

28/05/2021

Message from the Headteacher

Dear parents and careers,

As we reach the end of a busy half-term, I have been reflecting on everything that the children and staff at Duncombe have achieved this half-term.

At school all children have:

- Made progress in core subjects
- Enjoyed and learnt in Science week
- Found out more about topics ranging from worms to World War 2
- Participated in the daily mile to improve fitness
- Celebrated Eid
- Spent time in the outdoors doing Garden Classroom

This is not an exhaustive list, but we have all been so pleased with the hard work and enthusiasm for learning from all children.

Also, at school, staff have:

- Attended training on Trauma Informed Practice in the classroom
- Attended reading training to improve our 'reading for pleasure' provision
- Assessed the children to learn where the gaps are post-lockdown
- Taught targeted lessons to bridge the gaps and build on learning from lockdown
- Taught children in small groups and 1-1
- Run an extended day provision from 7 am to 6pm
- Answered phones, managed budgets and more!
- Kept smiling!

I am sure you will agree that everyone will benefit from a lovely, sunny holiday next week. Have a fantastic half-term and see you all on June 7th!

Best wishes
Helen

Dates for your diary:

Friday 28th May- last day of summer term 1(Half-term Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June)

Monday 7th June- Children return for summer term 2

Parent/teacher meetings after school on Monday 21st and Wednesday 23rd June

Thursday 1 July - School will be closed as being used as a polling station for the Tollington Ward by election

Wednesday 7th July – KS1 & KS2 Sports Day

Thursday 15th July, 2-4pm Summer Music Concert

Wednesday 21st July – Year 6 production (time tbc)

Wednesday 22nd July – Year 6 leavers prom

Friday 23rd July – End of term (half day)



School Attendance



Julia Donaldson

81%

Eric Carle

85%

Judith Kerr

94%

Tony Ross

92%

Earnest Shackleton

95%

Francis Drake

94%

Florence Nightingale

95 %

Marie Curie

94%

Isaac Newton

97%

Michael Faraday

96%

William Shakespeare

96%

Charlotte Bronte

94 %

Martin Luther King

96%

Emmeline Pankhurst

94%

Nelson Mandela

96%

Winston Churchill

95%

The whole school's attendance this academic year is currently at 95%



Celebration Awards



Julia Donaldson 2-year olds: Tala

For settling into little nursery really well and her confidence is growing more each day as she is now starting to explore nursery. Well done

Eric Carle Nursery: Mohamed

For listening to and following instructions carefully. Well done for trying your hardest during the carpet sessions, Mohamed! You are a star!

Tony Ross: Turqut

For a fantastic and consistent attitude to learning. Well done, Turqut! It is fantastic to see you working really hard, especially in maths. Keep it up!

Judith Kerr Reception: Youssef

For working so hard during the phonics sessions. Well done, Youssef! You are a super star! Keep it up!

Ernest Shackleton Year 1: Jeremiah

For being so enthusiastic in every single lesson. Jeremiah has become so confident in all aspects of learning and is really shining bright! He pays a lot of attention to his writing and because of this it has improved so much! Well done Jeremiah, keep up the amazing work

Francis Drake Year 1: Ismail

Ismail has been working independently and has been completing outstanding Maths and English work. He knows his number bonds to 20 and has produced a beautiful piece of writing about Jack and the Flum Flum tree.

Emmeline Pankhurst Year 5: Chloe

Chloe has shown a good work ethic over the past few weeks- she has been taking responsibility for own learning, which is great to see. We are particularly impressed with her use of her arithmetic book to make notes in- well done Chloe, keep it up!

Martin Luther King Year 5: Ethan A.

Ethan has shown great perseverance when trying to improve his handwriting. He should be really proud of his beautiful joining!

Nelson Mandela Year 6: Ziyad

Ziyad takes responsibility for his learning by reading every day and selecting the pages he plans to read each night while at school. He continues to make good progress in reading as a result.

Winston Churchill Year 6: Shihab

For never being afraid to ask questions and for caring about his learning. What amazing progress you've made.

Florence Nightingale Year 2: Noah

Noah loves science so of course he was going to shine during Science Week! During our science experiment, Noah used excellent observational skills. He looked carefully at the materials and tried to start using more scientific vocabulary to explain his thinking. Keep this up Noah!

Marie Curie Year 2: Djorn

Djorn has had a great week with his writing. He is making sure to say his sentences out loud to help him with what he needs to write. Fantastic work Djorn!

Isaac Newton Year 3: Sirac

For excellent reading! Sirac has been reading everyday with lots of different people. He has nearly read all the teachers set of books! He is always kind, caring and respectful. Keep up the fantastic work. You are a superstar!

Michael Faraday Year 3: James P.

James is trying really hard with his reading both in class and at home. He's trying really hard to improve his reading and impressing both his teachers and Katija. Well done James.

Charlotte Bronte Year 4: Maazin

For great progress in reading. We love hearing Maazin read aloud to the class. Well done Maazin, you are a star!

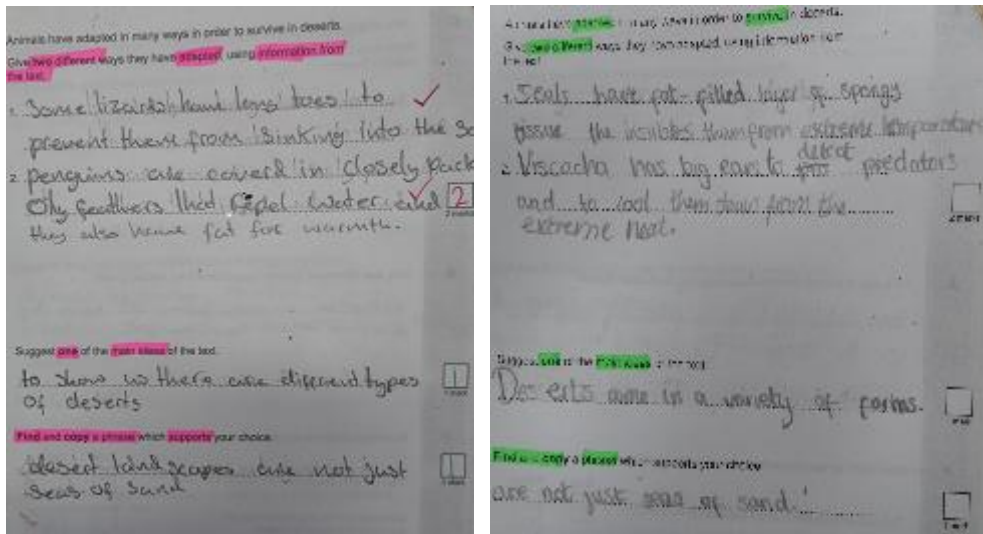
William Shakespeare Year 4: Manuella

Manuella shows so much kindness to others around her. She has been trying really hard to make the right choices and has progressed so much because of it! Well done Manu!

Fantastic Work

Year 6

Mahalia and Mia produced some thoughtful answers after following the strategy to answer these reading questions.



Year 5 & 6

Year 5 and 6 completed the egg drop challenge as part of Science Week. They planned their designs and thought carefully about the best way to protect the raw egg from a high drop considering the weight of the egg, air resistance and materials that would absorb the impact of the fall.



Year 4



For Science week, Year 4 had no help and a mission to create a car to drive around on the moon. This is what they came up with!

Year 2

It's very hard to pick work from just one child this week. Year 2 have all been super scientists! We worked scientifically to observe and discover which material would be the best material for an explorer's coat.



Year 1

For science week in Year 1 we have been learning all about the plastic in the oceans! We did an experiment of trying to make a bowl out of newspaper pulp! It got really messy but we loved it all!



Reception

In reception, for science week, we did the "skittles rainbow" experiment. We arranged the skittles in a coloured pattern around the edge of the plate, poured over enough warm water to cover and most of all we watched and waited as a rainbow appeared on the plate. The colours moved towards the middle and created a whirl of colour. Why do you think the colours do not mix? We had so much fun!



Nursery

In nursery, this week the children have learnt all about the number 5. They went on a “number hunt” and searching for 5 objects.



2 Year Olds

In Little Nursery, we have been exploring the outdoors and seeing what we can find, so we went on a treasure hunt. We found lots of things and we have been using the things that we found in our play too.



Parent Messages

Families, Food and Feelings Parenting Group

Please help promote this six-week parenting programme for parents and carers of children aged 5-17 who are struggling with excess weight. The friendly facilitators provide strategies and insight to help parents feel confident in having routines around mealtimes, setting healthy boundaries around food, encouraging children to eat more fruit and vegetables and more.

The groups run four times a year and families can self-refer or be referred by professionals. The next start date is 3 June, 11am to 12.30pm.

For further information, including resources to display in your setting, please contact Michelle Drummond on 020 7267 4792: michelle.drummond@islington.gov.uk

Online tool – Is my child well enough to come to school?

The link below gives NHS advice about when your child is or is not well enough to come to school. A useful tool for parents/carers when making a sometimes-difficult decision in the morning:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

How to keep young people safe online and in the community - Parent workshops

If you're a parent or carer of a young person aged 11 to 18 and want to help them navigate today's challenges then come along to these workshops. Taking place over two evenings on Tuesday 1 and Thursday 3 June from 6-8pm each evening will guide through:

- Peer groups and gangs
- Grooming and exploitation/county lines
- Social media and empowerment.

To join the workshops please [email us](mailto:vrureferrals@islington.gov.uk) for a link (vrureferrals@islington.gov.uk)

Healthy Sleep Routines: Workshops for parents

The Islington School Health Team have been running weekly health promotion sessions on Mondays at 1:30pm and Thursdays at 9:30am via Zoom for parents and carers to attend.

Monday sessions at 1:30pm:

<https://zoom.us/j/92323700635?pwd=UlhmSmJsa3o0NEVVVHBjZGszNDlwQT09>

Meeting ID: 923 2370 0635

Passcode: 1234

Thursday sessions at 9:30am:

<https://zoom.us/j/96916093378?pwd=NXFhZmNxV0o2NldMeWkyOC93UkqxQT09>

Meeting ID: 969 1609 3378

Passcode: 1234

Well-being tip of the week

Learn something new

Researchers found that learning new skills makes us happier and healthier by helping to:

- Improve our self-confidence and self-esteem
- Give us a sense of purpose
- Connect us with other people

So, by challenging ourselves to learn new things (even if we are not very good at first), we actually feel better about ourselves and discover activities to help overcome boredom and loneliness.

If you are stuck for ideas, why not look into Recovery College online courses to aid wellbeing:

[Recovery College online courses](#)



The Recovery College Course guide is now available and includes a mix of live and pre-records online sessions, including: Art and flow, dealing with low moods and depression, understanding anxiety, and lots more.

Link to course information:

<https://www.candi.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/C%26I%20Recovery%20College%20Course%20Guide%20Summer%202021%20final.pdf>