



DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pear Tree Lane

Dunnington

York YO19 5QG

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www.dunningtonprimary.co.uk

Head of School: Clare Thompson

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20th September 2023

Message from Mrs Thompson

Dear parent/ carer,

We have had another busy and fun-filled week in school. It has been lovely to see all the wonderful things going on in each class, including year 6's Victorian Day and year 5's trip to Murton Park. I was particularly fascinated by year 3's mummification experiment using tomatoes! Ask them about it if they have not told you already.

At the end of each newsletter there is a list of term dates. Please do cast your eyes over these. Any new dates will be added in bold.

Flu Immunisation

The Child Immunisation Service will be visiting school on Thursday 12th October to administer the nasal flu vaccine. Please find attached letter explaining how you register and give consent for your child to receive the vaccine.

Welcome Meetings

Thank you to all of you who have been able to attend the class welcome meetings and thank you to all of the staff for delivering these sessions. If you were unable to attend the session, you will be able to access the information shared via the class pages on the school website (<https://www.dunningtonprimary.co.uk/our-classes>). You will also find staff contact details on these pages. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you do have any questions. 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 (01904 552910).

We have rescheduled the reception class welcome meeting for **Wednesday 27th September** at **6pm**. Access to this meeting will be via the main entrance to the school.

Start of the day arrangements – Reception and Key Stage One

From tomorrow we will be trialling a soft start in Reception and Key Stage One. Instead of lining up on the Key Stage One playground, children can go straight into the classroom at any time between 8:50am and 8:55am. There will always be staff members outside, who will be able to take any messages, and there will always be a member of staff in the classroom, who will support the children to come in, get settled and begin their morning activities.

We hope that this soft start will help all of the children come in without any anxiety, it will stop the cloakrooms from being too crowded at the start of the day and it will also give the staff more opportunity to greet the children individually and make sure they are calm and settled for the day ahead.

KS1 resources

We are hoping to enhance our provision across Key Stage One to give the children more opportunities to develop their learning through play. If you have any of the following at home that you no longer have use for, we would be very grateful of any donations:

- Wooden Jigsaws
- Atlases
- Globes
- Small World Toys (mini figures/ animals/ props including playmobil)
- Wooden Train Sets

Key Stage One would also be appreciative of donations of jam jars with lids to support their upcoming English work.

As always, we are incredibly grateful of any donations you are able to make.

Message from the PTA

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

Christmas Card Competition

Please see attached letter about the Benefice of Rural East York Christmas Card Competition). If your child chooses to enter, they will have the opportunity to design a Christmas card which is to be delivered to all households in Dunnington, Stockton-on-the-Forest, Warthill and Holtby.

Message from Miss Sugden

Year 5 had an amazing time at Murton Park yesterday and we managed to stay dry too!

The children really enjoyed being Anglo-Saxon guards and watching out for invading Mercians and Vikings! We pushed ourselves trying to write using authentic Anglo-Saxon lettering and the children spent a lot of time adding 'illuminations' to their scriptures. We also managed to make some fantastic looking candles using beeswax and string; some children got to hold realistic swords, axes and one was even crowned King!

I would like to add an extra thank you for all the parental support, without this we would not have been able to go ahead with this great opportunity.



Year 6 Victorian Day

The children in year 6 absolutely loved their Victorian day yesterday. I was told that Miss Dickenson and Mrs Birkinshaw were very convincing -and slightly scary- Victorian teachers. The children were told they were forbidden from putting their hands up, could only speak when they were spoken to and had to stand up whenever they spoke to the teacher. In class, they had to write with their right hand, there was a dunce's hat and they had to copy a style of writing. They particularly enjoyed drill with lots of marching during PE. The children feel they really understand what Victorian school was like now and say it was a really fun day but they are pleased that the teachers aren't Victorian every day!

Look out for some photos that Miss Dickenson will share on the class page of the website soon.

Big Ambition Survey

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched **The Big Ambition**, a national survey of children and young people across England.

The Big Ambition aims to hear from children across England on what they think is important! In the lead up to the next General Election, the Children's Commissioner wants to take children's thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision-makers, to make sure that the Government hears young people's voices on what they think needs to be done to make children's lives better in England.

The Big Ambition survey will be open until Friday 15th December.

If your child would like to fill in the survey, please follow this link:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-ambition/>



**Dates for your Diary
Autumn Term 2023**

Any additional dates will be added in bold each week.

September 2023

EYFS Welcome Meeting (Re-scheduled)	Wednesday 27th September 2023 – 6pm
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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 th October 2023
School Book Fair	Wednesday 11 th - Friday 13 th October 2023
Influenza Immunisation	Thursday 12 th October 2023
Year 3 and 4 Pedestrian Training	Thursday 19 th October 2023 Thursday 26 th October 2023
Parent Consultations	Monday 23rd October 2023 (Year 3) Tuesday 24th October 2023 (Year 3) Wednesday 25 th October 2023 (Rec, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6) Thursday 26 th October 2023 (Rec, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6)
School Closes for Half Term	Friday 27 th October 2023

November 2023

Back to school	Monday 6 th November 2023
Yoyo Workshop – Year 5	Monday 13th November 2023
Individual School Photographs	Wednesday 15 th November 2023

December 2023

Tree Decorating Assembly	Friday 1 st December 2023
EYFS and KS1 Nativity	Tuesday 12 th December 2023 - 2pm Wednesday 13 th December - 2pm
Yoyo Assembly and Workshops – Year 1 and Year 4	Tuesday 19th December 2023
Christmas Parties	Wednesday 20 th December 2023
PTA Christmas Disco	Wednesday 20 th December 2023 (TBC)
Christmas Services in St Nicholas' Church Parents welcome	Thursday 21 st December 2023 10 am- EYFS and KS1 11am- KS2
School Closes for Christmas	Thursday 21 st December 2023
Staff Training Day	Friday 22 nd December 2023
Back to School	Monday 8 th January 2024

We hope you have a lovely week. As always, don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

With very best wishes,

Clare Thompson

Attachments

- The Grapevine Christmas Card Competition Letter
- Flu Immunisation Consent Letter and Information Letter
- Five Minute Read – Your Child's Screen Time – Parent Guide