

**14.11.2025**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We were delighted to welcome Jon Abbey -Islington's Corporate Director to Duncombe this week. He was met by our wonderful Duncombe Ambassadors, who represented the school beautifully. Jon was suitably impressed by all he saw – from the children's enthusiasm for learning to the calm, purposeful atmosphere in every classroom. It was a real pleasure to showcase the fantastic work taking place across Duncombe.

This week we have also been celebrating Anti-Bullying Week, exploring the important theme of the 'Power of Good'. The children have taken part in thoughtful discussions and activities, demonstrating real empathy and understanding of how kindness and respect can make such a positive difference in our community.

Although the mild weather has been deceptive, please do remember to send coats – the forecast suggests more rain is on the way!

Behind the scenes, Katija and Kelly have been busily tracking the progress of all our children, identifying areas where support or extra stretch may be needed. It's clear that the children of Duncombe are benefitting from a great education delivered by a talented and dedicated team of educators.

There was great excitement around Children in Need Day – the children looked absolutely wonderful, and it was heart-warming to see so much enthusiasm, creativity, and generosity on display throughout the school.

Finally, a gentle reminder about the importance of good attendance right up to the last day of term – every day of learning counts!

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Warm regards,

*Ms Braithwaite*

Executive Head



## Coffee Mornings this term



We are excited to be hosting these coffee mornings this term. You will receive a text reminder if the coffee morning is relevant to you and your family.

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November  
**SEN morning meeting with professionals**

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November  
**Behaviour**

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December  
**'Keeping families safe' parent/carer workshop**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December  
**Early reading and writing**

Speak to Sabrina or the school office if you have any questions.

Find information from previous Coffee Mornings [here](#).

## Autumn Lunch Menu

Click on the link to view our lunch menu for the Autumn term.



**Next week is Week 3.**

## Important Dates

**Wednesday 19th November** - SEN Coffee Morning with professionals - 9am

**Thursday 20th November** – 2YO (pm) trip to North Library

**Friday 21st November** – Year 4 Assembly – 2:40pm

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November** – Attendance and Punctuality Week

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November** – 2YO parent meetings

**Wednesday 26th November** - Behaviour Coffee Morning - 9am

**Wednesday 3rd December** - 'Keeping Families Safe' workshop

**Friday 5th December** – Year 4 Music Assembly

**Wednesday 10th December** - Early Reading and Writing Coffee Morning - 9am

**Thursday 11th December** - Year 5 Science Museum Space Trip

**Friday 12th December** – Year 5 Poetry Assembly

**Thursday 11th December** - Winter Fair - 3:45pm

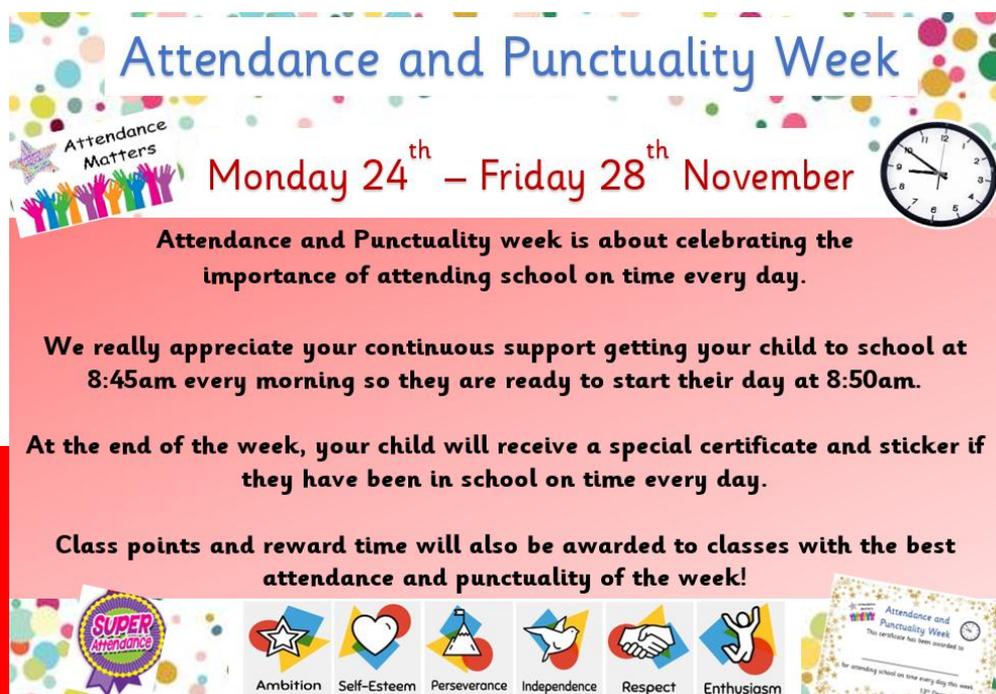
**Monday 15th December** - EYFS Winter Show

**Tuesday 16th December** - Parents Evening

**Thursday 18th December** - KS1 Winter Show

**Friday 19th December** - Last day of term - 1:30pm finish

**Tuesday 6th January 2026** – Children return to school



**Attendance and Punctuality Week**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November**

Attendance Matters

Attendance and Punctuality week is about celebrating the importance of attending school on time every day.

We really appreciate your continuous support getting your child to school at 8:45am every morning so they are ready to start their day at 8:50am.

At the end of the week, your child will receive a special certificate and sticker if they have been in school on time every day.

Class points and reward time will also be awarded to classes with the best attendance and punctuality of the week!

**SUPER Attendance**

Ambition Self-Esteem Perseverance Independence Respect Enthusiasm

Attendance and Punctuality Week  
This certificate has been awarded to:  
for attending school on time every day this week  
13<sup>th</sup> December 2025



**Winter Fair**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

**3:45pm**

More information coming soon!



## School Attendance



**Julia Donaldson**

**81%**

**Eric Carle**

**77%**

**Judith Kerr**

**95%**

**Tony Ross**

**99%**

**Greta Thunberg**

**93%**

**Harriet Tubman**

**94%**

**Florence Nightingale**

**99%**

**Marie Curie**

**90%**

**Isaac Newton**

**97%**

**Michael Faraday**

**96%**

**Maya Angelou**

**94%**

**William Shakespeare**

**97%**

**Benjamin Zephaniah**

**98%**

**Emmeline Pankhurst**

**94%**

**Martin Luther King**

**95%**

**Marcus Rashford**

**93%**

**Nelson Mandela**

**93%**

The whole school's attendance for this week is **94.2%**

### Attendance and Punctuality

Our target for individual and whole school attendance is 95%.

Click [here](#) to see the attendance prizes we will be awarding for this year.

The higher a pupil's attendance, the more they are likely to learn.

School starts at 8:50am. It is important that your child arrives on time to ensure they have a positive start to the day.

If your child is going to be absent, please call the school office on 02072725620.

The school office is open from 8am – 4:30pm.



## Attendance Matters





# Celebration Awards



## **Julia Donaldson 2YO: Jonathan**

He has settled really well. He always comes in with the biggest smile. He is kind to others and keen to learn.  
Well done, Jonathan.

## **Eric Carle 3YO: Ayla**

Ayla is such a delight to have in the class. She is always so helpful at tidy up time and is always the first to be sat on the carpet ready for learning. Thank you for being such a star Ayla!

## **Tony Ross Reception: Seth**

For his improved active listening and enthusiasm for learning, as well as reduced number of toilet accidents, we are very proud of you.

## **Judith Kerr Reception: Emily**

For your growing confidence to share your thoughts and ideas. We love hearing what you have to say!

## **Greta Thunberg Year 1: Divine**

For your perseverance in coming to school every day on time. You always give 100% in all that you do. We are so proud! Keep it up!

## **Harriet Tubman Year 1: Zion**

For being ready, respectful and safe all week. You have been sitting in class and walking around the school so sensibly. You've also been so focused and proud of your work. We are so proud of you. Keep it up!

## **Florence Nightingale Year 2: Jasmine**

For being ambitious in her English learning this week. Jasmine used her excellent imagination to innovate her story. Her ideas were unique and very impressive.  
Well done, Jasmine, keep it up!

## **Marie Curie Year 2: Nyala**

You have shown perseverance this week in your writing a narrative and your determination in maths. Keep it up!  
We are so proud of you!

## **Isaac Newton Year 3: Danne**

We've been really pleased to see such a positive change in Danne this week. Her focus and behaviour for learning have improved noticeably, and she's showing great effort in class. Well done, Danne - keep up the fantastic work!

## **Michael Faraday Year 3: Poppy-Rose**

You are always ready, respectful and safe. You have fantastic behaviour and show excellence all the time. You always show great enthusiasm and always support your peers with their work. Well done and keep it up!

## **William Shakespeare Year 4: Noah**

He has shown enthusiasm and participation this week during reading. Noah has been ready and respectful during lessons. I am impressed with his effort in answering questions and inspiring others by modelling expected behaviour. Well done!

## **Maya Angelou Year 4: Aliza**

For always being ready, respectful and safe in school. She shows great learning behaviours and follows instructions straight away, really showing respect to all that she interacts with. It has also been a pleasure to see her become more confident and participate in class discussions. Keep it up  
Aliza!

## **Benjamin Zephaniah Year 5: Yusra**

I have been so impressed with the progress Yusra has made with her arithmetic skills. She has been applying her times table knowledge and using the new methods she has been taught in lessons to make huge strides in her learning! Well done!

## **Martin Luther King Year 5: Sophia**

I am extremely impressed with Sophia this week, particularly during our English lessons. She has shown great enthusiasm for the Harry Potter book we are reading and has been actively participating in class discussions. Her engagement and positive attitude towards learning have been excellent.  
Well done, keep up the fantastic work!

## **Emmeline Pankhurst Year 5: Aiden**

Well done, Aiden! He always follows the Duncombe's rules of being ready, respectful, and safe. He is always enthusiastic about his learning and sets a great example for others.

## **Marcus Rashford Year 6: Isma**

Isma, you have shown so much ambition and independence this week! After our geography lesson, you created a 'rollercoaster' of a book about coasts, packed full of diagrams and definitions. You then created a wanted poster for the mysterious and mischievous cat, Macavity, who has been up to no good in Rashford class. I have been blown away by the work you have been doing at home and sharing with the rest of us. Keep it up!

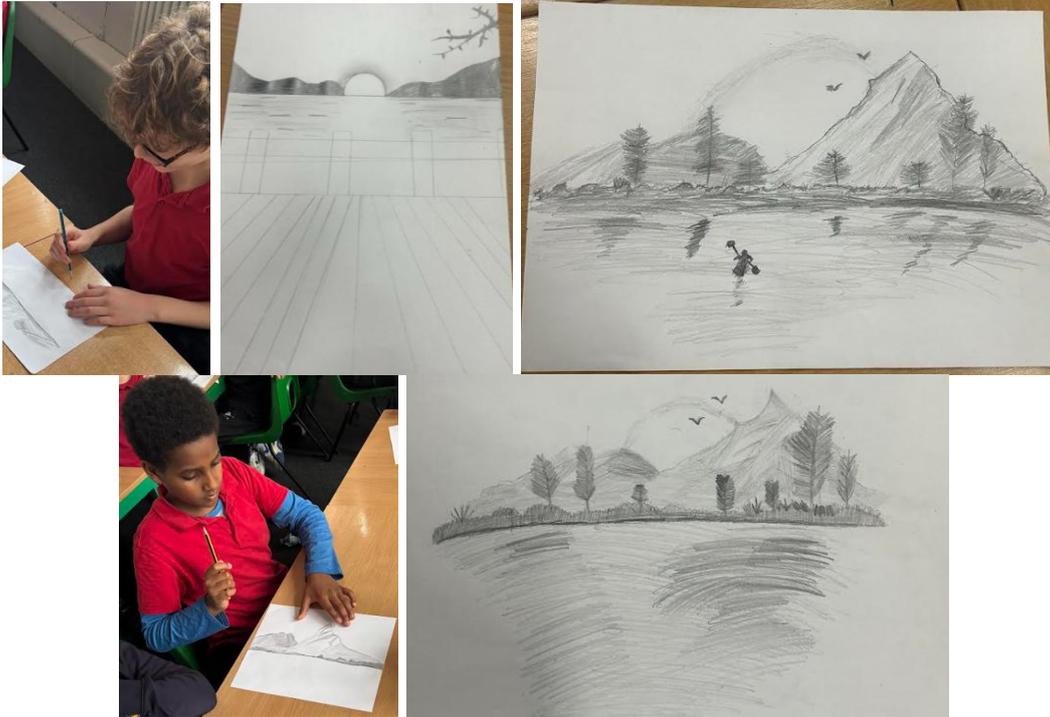
## **Nelson Mandela Year 6: Atty**

I am impressed by the enthusiasm you showed for our poetry assembly. You worked hard to use expression and to speak with clarity. Well done, Atty!

# Fantastic Work and Learning at Duncombe this week:

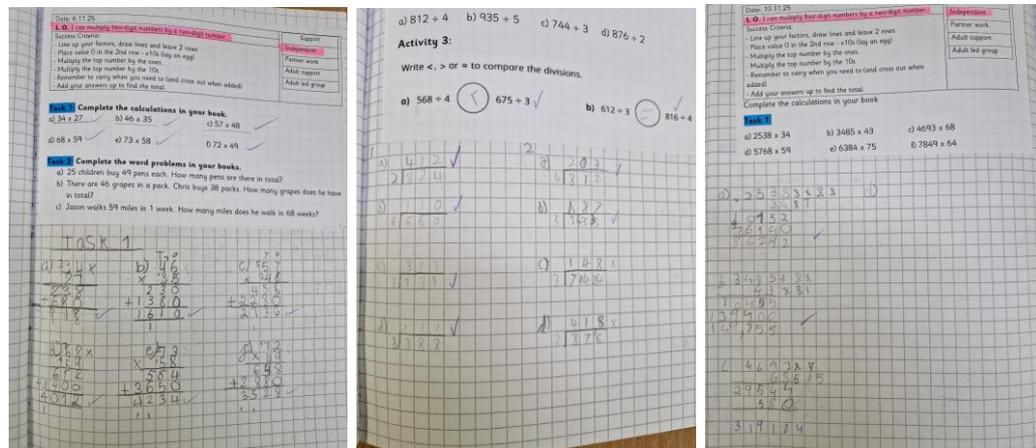
## Year 6

Year 6 sketched landscapes in art this week. They thought about shape, size, tone and techniques such as cross-hatching and blending. They also worked incredibly hard on their poetry recital. Well done Year 6!



## Year 5

Year 5 have been working extremely hard in their maths lessons to learn the formal methods for multiplication and division. They have all been following the success criteria carefully and thinking about how they lay out their calculations in order to solve increasingly tricky calculations!



## Year 4

Year 4 completed our poems from the point of view of a firework and did some scratch art, really thinking about the colours and shapes of fireworks.



## Year 3

As part of our history unit on Ancient China, Yr3s made their own Chinese lanterns and learnt about the traditional Chinese festival, the significance of lanterns and how the Lantern Festival is celebrated. Well done Year 3!



## Year 2

This week in science Year 2 have been learning about different types of materials and their uses. We went on a materials hunt in the playground to sort and classify which materials were used for different parts of the playground.



## Year 1

In history we have been getting into our new topic about toys. This week we took a range of toys and without seeing them, described what they felt like. We then revealed them and sorted them into different groups. We used key words such as soft hard, bumpy, bendy, metal or plastic to describe and sort them.



## Reception

Our phonics and letter knowledge is coming on brilliantly in reception, we enjoy using letters in our choosing time to paint and make words with magnetic letters.





### 3YO Nursery

Nursery have been learning all about shapes, here are some of our maths superstars sorting buttons out into the correct shape! We even talked about what other shapes we can see in the classroom.



### 2YO Nursery

This week we have been showing our respect for Remembrance Day. We have been making poppies, creating poppy biscuits and exploring different activities. It has been a busy week. Please look out for more photos and videos on your child's tapestry.



### Eco Warriors

Duncombe's Eco Warriors had a visit from Islington's recycling officer this week where they got stuck into the school's rubbish and are coming up with a plan to tackle our recycling so we can help save our planet one piece of paper at a time!



# Archway's Christmas Cracker

Free  
Christmas  
Treasure Trail

With a  
Bumper  
hamper of goodies  
PTO

Santa's  
Grotto  
from 3pm

Free Face  
Painting  
& Craft  
Activities

Discounts  
in selected shops  
with this flyer

Festive  
Archway  
Market  
from 12pm





12-7pm Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November

Navigator Square, N19 3TD \* more info at [www.archwaylondon.com](http://www.archwaylondon.com)

Featuring Duncombe  
School's choir at 4:15pm!