



# Newsletter 6

03.04.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are all managing in the crisis that is engulfing the world at the moment. It is a very stressful time for all of us and I know that each of you will be worried about family members and the wider community.

Despite the difficulties that many in our community are facing, Duncombe has continued to operate as a 'virtual' school for the majority of our pupils. It is thanks to the massive effort from the teachers that home learning packs were sent home to all pupils this week. The website is also updated weekly - we now have a very extensive home learning tab (<https://www.duncombeprimary.co.uk/learning/home-learning>) that includes links to teachers reading their favourite stories on our very own YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0xDVuifgm49iQm0b-rj-NQ?>

There has also been a massive effort from you, the parents and carers at home! Home education can be very challenging, especially when you have your own work and household to look after. I am so pleased that so many of you have got in touch with teachers to ask questions - that is what we are here for. We have set up class emails so parents and children can start contacting their class teacher after Easter. Also, don't worry when a day doesn't go well, just make sure that you praise your child for one piece of learning that they have achieved. Have they read a book? Learned their times tables? Completed a maths activity? Fantastic and well done to all of you for doing such a hard job.

As today is the last day of term, in normal times I would have been wishing you all a Happy Holiday. Today, I want to wish you a 'Safe and Happy Holiday'. It's going to be sunny but we have to stay indoors. Get the windows open, let the sunshine in. Do your daily walk with your family. We can do this and get through to the other side together!

Stay safe and stay indoors,  
Helen

Sadly, Bernadette and Sarah Harris are leaving us this term and we have not been able to do a proper goodbye. They have worked at Duncombe for many years and will be sorely missed. We will be inviting them back to school for a proper farewell once the school has reopened. We wish them the very best.

### School Lunch Delivery :

We have also continued to feed our pupils who have free school meals, thanks to the dedicated cooks in the kitchen and a team of volunteers. This week we sent out 120 hot school lunches- this will continue after Easter so please contact Nicky if you have not signed up!

### Free School Meal Vouchers:

The government has finally issued a system whereby we can access food vouchers for families who are struggling during the crisis. All families have been contacted and should receive their vouchers by email. If you think you are entitled to vouchers but have not been sent an email, please contact :

<https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/benefits-and-financial-support/free-school-meals-and-uniform-grant>.

Once you have signed up, please forward the eligibility email to [success@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:success@duncombprimary.co.uk) so we can update our system and send you your vouchers.

### Help from Islington Council:

Get in touch if you or someone you know needs support, help is available. Islington Council, voluntary sector and mutual aid groups are working together to provide support. This could include help with getting food or medicine, online group activities, legal advice or a friendly conversation. You can contact organisations directly or call the **We are Islington helpline on 020 7527 8222.**

### Home Learning Packs:

We know that lots of our families have difficulties printing off the home learning and we're committed to providing all classes with paper copies of everything. Your child's next pack of work will be available after the Easter holiday in the week beginning 20th April. We will again be posting them home.

Children and parents can email their class teacher to let them know how they are getting on using the following e-mail addresses:

[ericcarle@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:ericcarle@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Anca

[tonyross@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:tonyross@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Kerry

[judithkerr@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:judithkerr@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Alix

[ernestshackleton@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:ernestshackleton@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Caroline

[francisdrake@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:francisdrake@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Salma

[mariecurie@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:mariecurie@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Ruth D

[florencenightingale@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:florencenightingale@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Natalee

[isaacnewton@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:isaacnewton@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Katija

[michaelfaraday@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:michaelfaraday@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Saffa

[charlottebronte@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:charlottebronte@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Ruth T

[williamshakespeare@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:williamshakespeare@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Kate and Louise

[mlk@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:mlk@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Eugene and Nazia

[emmelinepankhurst@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:emmelinepankhurst@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Paulina and Nazia

[winstonchurchill@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:winstonchurchill@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Lucy

[nelsonmandela@duncombprimary.co.uk](mailto:nelsonmandela@duncombprimary.co.uk) - Serach