

16.01.2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are all well. This week at school has been a calm and productive one, with students settling well into their routines and continuing their learning across all classes.

In classrooms, children have been working hard on their literacy and numeracy skills, taking part in reading, writing, and maths and making good progress. Teachers have been pleased with the positive attitudes and effort shown by students throughout the week.

We were also pleased to celebrate a successful girls' football match this week. The team showed great teamwork, sportsmanship, and determination, representing the school proudly. Well done to all students involved.

Our Year 6 students enjoyed a citizenship trip, where they learned more about being responsible and active members of the community. The students were excellent ambassadors for the school and engaged thoughtfully with the activities provided.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Katija Ali

Head of School

Spring Lunch Menu

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



Next week is Week 3.



Important Dates

Monday 26th January

Fluoride Varnish application for
Nursery - Year 2

Tuesday 27th January

EYFS coffee morning –
boundaries and routines

Wednesday 28th January

JK class Archway library trip

Tuesday 3rd February

P.E. Coffee Morning

Wednesday 4th February

TR class Archway library trip

Friday 13th February

Year 2 R.E. Assembly 2:40pm

Monday 16th –

Friday 20th February

Half term

Friday 27th March

Last day of term

1:30pm finish

Monday 30th March –

Friday 10th April

Spring Holiday

Monday 13th April

INSET day

School Closed

Tuesday 14th April

Children return to school

Nursery Closed



School Attendance



Julia Donaldson

83%

Eric Carle

92%

Judith Kerr

84%

Tony Ross

86%

Greta Thunberg

82%

Harriet Tubman

52%

Florence Nightingale

96%

Marie Curie

95%

Isaac Newton

97%

Michael Faraday

96%

Maya Angelou

88%

William Shakespeare

88%

Benjamin Zephaniah

95%

Emmeline Pankhurst

88%

Martin Luther King

95%

Marcus Rashford

95%

Nelson Mandela

98%

The whole school's attendance for this week is **93%**

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: Jessie-May

You have settled back into nursery really well. We have seen that you are listening to instructions and are not getting upset as much when you have to share our toys. Well done, Jessie-May.

Eric Carle 3YO: Lubayna

For being so helpful at tidy up time and for also being so welcoming to our new children! What a superstar!

Tony Ross Reception: Legacy

For your amazing phonics in your new group this term, you are doing fantastic reading.

Judith Kerr Reception: Salma

For your incredible enthusiasm, focus and effort in all our lessons this week. We've seen real improvement in blending skills when reading. Well done!

Greta Thunberg Year 1: Mohammed

For showing relentless effort and enthusiasm in Phonics reading this week. You always try hard to use your Fred talk. We are all so proud of you. Keep it up!

Harriet Tubman Year 1: Ameena

For showing enthusiasm and independence all week. You have approached all tasks with a positive attitude and are always trying your best. Keep it up!

Florence Nightingale Year 2: Amara

For having a great start at Duncombe. She has shown resilience throughout the week and we are so proud of her.

Marie Curie Year 2: Rachell

Well done for working so hard in maths and English this week. You have shown perseverance and self-esteem. Keep shining.

Isaac Newton Year 3: Sufiyan

For showing excellent effort and enthusiasm in reading this week. You have worked hard to learn and use new vocabulary and to summarise key points from the texts you read. Your growing confidence and understanding are clear to see. We are very proud of you—keep up the fantastic work!

Michael Faraday Year 3: Salma

She has shown excellent progress in her writing and maths work. She tries her best and always works hard, showing enthusiasm and improved independence. Well done and keep it up!

William Shakespeare Year 4: Ayla

For always being ready and respectful. She tries her best in everything that she does and takes pride in her work. I have seen Ayla become more confident in herself. Well done Ayla!

Maya Angelou Year 4: Saifan

He is someone who shows ready, respectful and safe behaviour every day. He listens to instructions, approaches his learning with a positive attitude and takes pride in his work. He is a great role model to the class. Keep it up Saifan!

Benjamin Zephaniah Year 5: Mascuud

For such an impressive start to your time (again) at Duncombe! You have settled in so well with such a positive attitude towards your learning. You have been friendly, kind, hardworking and helpful already, well done!

Martin Luther King Year 5: Mohammed

I am very impressed with your writing this week. You shared your ideas clearly and creatively and I really enjoyed reading your Highwayman work. You should be very proud of yourself. Well done for such a fantastic effort.

Emmeline Pankhurst Year 5: Harrison

You showed fantastic enthusiasm during the social action workshop at the Arsenal Hub and demonstrated strong ball skills throughout the activities. You also contributed great ideas during discussions. Keep up the excellent work!

Marcus Rashford Year 6: Nyla

Nyla has shown a positive attitude to learning this week and shown good focus, particularly in maths where she worked hard to apply the success criteria. Keep up the hard work Nyla!

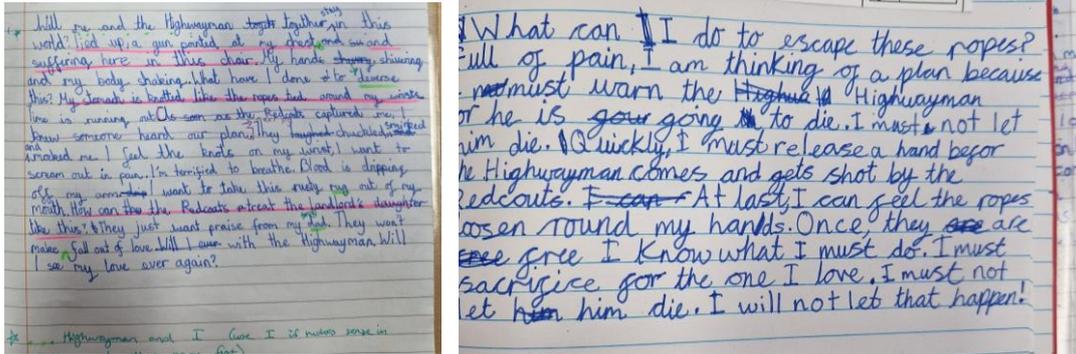
Nelson Mandela Year 6: Abdulhadi

Abdulhadi has worked incredibly hard this week in writing and has shown unwavering focus! He produced a fantastic letter, thinking carefully about the success criteria. Keep it up!

Fantastic Work and Learning at Duncombe this week:

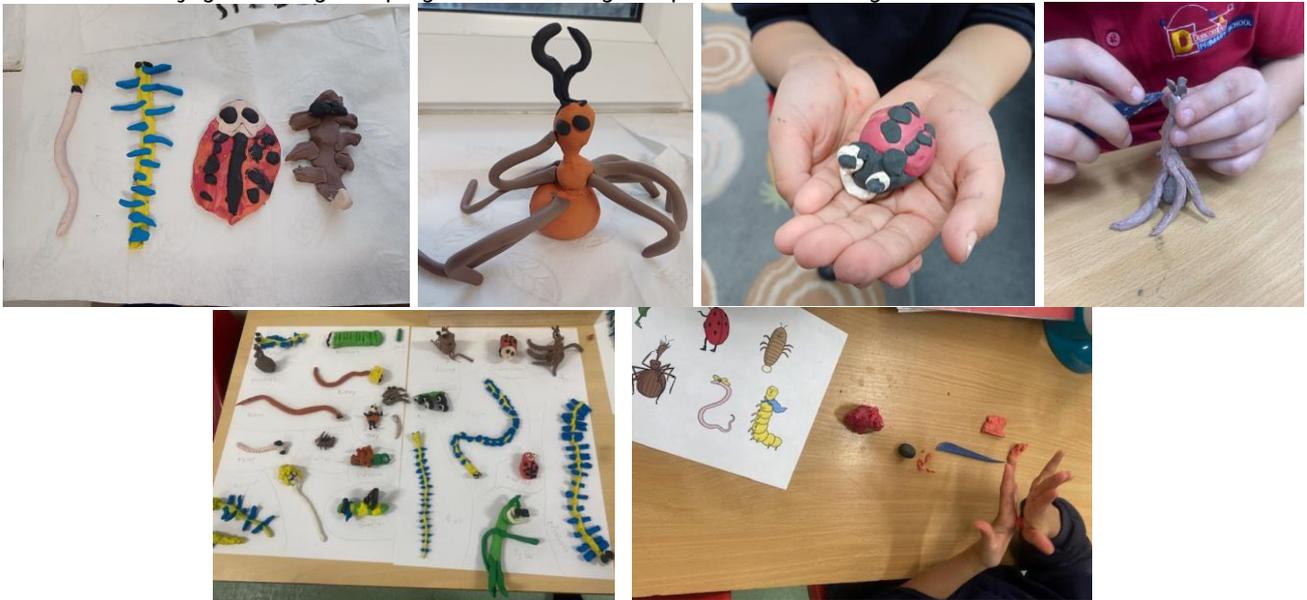
Year 5

Year 5 have composed some impressive internal monologues, imagining they were Bess from the epic poem, The Highwayman. They worked hard to make their writing dramatic, full of feelings and emotion.



Year 4

In Art, the Year 4 children used plasticine to create some of the insects from James and the Giant Peach. They really enjoyed rolling, shaping, and moulding the plasticine to bring the characters to life.



Year 3

In Spanish, the Year 3 children practised simple greetings and feelings. They enjoyed learning how to say hello, introduce themselves, and describe how they were feeling in Spanish. The children confidently repeated new words, joined in with actions, and used their voices to practise accurate pronunciation. This helped them build confidence and begin to communicate in another language.

Year 2

This week in maths Year 2 have been learning how to share an amount into equal groups.



Reception

Reception have been learning about the artist Mondrian and his famous use of primary colours. We have been creating our own Mondrian inspired art using a range of different materials and techniques.



3YO Nursery

This week Nursery learnt some new songs with Leina, we showed the new children how we dance and play instruments in Nursery. They had so much fun. We also made some fun lollipop sticks to put around the classroom, very messy- but the lollipops looked great!!!



2YO Nursery

Little nursery has been busy exploring our new activities all about Winter and People who help us. It has been nice to see the children playing together and role playing experiences they have had. We had some great conversations. Well done everyone.



2-Year-Old and 3-Year-Old Nursery

Admissions

OPEN

2025 – 2026



Your child deserves the best start in education
Come and have a tour of our setting.

Please see the school office to make an appointment
Or to find out when the next tour dates are.



Duncombe Vision

‘Duncombe supports children to learn and achieve in a supportive, high quality, aspirational environment, leading to a successful transition to secondary school. We are working together to continue to raise standards across the school, striving towards excellence. We have high expectations of all our learners. We develop our children’s sense of purpose, understanding, motivation and ability to learn.’

All 2-Year-old and 3-year-old applications require a part-time or full-time code provided by the Local Authority. You can check your eligibility on the Islington website.

If you need more support please talk to the team.

 The School office – 0207 272 5620
 success@duncombepimary.co.uk