



## DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Caroline Hancy

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25<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Staffing 2023/24**

I am now able to share with you the teaching staff arrangements for next academic year.

Mr Gargiulo's secondment agreement with Bishopthorpe Infants and Archbishop of York Juniors has been extended for a further year and so he will not be returning to Dunnington this September as expected. We wish him continued success with this exciting opportunity.

### **INFANTS (Foundation Stage and Key Stage One)**

Phase Leader	Mrs Elliott	Mrs Priest	
Teacher (s)	Mrs Elliott/Mrs Subritzky	Mrs Rowntree/Mrs Thompson	Mrs Priest/Mrs Subritzky
Reception	20		
Year 1		24	
Year 2			29

### **JUNIORS (Key Stage Two)**

Phase Leader	Miss Dunn		Miss Dickenson	
Teacher (s)	Mrs Todd/Mrs Jones	Miss Dunn	Miss Sugden	Miss Dickenson
Year 3	32			
Year 4		25		
Year 5			35	
Year 6				35

Please note: *The above pupil numbers are for illustrative purposes only. The profile may, and often does, change during the summer term.*

As I mentioned in my previous letter, larger classes and classes with a greater proportion of pupils with additional needs will be prioritised for teaching assistant support.

Children will have an opportunity to spend time with their new class teachers in our 'Move Up Mornings' which are planned for Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

### **NEU Strike Action**

As you may have heard on the news, the NEU have further strike action planned for Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> and Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023. **It is likely that we will be open for some, but not all classes on these dates.**

You will know that staff do not have to tell their employer which union they are members of and individual NEU members do not have to tell their employer whether they personally intend to take part in strike action. Therefore, it is very difficult to know the precise impact of the strike until the actual day of the strike. I will endeavour to notify parents as soon as I have a clearer picture but this may need to be by email on the morning of the actual strike days.



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School lunches will be provided for those pupils in attendance and for any pupils in receipt of free school meals who are at home. Please contact the school office if you wish to take up this offer.

I'm sorry that you may have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

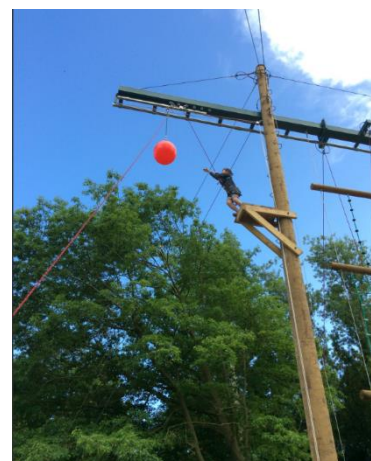
**York Secondary Schools have informed us that the Y6/7 transition day on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 will go ahead as planned.**

### Y5 Residential



Year 5 had an absolutely terrific time at Newby Wiske Hall this week! A few got caught in the rain but it didn't stop the children having a whale of a time and literally reaching new heights, building their confidence and completing challenges! We would like to thank parents for their support with this, I am sure the children will treasure these memories for years to come.

Miss Sugden, Miss  
Dickenson and Mrs  
Lockwood



### 'Rocket Mice' Science Day

On 14<sup>th</sup> June we held a 'Rocket Mice' science day. The rocket mouse was made from a plastic milk bottle and a cone for the mouse's head. The whole school participated and great fun was had, as well as completing lots of scientific investigations.

At first, we had to investigate how the rocket mouse worked. This was great fun and it was surprising how far the mouse actually travelled. Each year group then decided to tweak the investigation. Reception EYFS investigated how they would measure the rocket mice using standard and non-standard units. Y1/2 investigated whether the size of the mouse affected the distance that it travelled. Y3/4 investigated whether the material that the rocket mouse was made from affected the distance it travelled. Y5 investigated whether the trajectory the mouse was fired from affected the distance. Finally, Y6 wondered if there were any adaptations that could be made to the mouse to increase the distance travelled. All the staff were incredibly impressed with the scientific vocabulary that the children used as well as their ability to think like scientists.



### Pokémon Trading Cards

As you will no doubt be aware, Pokémon Cards are particularly popular with school-age children at the moment. For many children, these bring great pleasure and are the topic of many conversations at playtimes.



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However, staff are finding that they are having to deal with several issues, particularly amongst our younger pupils, relating to safekeeping, sharing and/or losing cards. They also struggle with the concept of trading and then ask for cards back. This inevitably causes upset and then encroaches on lesson times.

I am reluctant to ban these completely throughout school but strongly recommend that our younger pupils keep them at home. Please ensure that cards of any value (I confess I don't know much about this) are not brought into school and also be aware that, if they are brought to school, it is at your risk and staff will not be responsible for dealing with any subsequent problems.

### **Sports Days**

Just a little reminder that sports days are coming up. Please could you ensure that children have PE kits in school for these days, a coloured t-shirt (house colour if possible) and, particularly if the weather looks hot, water bottles, sun hats and sun cream.

**EYFS and KS1 on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 1:30pm**

**KS2 on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July at 1:30pm**

Parents and Carers are welcome to join us. The gates will be opened once we have all the children inside after lunchtime (approx 1:10pm). Any late arrivals will need to report to the school office as the gates will need to be locked again at 1:30pm.

### **EYFS and KS1 Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park**

Just to confirm that the trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park on 12<sup>th</sup> July will go ahead as planned. Thank you to parents and carers for your support with this.

### **Y3/4 Trip to Cresswell Craggs**

We are so excited for our trip next Thursday to Cresswell Craggs, for our prehistoric adventure! A reminder that it is an early set off in the morning, and children should therefore be in school for **7:50am, ready for an 8:00am departure**. As our day is very busy once we arrive, we will understandably not be able to wait for any late arrivals after 8:00am. Children should bring a packed lunch, a drinks bottle and wear their school uniform with comfortable outdoor shoes. It is looking to be warm still next week, so we ask that children bring a sunhat and wear an application of sun protection prior to set off. A raincoat would also be useful, as you can never really predict the British weather! Please note, staff are not able to apply sun cream to children so any further applications during the day will need to be done independently.

The full details of our trip can be found on the original letter (attached for Y3/4 parents).

### **Over The Rainbow Holiday Club**

Please find attached a flyer from Over The Rainbow detailing their Summer Holiday Activities.

### **PTA Summer Coloured Hamper Raffle**

The PTA are kindly organising a Summer Coloured Hamper Raffle. Please see details attached.

### **Five-Minute Read**

This week's five-minute read is on 'AI Virtual Friends'

With very best wishes,

Caroline Hancy



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