



Newsletter

2/10/2020

Message from the headteacher:

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you to the 94 families who have responded to our survey on our provision during lockdown and a general 'how are we doing' here at Duncombe. It was fantastic to read some very positive comments from so many of you:

Staff are very positive and approachable

That they handled the lockdown very well

The new change of teachers and the playground is better than expected the whole environment has changed for the better.

Lots! The school is doing really well I think. Handling the pandemic really proactively and both our kids are very happy there.

Very pleased with Duncombe and the support we received during the pandemic. Thank you :)

You also gave us some really useful feedback as to how we can do better in the current situation:

Communication between parents and teachers just to see how their child is doing.

I understand that measures are having to be taken due to COVID but it really feels like there is a huge disconnect as a parent.

If there is a school closure online lesson with teachers and children need to attend will be preferred.

We will be considering how to act on this and other feedback over the next few weeks.

Wishing you a happy Friday and lovely weekend,

Helen

Parent Survey- Reminder

We would like you to complete a very important survey to give the school feedback on home learning during lockdown. We want to ensure that we give you and your children the best support and learning possible so your views are very important to us. Please give us as much information as possible. Use the link below to take the survey

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfY-iJb0o7fY-GnkE2CyHgGocKTCbULypTt4E6TyCUDvxEJmw/viewform?usp=sf_link

New staff member of the week:



Hi, I'm Taljeet the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO). A little about me- I have previously worked as a primary school teacher, teaching across the early years, key stage 1 and 2 in addition to being English, maths and key stage 1 lead. I was the assistant head teacher of inclusion in my previous post before starting my exciting journey here at Duncombe. I am passionate about inclusion and believe that every child, no matter what their barriers are, has a right to learn and access the curriculum. I look forward to working with you all to achieve the best outcomes for our pupils.

Fantastic Work:

Dear whoever finds this letter,
I am writing this letter because I am lost in the middle of the sea with not that much food and im running out of water. I need help and I am worried because I dont know where I am and all I see is endless water. It has been days with no entertainment and I am getting scared out here. The boat is unsteady and I might even drown. In the boat I have my bag with my lunch box which only has crumbs of my food that I already ate. Further into the sea, I spotted that the sea was deeper than I ever imagined! This boat is awful I dont think it can hold me any more.

Year 5 writing by Jazmin



Celebration Award



Eric Carle Nursery: Sami

For being kind and good when someone is upset or they hurt themselves. Sami always uses his kind hands and he tries to make other children feel better. Well done, Sami! You are a little star!

Tony Ross: Sebastian

For always remembering to say 'Please' and 'Thank you'!

Judith Kerr Reception: Aiden

For helping his friends and always being ready on the carpet!

Ernest Shackleton Year 1: Abdulhadi

Well done to Abdulhadi for settling into Year 1 really well. He is trying extremely hard with his numbers and sounds. Keep up your good work!

Francis Drake Year 1: Zuleyha

Well done to Zuleyha for always thinking carefully about her numbers and being a super star every day. Keep up the good work!

Florence Nightingale Year 2: Sumaya

For being a superstar sitter, always putting in 100% effort and being kind to everyone. Well done super Sumaya!

Marie Curie Year 2: Isabella

A huge well done to Isabella! She has joined Duncombe this year and has settled in amazingly. She follows our Duncombe rules every day by always being ready, respectful and safe!

Isaac Newton Year 3: Carla

For working extremely hard. She's always ready to start her next activity and when she needs help, she asks. Well done Carla.

Michael Faraday Year 3: Rumaysa

For always trying her best and being alert and being ready to learn at all times. Rumaysa is helpful and always tries her best. Well done!

Charlotte Bronte Year 4: Nahida

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

William Shakespeare Year 4: Jehan

She is always ready to learn. Well done Jehan!

Martin Luther King Year 5: Ethan A

Ethan has shown his enthusiasm and interest in Science by asking questions and making links. He is always inquisitive and contributes to the class discussion! Keep up the curiosity Ethan!

Emmeline Pankhurst Year 5: Charlotte

Always putting in 100% effort to her school work. She is always ready, respectful and safe. Always one of the first to be ready to listen to the teachers instructions and always knows what to do when she is stuck or finished her work.

Nelson Mandela Year 6: Hussein

Hussein never does anything less than his very best. His readiness to learn is visceral and is steadily being reflected in his test scores. He is an exemplary pupil at Duncombe.

Winston Churchill Year 6: Felipe

For putting in a lot of effort into his English writing work. He has also been in, on time every day. Felipe is getting more involved in his English lessons now and can summarise the book we are reading in class.

School Attendance:

Our attendance has fallen this week.

Our goal is 96.5%

Currently at: 92%

Nelson Mandela - 89%	Winston Churchill -95%
Emmeline Pankhurst -94%	Martin Luther King - 96%
Charlotte Bronte - 98%	William Shakespeare - 91%
Michael Faraday - 98 %	Isaac Newton - 99%
Marie Curie - 91 %	Florence Nightingale - 91 %
Francis Drake - 84 %	Ernest Shackleton - 95%
Tony Ross - 91%	Judith Kerr - 95%
Julie Donaldson - 83%	Eric Carle - 74%

Important Messages:**Face masks and social distancing :**

A reminder that all adults should be wearing a face mask at drop off and pick up. Please keep to a social distance from each other that way we will keep Duncombe safe and prevent the spread of the virus.

Reception in the morning:

From Monday, can all Reception parents leave their children at the gate to the outside area. There will be an adult at the gate if you need to pass any messages on and another adult at the door of the classroom to welcome the children in and help with their coats. Thank you for your continued support, the Reception Team.

Black History Month

This week we have started Black History Month with a very special interview with Yvonne Conolly who is Britain's first black head teacher. All questions posed to Yvonne were scripted by Duncombe Year 6 children. We will share the interview with you very soon so watch out for it.

For all of us at Duncombe we will use this month to expand our knowledge and celebrate the achievements of individuals from a black British African and Caribbean heritage. Black history month began as a way of remembering important people and events in the history of the African diaspora in 1987.

We will be having lots of interesting and fun opportunities for our children and parents to widen their knowledge, such as:

- Interviewing Britain's first black head teacher.
- Fundraising for a toilet block for a school in Malawi.
- Year 5 and 6 visit to New Beacon Bookshop (Britain's first black bookstore).
- Replenishing book corners across the school with a range of diverse books.

In true Duncombe style we will be fundraising across the month of October to help build a toilet block for a school in Malawi to enable a school in poverty to have a lifesaving loo block for the children who attend. We will be asking for a donation of 50p from each family and our staff will be contributing £1.

Look out each week to find out what we have been doing across the month.

