



DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pear Tree Lane

Dunnington

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Head of School: Clare Thompson

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Thursday 2nd May 2024

Dear parent/ carer,

Message from Mrs Thompson

Thank goodness we have seen some sunshine this week! It has been wonderful to see all of the children playing together on the large playground and being able to finally enjoy the field – albeit the sections that aren't waterlogged! We are really looking forward to being able to make the most of our amazing grounds and maximise outdoor learning opportunities as the weather continues to improve.

I am sorry if I have not seen you at the gate as much in recent weeks – I am currently teaching in year 6 in the mornings. I am still endeavouring to be outside as often as possible at pick up time, but if you do ever want to chat about something, please feel free to email or leave a message with the school office – I will get back to you as soon as I am able.

SYMAT review

We had a review into the maths provision here at Dunnington on Tuesday which was led by staff from other schools across South York Mat. At the start of the day the review team talked to members of the leadership team, they then visited every class to watch lessons and gather staff and pupil voice before looking at the pupils' books and the maths curriculum.

None of you will be surprised to hear that the children did us proud and our visitors commented that we have an absolutely lovely school. The children were said to be extremely polite and a pleasure to speak to and behaviour for learning was thought to be very strong across all classes with children wanting to learn. There was said to be a lovely atmosphere in every class – children learn in an appealing environment, have access to a good range of resources, are given opportunities to self-reflect and are supported by incredibly skilled support staff.

Maths teaching was said to be strong – teachers were able to model effective strategies, were very clear in their explanations, used a good range of vocabulary, were skilled at addressing misconceptions and were able to question the children in order to extend their knowledge.

Whilst it was commented on that teachers know what they are doing and that measurable progress can be seen in every lesson, we were advised to focus on refining our curriculum to allow even more children to achieve greater depth, and more importantly, become confident, well-prepared and

successful mathematicians. This was already an area we had identified as something to focus on and it was really informative to have some discussions about how this may look going forward.

I was so proud to hear this excellent feedback. I know all the staff and children here work incredibly hard and do us proud every day – I was thrilled to hear these thoughts echoed by our visitors.

Farewell Mrs Birkinshaw

It is with a heavy heart that I have to let you know that Mrs Birkinshaw has taken the decision to retire at the end of the summer term. She has worked at Dunnington for 19 years and has always shown such commitment to the children in her care. She always goes to where support is needed, she works tirelessly to help children in need of extra intervention and she works incredibly hard to help the staff she works alongside. We will all miss you lots Mrs Birkinshaw but we look forward to hearing about the next adventures life will bring.



The Friends of Hagg Wood
CELEBRATION
To commemorate the Forestry Track
being recognised as a Public Right of Way

Children's Fun Quiz and Walk in the wood

Saturday 1st June
**Meet at 2.00pm at the far
end of Intake Lane**

To join the party in the Sports Club
at 4.00pm for refreshments and prizes

**Come and have fun. All children to be
accompanied by an adult, at your own risk.**

French Day

It is French Day tomorrow! Children are welcome to come in dressed in red, white or blue clothes, or a combination of the three. Each class will focus their learning on a famous French person. Additionally, they will listen to French music, try to speak as much French as possible and complete various French-themed activities through the day.

We look forward to telling you all about it next week!

Year 2 Parents Consultations

Year 2's delayed spring term parent consultations will be held on the afternoon and evening of Monday 20th May. I will send out a separate letter about this to year 2 parents with information about how to book.

Dates for your Diary

Summer Term 2024

New dates will be added in bold each week

Provisional sports day dates have been added.

April 2024

Y5 Squash	Friday PMs Up until the 10 th May
Year 4 Swimming	Thursdays AMs Up until the 20 th June

May 2024

French Day	Friday 3 rd May
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 6 th May – School closed
SATS week	Monday 13 th May – Thursday 16 th May
Class Photos	Thursday 16 th May
Census day/ Special Lunch	Thursday 16 th May
Year 2 Parent Consultations	Monday 20th May – 12:30pm-6:00pm
York Triathlon	Wednesday 22 nd May
Last day of half term for children	Thursday 23 rd May
Inset Day – School closed to pupils	Friday 24 th May

June 2024

First day back at school	Monday 3 rd June
Year 6 Residential to Boggle Hole	Monday 3 rd June – Wednesday 5 th June
Year 1 Phonics Screening Check (and year 2 re-takes)	Monday 10 th June to Friday 14 th June (week after for anyone absent during this week)
Year 3 and 4 trip to Magna	Thursday 13 th June
Year 5 Residential to Newby Wiske	Monday 17 th June – Wednesday 19 th June

July 2024

Provisional KS2 Sports Day	Tuesday 2nd July (Back up Thursday 4th July)
Year 6 Transition Day	Wednesday 3rd July
Reports sent out to parents	Friday 5 th July
Provisional KS1 Sports Day	Tuesday 9th July (Back up Thursday 11th July)
Year 5 and 6 Production	Tuesday 9th July and Thursday 11th July (evening- exact time TBC).
PTA Disco	Thursday 18 th July
Year 6 Leavers' Service	Friday 19 th July
Last day of term for pupils	Friday 19 th July

Disaggregated Inset Day – school closed for pupils	Monday 22 nd July
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As always, don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

With very best wishes,

Clare Thompson

Attachments:

Five minute read – Social Media <https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/social-media/>