Duncombe, yesterday when I did my learning walk, every classroom was a pleasure to walk into. Engaging lessons were being taught and all children were focussed and learning. A big thank you to the teachers and support staff for working so hard and to the children for their positive attitudes to learning.

As well as in school learning, we are now in the position to once again have trips. This week William Shakespeare class has been doing an intensive swimming course at Archway. The children have made great progress with their swimming and we know the other year 4 and 5 classes will enjoy this opportunity.

We also begin the 'Garden Classroom' project for all classes. The Garden Classroom is an award-winning charity that is run by ex-teachers and aims to get children out into nature. The classes take place in the nature reserve at Elthorne Park and are part of our plan to support children back into the world after a year of lockdown.

Teachers have been calling parents to give them an update on their child's progress. After half-term we will hold our first face to face parents meeting, this will allow you to come in and see your child's work and meet the teacher. Details will be sent out shortly.

Ramadan is upon us and soon many of our families will be celebrating Eid. Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions we can't hold a big event this year but we will be holding class parties.

Have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes

Helen

Midday Meals Supervisors

Duncombe is recruiting two midday meals supervisors to support lunchtime and active play, please see the attached advert and job description. If you would like an application form, please email – moniqueroberts@duncombprimary.co.uk



School Attendance



Julia Donaldson	81%	Isaac Newton	99%
Eric Carle	82%	Michael Faraday	99%
Judith Kerr	92%	William Shakespeare	97%
Tony Ross	94%	Charlotte Bronte	93%
Earnest Shackleton	93%	Martin Luther King	98%
Francis Drake	99%	Emmeline Pankhurst	98%
Florence Nightingale	95%	Nelson Mandela	99%
Marie Curie	95%	Winston Churchill	95%

New Governing Body at Duncombe:

Duncombe is looking for 2 parent governor's to join its new governing body. If you would like to help set the strategic direction of the school, can represent the views of the parent body and can support and challenge the school so that it can continue to improve..... We would like to hear from you.

Please send nominations, stating why you would like to be a governor, directly to the office: success@duncombeprimary.co.uk If we receive more than two nominations then the positions will go to a vote.

Garden Classroom Wellness Days

Years 1 - 6 will all be enjoying a 'wellness day' with the local charity The Garden Classroom. In September, the children loved the sessions they had outdoors doing activities in nature. Once again, they will have some time 1 to 1 with their class teacher as well as the opportunity to take part in group activities like fire building, whittling wood and rope activities! Year 6 had their sessions today in the glorious sunshine and other year groups will be next week.

Swimming for Years 3, 4 and 5 this term

We are thrilled that the local swimming pool has reopened for some of our KS2 children to begin having lessons again. Years, 3, 4 and 5 will be having a series of lessons at Archway Pool in the coming weeks.

Learning to swim is an important life skill and something the children really enjoy, especially as their confidence in water grows. Exercise is so good for mental health as well as physical health so we are very pleased this part of our curriculum offer is back.

Parent course to promote healthy sleep routines

Islington's School Health Team are running online sessions for parents and carers to support developing healthy sleep routines for children. Sessions are scheduled for Mondays at 1:30pm or Thursdays at 9:30am and will start on Monday 26th April until Thursday 27th May. The sessions will be held over Zoom. Details below:

Monday sessions at 1:30pm:

<https://zoom.us/j/92323700635?pwd=UIhmSmJsa3o0NEVVVHBjZGszNDIwQT09>

Meeting ID: 923 2370 0635

Passcode: 1234

Thursday sessions at 9:30am:

<https://zoom.us/j/96916093378?pwd=NXFhZmNxV0o2NlIdMeWkyOC93UkgxQT09>

Meeting ID: 969 1609 3378

Passcode: 1234

There will be **no session** on Bank Holiday Monday, 3rd May 2021

Nursery's Earth Day celebrations

This week, our Nursery children have celebrated Earth Day, talking about how big our earth is, enjoying stories about Earth and learning how important it is to look after earth by recycling. They loved working together to create their own earth with land and water.

