



## DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dunnington

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Head of School: Clare Thompson

[headofschool.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk](mailto:headofschool.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk)

13<sup>th</sup> September 2023

### **Message from Mrs Thompson**

Dear parent/ carer,

We have had a busy and fun-filled first week back at school. It has been wonderful to welcome back all of the children and staff. I would like to thank everyone in the school community for being so incredibly friendly, kind and welcoming to me – it has been a really lovely start to my time here at Dunnington and I am so excited to work together with all stakeholders to continue to build on Dunnington's many successes as a school.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new children and their families who have joined Dunnington CE Primary School this year. We look forward to getting to know you and helping you to settle into our school community. The new reception cohort already seem incredibly settled and have taken everything in their stride – they should be so proud of themselves! We have also been blown away by the positive, enthusiastic and mature attitude all of the children have shown towards their new classes and their learning.

I would like to take the opportunity, on behalf of everyone who works in the school, to pass on a very big thank you to the children and parents for all the cards, letters and gifts received at the end of last term. They were incredibly kind and very much appreciated.

### **Message from Mrs Abbott**

Dear Parents and Children,

*I would like to say a very big thank you for all the cards and gifts given to me on my early retirement. I was very touched by them all. Over the last 17 years at Dunnington, I have met and taught so many wonderful children and have shared many different experiences with them. I have worked with the most hardworking, kind and caring colleagues anyone could wish for and I have shared some very special times with them. However, it just felt that the time was right in July this year for me to move on.*

*In the poem Mrs Hancy read at my leaving assembly, it said that life should not be measured by things that we own, but by what we have done, the people we have known and the things we do to make our hearts happy and pop and whilst that may sound a bit cliché, I believe that it is true and I am looking forward to doing just that!*

*Be kind to each other children as always,*

*Mrs Abbott*

### **Welcome Meetings**

Last week, you will have received information about our September Welcome Meetings. The meetings will be held at 6pm on the following evenings:

Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 <b>Years 5 and 6</b>	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 <b>Years 3 and 4</b>
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 <b>Reception</b>	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 <b>Years 1 and 2</b>

Access to these meetings will be via the main entrance to the school. Please do not worry if you are unable to attend. Information will also be sent out in a class newsletter and published on the school website.

### **Start and Finish Times**

A reminder of our start and finish times

<b><u>EYFS and KS1 SCHOOL HOURS</u></b>	<b><u>KS2 SCHOOL HOURS</u></b>
<b>Morning session:</b> 8:55am to 12.00noon <i>Registration 8:55am-9:05am</i> <b><u>Lunchtime:</u></b> 12:00noon- 1.00pm <b>Afternoon Session:</b> 1:00pm to 3:25 pm <i>Registration 1:00pm-1:05pm</i>	<b>Morning session:</b> 8:45am to 12.00noon <i>Registration 8:45am-8:55am</i> <b><u>Lunchtime:</u></b> 12:00noon- 1.00pm <b>Afternoon Session:</b> 1.00pm to 3:15pm <i>Registration 1:00pm-1:05pm</i>

Children in KS2 should arrive at school between 8:40 and 8:45am. If children arrive during registration but before 9:15am, they are marked as late. **The registers close at 9:15am**, therefore, if a child arrives after this time, they will be recorded as 'late after the register has closed' which shows as an **unauthorised absence** in the overall attendance figures.

Please try to be on time – but better late than never!

### **Medical Conditions and Allergies**

Please let the school office know if there are updates regarding allergies or medical conditions for your child.

### **School Uniform**

All of the children look incredibly smart in their school uniform – even in the incredibly hot weather last week. Please could you ensure that all of the children's uniforms, including their PE kits and shoes are named to minimise the amount of lost property we have in school. The lost property box is located near the school office – please do pop in and have a look if you are missing something.

Please also make sure your child has a coat/ waterproof with them at school at all times to allow the children to get outside at playtime as often as possible. As we have seen over the last few days, the weather is very changeable and unpredictable at this time of year!

### **Water Bottles**

The children are encouraged to drink plenty of water throughout the school day so please ensure they have a named water bottle in school. These can be purchased at the school office for £1.20 or supplied from home. We do not provide cups by the water machines as this is not very hygienic. However, if a child has forgotten their bottle, they can borrow a bottle from the staffroom. Please encourage your child to bring their bottles home daily for a good wash!

### **Nut Free Zone**

For the benefit of parents new to the school, you may have read in our prospectus that our school is a 'nut free zone'. This is because we have a number of children in school who have a severe nut allergy. We therefore ask that all parents **avoid putting nuts or any product that contains whole nuts into packed lunches**. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

### **Sweets in School**

Occasionally children have brought treats and sweets in from holidays and birthdays to share with their friends. Whilst we appreciate this is a really kind gesture, some parents would rather their children didn't eat sweets. It can also be quite time-consuming and difficult for teaching staff to determine which sweets children can have when they have food intolerances/allergies. We therefore request that children don't bring treats into school to share.

### **Bringing Cycles and Scooters to School**

Many children bring their cycles and scooters to school, which is a brilliant, healthy form of transport. In order to keep everybody safe, we ask that children dismount their cycles and scooters before they enter the school gates and walk them to the scooter parks and cycle

sheds sensibly. Please do not allow your child to scooter or cycle in the playgrounds before or after school.

### **Parking around School**

We had a near-miss outside school yesterday, which was obviously incredibly distressing for the child and their family. It is really important that cars do not park/ drop-off on the double yellow lines or zig zags or block neighbouring driveways. Doing this makes it difficult for children to see and dangerous to cross near our school. Your help and consideration would be very much appreciated. For parents new to the school, may I alert you to the fact that Hunter's Way is a private road - please refrain from parking down that street.

### **Pupils walking to and from school alone**

Parents/carers often wish for pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 to begin to walk, scooter or cycle to and from school on their own. It is for parents to make this decision, not the school, and will depend entirely on the readiness of the individual child and their circumstances.

Please ensure your child is confident with road safety and knows where the safe crossing places are on their route.

If you do not wish for your Year 5 or Year 6 child to walk home on their own, please ensure that their class teacher is made aware of this and is also informed of any future changes to circumstances.

### **School Staff**

Please find below updated information on our current staff roles and contact details (where appropriate):

	Mrs Hancy	Executive Headteacher	<a href="mailto:head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk">head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Thompson	Head of School	<a href="mailto:headofschool.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk">headofschool.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk</a>
EYFS	Mrs Elliott	Early Years Leader and Reception Teacher	<a href="mailto:tracey.elliott@dunnington.yorkschoools.net">tracey.elliott@dunnington.yorkschoools.net</a>
	Mrs Subritzky	SENDCO and Reception Teacher	<a href="mailto:edwina.subritzky@dunnington.yorkschoools.net">edwina.subritzky@dunnington.yorkschoools.net</a>
	Mrs Downing	Teaching Assistant	
	Mrs Cathcart	Teaching Assistant	
	Mrs Midgley	Teaching Assistant	

Year 1	Mrs Rowntree	Year 1 teacher	<a href="mailto:lucie.rowntree@dunnington.yorkschoools.net">lucie.rowntree@dunnington.yorkschoools.net</a>
	Mrs Thompson	Year 1 teacher	<a href="mailto:headofschool.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk">headofschool.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Downing	Teaching Assistant	
	Mrs Perks	Teaching Assistant	
Year 2	Mrs Priest	Key Stage 1 Leader and Year 2 teacher	<a href="mailto:katie.priest@dunnington.yorkschoools.net">katie.priest@dunnington.yorkschoools.net</a>
	Mrs Subritzky Mrs Perks	SENDCO and Year 2 teacher Teaching Assistant	<a href="mailto:edwina.subritzky@dunnington.yorkschoools.net">edwina.subritzky@dunnington.yorkschoools.net</a>
Year 3	Mrs Jones	Year 3 Teacher	<a href="mailto:sue.jones@dunnington.yorkschoools.net">sue.jones@dunnington.yorkschoools.net</a>
	Mrs Todd	Year 3 Teacher	<a href="mailto:charlotte.todd@dunnington.yorkschoools.net">charlotte.todd@dunnington.yorkschoools.net</a>
	Mrs Collins	Teaching Assistant	
Year 4	Miss Dunn	Lower Key Stage 2 Leader and Year 4 Teacher	<a href="mailto:jessica.dunn@dunnington.yorkschoools.net">jessica.dunn@dunnington.yorkschoools.net</a>
	Mrs Collins	Teaching Assistant	
Year 5	Miss Sugden	Year 5 teacher	<a href="mailto:lorna.sugden@dunnington.yorkschoools.net">lorna.sugden@dunnington.yorkschoools.net</a>
	Mrs Birkenshaw	Teaching Assistant	
	Mrs Lockwood	Teaching Assistant	
Year 6	Miss Dickenson	Upper Key Stage 2 Leader/ Year 6 teacher	<a href="mailto:rachel.dickenson@dunnington.yorkschoools.net">rachel.dickenson@dunnington.yorkschoools.net</a>
	Mrs Lockwood	Teaching Assistant	
	Mrs Lockwood	PPA and SLT cover	
	Mr Sellers	Sports Coach	
	Mrs Askins	School Business Manager	
	Miss Hutchinson	Administrative Assistant	
	Mrs Falshaw	Clerical Assistant	

Please be aware that staff will endeavour to check emails each day but this cannot be guaranteed so for urgent matters, please leave a message with the school office.

We encourage staff to not send emails at weekends or between the hours of 5pm and 8am, to ensure a better work-life balance.

If urgent support is needed, please contact the school office (01904 552910).

### **Bug-Busting Week**

As is tradition at Dunnington CE School, the first week of every half term is 'bug busting week'. This approach to the problem has been very effective in working towards the elimination of head lice from our school. We would therefore like to ask for your co-operation in continuing with this regular event. We often have reported cases of head lice in school, so it is important to be vigilant. Please remember that we need every family to participate in order for our efforts to be effective.

Please proceed as follows:

Starting from today, please check for head lice and eggs and wet-comb the hair of every member of your family at least once every three days for at least one full week. Experts are divided as to whether wet-combing or chemical treatment is best but unless you find lice or eggs, it is better not to treat heads with chemical preparations.

If you are unfamiliar with head lice and would like more information or support about detection and treatment, please contact the school office. Thank you again for your co-operation.

### **PTA AGM**

The PTA are holding their Annual General Meeting at **7:30pm on Wednesday 4th October** at **Dunnington Sports Club**.

### **ALL ARE VERY WELCOME**

This is an opportunity to find out a little more about what we do and how you could be involved as a friend of the PTA or as part of the committee.

At this meeting we discuss possible events for the year and any input into the meeting, no matter how small, is greatly appreciated.

We are a friendly bunch and look forward to meeting new and familiar parents.

The PTA committee can now be contacted at: [dunningtonprimarypta@gmail.com](mailto:dunningtonprimarypta@gmail.com)

### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**

Last week, Mrs Rowntree shared the many clubs we have on offer with you. Please remember to sign up for them as advised in the letter if you would like your child to participate.

## Dates for your Diary

### Autumn Term 2023

Any additional dates will be added in bold each week.

#### September 2023

Year 5 and 6 Welcome Meeting	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 – 6pm
Year 3 and 4 Welcome Meeting	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 – 6pm
EYFS Welcome Meeting	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 – 6pm
Year 1 and 2 Welcome Meeting	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 – 6pm
Year 5 Trip to Murton Park	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
Year 6 Victorian Day	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2023

#### October 2023

Harvest Services in St Nicholas' Church Parents welcome	Monday 2nd October 2023 10 am- EYFS and KS1 11am- KS2
Census Day – Fun at the Fair Lunch	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
School Book Fair	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Influenza Immunisation	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Year 3 and 4 Pedestrian Training	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Parent Consultations	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
School Closes for Half Term	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2023

#### November 2023

Back to school	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2023
Individual School Photographs	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2023

#### December 2023

Tree Decorating Assembly	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2023
EYFS and KS1 Nativity	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 – 2pm Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December at 2pm
Christmas Parties	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
PTA Christmas Disco	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 <b>(TBC)</b>
Christmas Services in St Nicholas' Church Parents welcome	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023 10 am- EYFS and KS1 11am- KS2
School Closes for Christmas	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023
Staff Training Day	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023
Back to School	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024

### **Mascots**

A group of our year 3 and 4 girls represented Huntington u9s as mascots for the York City Ladies v Leeds United Ladies match last week. They came down the tunnel with the squad and enjoyed time pitch side watching a great match. What an amazing experience!



### **Blue Peter Book Club Badge**

Blue Peter has just launched the Blue Peter Book Club and children, aged 5-15 can easily apply for a Blue Peter Book Badge with the help of their parents/carers. You just need to write a little about a book you have read and what you think about it; upload an illustration of a character or a scene from the story and say what other books and authors you have enjoyed reading and why.



It's really easy to do and with a Blue Peter Badge, children can get free entry to lots of attractions around the country. Plus, the badge has been designed by Sir Quentin Blake, which makes it even more special!

For all the information and links to where you can upload your entry, go to: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/blue-peter-apply-for-a-book-badge>

We'd love to see you all show off your love of reading and earn yourself a Blue Peter badge at the same time! Mrs Elliott



As always, if you ever have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We look forward to giving you a snapshot to what is going on in school in next week's newsletter.

I hope you enjoy the rest of the week and I look forward to seeing lots of you at the class welcome meetings.

With very best wishes,

Clare Thompson