



## DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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*Headteacher: Caroline Hancy*

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29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

### Plans for Y3 and Y4 after half term

In line with government guidance, it will be necessary for Mrs Todd and Mrs Jones to continue to work from home following the half term break and for Mrs Priest to also begin to work remotely.

I have therefore asked Lorna Sugden to continue until the summer break so that she can continue to support in Year 3, wherever needed. Miss Sugden continues to do an excellent job, working closely with Mrs Jones and Mrs Todd to ensure that the children in school are able to access the learning that is planned for their class.

I am also pleased to inform you that I have secured the services of Charlie Malarkey to work alongside Mrs Priest in Year 4.

Miss Malarkey very successfully completed her final teaching practice with us last year and has since been working in one of our MAT schools in a support/teaching capacity. Miss Malarkey will work as Teaching Assistant in Year 4 until February half term. She will then lead the Year 4 group/class in school under the guidance and planning of Mrs Priest, whilst Mrs Priest needs to be working from home. Miss Malarkey will then continue to cover the class, once Mrs Priest begins her maternity leave, for the rest of the summer term.

I hope that this will provide as much continuity as possible for the children in both Year 3 and 4, given the uncertainty of the current situation.

### Google Meet

Our 'Keep in Touch' Google Meets seem to be going really well and certainly it appears that the more experience the children have, the more confident they are to contribute.

We have scheduled the following meetings for next week:-

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February at 11:15am (30 mins)	Y4 Google Meet with Mrs Priest and Mrs Subritzky
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> February at 1:00pm (30 mins)	Y3 Google Meet with Mrs Jones and Mrs Todd



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Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> February at 2:00pm (30 mins)	Y5 Google Meet with Mrs Elliott and Mrs Subritzky
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> February at 9:00am (30 mins)	Y6 Google Meet with Miss Dickenson

Any child who is working from home on these days is welcome to attend. Children who are in attendance at school will not participate in these meetings.

The link to join the meeting will be posted into Google Classroom on the day of the meeting. It can be found in the banner under the class name or in the class stream. Please help your child to join using this link.

Please note: teachers will not allow attendees to join before the host - the teacher has to let everyone in.

### **Holocaust Memorial Day – 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021- ‘Be the Light in the Darkness’**

Each year many activities take place for Holocaust Memorial Day, bringing people from all backgrounds together to learn lessons from the past in creative, reflective and inspiring ways. Ordinarily we would welcome Colin Jackson, a local arts consultant, into school to provide awareness raising and thought-provoking workshops for our Year 6 pupils. This year the sessions took place over Google Meet resulting in the creation of a beautiful collaborative poem. We are so grateful to Colin for adapting to the current situation and ensuring these important lessons were still able to take place.

#### **Be the Light in the Darkness** Created by Year 6 pupils - Dunnington Primary School



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# You are my light

*Created by Year 6 pupils at Dunnington Primary School  
as part of their commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day.*

Thank you for being there,  
For keeping me safe.  
You are my guide.

Thank you being there in sad times,  
For keeping me cheerful when I'm down.  
You're always there when I need you.

Thank you for your care and your kindness,  
For giving me love and affection.  
You believe in me when I don't believe in myself.

Thank you for supporting me,  
For trusting me.  
You keep me safe and protected.

Thank you for the happy times,  
For bringing me to the world.  
You make me feel loved.

You bring me light.

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## Keeping with the theme of poetry...

Pupils in Years 4, 5, and 6 may like to take part in a science themed poetry challenge this weekend. The details can be found in Google Classroom but **Hurry!!** as the deadline for entries is 11:59pm on Sunday.

Thank you to Mr Sturmev for creating a fascinating science video which will certainly teach you something about human cells and might just stimulate some ideas for your poem!

**Child Mental Health Week** is taking place on 1-7 February 2021 with a theme of 'Express Yourself'.

On Wednesday 3rd February 2021, whether at home or at school, we are encouraging pupils to wear an item of clothing '*inside out*'.

Turn your clothes 'inside out' is an awareness campaign that aims to get important conversations started with young people about their mental health. Staff will plan an activity for their class to help them to realise that:

- How someone looks on the outside doesn't necessarily reflect how they are truly feeling on the inside, so it is important to always be kind and think of others.
- No one should be embarrassed about how they feel.



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## And finally...

Thank you to all our parent/carers and families for your words of encouragement and for all you continue to do at home to support our work in such challenging circumstances. Remember to be kind to yourselves too and to take a break and rest when things inevitably get tough. Here's a poem for you which I have often shared with our Y6 leavers but it seems quite poignant today...

*Don't Quit*  
by  
John Greenleaf Whittier

When things go wrong as they sometimes will,  
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill,  
When the funds are low and the debts are high  
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,  
When care is pressing you down a bit,  
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.  
Life is strange with its twists and turns  
As every one of us sometimes learns  
And many a failure comes about  
When he might have won had he stuck it out;  
Don't give up though the pace seems slow—  
You may succeed with another blow.  
Success is failure turned inside out—  
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,  
And you never can tell just how close you are,  
It may be near when it seems so far;  
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit—  
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit.

We appreciate how challenging the situation is for you as well as us. Please get in touch if we can help in any way.

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend!

With very best wishes,

*C. Hancy*

Headteacher

