



DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Head of School: Clare Thompson

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Wednesday 17th July 2024

Dear parent/ carer,

I can't quite believe we are coming to the end of this academic year and what a year it has been! I wanted to start by saying thank you to the whole community for welcoming me into Dunnington Primary so warmly. This is such a special school, filled with the most wonderful, polite, helpful, confident children and the most hard-working, dedicated, friendly and caring staff team you could ever wish for - it is a happy place and one that we should all be incredibly proud of.

Goodbyes

We have already said our goodbyes to the four members of staff who are leaving us in our incredibly special assemblies this week.

Mrs Askins - you are a superhero - juggling so many jobs at once, always being there to lend a hand, ready to deal with any scenario that is thrown in your direction. Thank you for the support and friendship - and endless first aid - you have shown us all. We hope you enjoy your retirement and the many, many holidays and adventures you will have. We will miss you.

Miss Sugden - you are a truly phenomenal teacher - you are beloved by the children who you teach - you inspire such confidence and such joy for learning. You will be so missed by your colleagues who you have been such an incredible friend to and provide with endless support. We know you will be just as loved and valued at your next school - they are very, very lucky to have you.

Mrs Birkinshaw - you have supported so many children and staff and made such a difference to so many lives. You are so creative and have such a wonderful relationship with so many of the children in your care. We hope you enjoy your retirement and your new home - we will miss you so much but know it is time for you to spend some time on you rather than us. Thank you for everything.

And Mrs Hancy - so much has been said already yet none of it feels enough- you are a phenomenal leader, who has expertly navigated the school through so many successes but also through both challenging and sad times. You care so deeply for the children, families and staff and you embody every single one of our values. It has been and is incredibly hard to say goodbye, but we are so honoured and privileged to have had you at the helm for so long. We have learned from the best and we are forever grateful for everything you have done. You cannot be replaced, you will never be forgotten, but we will do our very best to follow your lead and ensure that Dunnington remains such a special place to be. Good luck Mrs Hancy – you will be missed more than words can ever say.

Goodbye Year 6

We are also saying goodbye to a wonderful group of young people this week. Our current year 6 are such a special group - good humoured, incredibly intelligent, fiercely loyal, hard workers, amazing singers, confident - if not a little raucous at times! You have brought so much to Dunnington Primary School - thank you for letting us share your laughter, your smiles, your hard work, your enthusiasm and your many, many successes! Whilst it will be hard to say goodbye, you are all ready for secondary school. We can't wait to hear about the adventures yet to come.

Year 6 have certainly ended their time at primary school in style!

Last week, year 5 and 6 put on the most wonderful production of The Adventures of Superstan. I was completely blown away by the quality of acting, the wonderful singing and dancing, the soloists, the props and the lighting. The children all showed such confidence and independence – it really was your show – and it was clear to see how entertained the audience was. Thank you to the year 5 and 6 team for all your hard work and thank you to the parents/carers for supporting the children to learn their lines and equipping them with the most wonderful costumes. I think the stage is calling for some of our incredibly talented children.



Year 6 also celebrated their last week in primary school with a trip to York Maze yesterday. Despite the rain, Miss Dickenson said they had the most fabulous day. Thank you to the PTA for part-funding the trip and for the volunteers who supported on the day. As always, we couldn't have done it without you!



PTA

This week, Laura and Kirsty are stepping down from their role as co-chairs of our PTA. In recent weeks, the positive impact of the PTA is so clear to see. Not only do they run amazing events, loved by the children, but they have funded school trips and so many resources for classrooms. They are just embarking on a project with Mrs Priest to revamp our library and create a hub space in school. We are so grateful for everything Laura and Kirsty have done – their amazing organisation, their drive and their endless support. You will both be missed.

Sports Day

KS1 were finally able to have their sports day last Thursday. Each child took part in three races – a sprint, a novelty race and a relay. It was wonderful to see the children displaying such sportsmanship, cheering each other on enthusiastically. Thank you to all of the parents and carers who were able to watch and to all of the KS1 staff.

The scores for KS1 sports day had Rowntree (yellow) in first place, Craven (green) in second, Tuke (red) in third and Terry (blue) in fourth.

However, after totalling the scores from both sports days, Craven House came out as the clear winners! Well done to everyone.

Oleksii's fundraiser

A huge well done to Oleksii and his friends in year 5 who wove tirelessly to raise money for the children's hospital that was bombed in Ukraine. In addition to the donations raised online, a further £278 was donated in cash. We are so proud of you Oleksii – your determination to help is something you should be so proud of.

Staff News

This week we interviewed for a year 1 teacher to teach the class on a Thursday and Friday. We were delighted to appoint, Mrs Shegobin. She will come into school tomorrow to meet the children in reception and she will spend some additional time in school in September to ensure that a thorough handover takes place.

Important Announcements for next year:

Changes to the school day from September

We have made the decision to switch the start and finish times for EYFS/KS1 and KS2. From September, they will be as follows:

	Start Time	Finish Time
EYFS and KS1	8:45am (Soft start means doors would be open from 8:40)	3:15pm
KS2	8:55am	3:25pm

There are numerous reasons behind this decision – we feel the younger children would benefit from being in earlier so that more can be fitted in in the morning when they are most ready to learn. We feel the older pupils would benefit more from a longer afternoon as it would mean lessons could be more easily fitted in. We also feel this would enable our KS2 pupils to be more punctual, allowing us to have a softer start in the morning.

School uniform and PE days from September

From September, we would like the children to come in their PE clothes on the days they do PE in school, rather than getting changed whilst in school. We feel this will ensure the children have more time to do PE sessions and we also hope this will mean that children are dressed appropriately for PE sessions – we are finding that currently some children regularly do not have PE kit, or the kit they bring in is not school uniform.

We will confirm what days of the week PE is in September – each class will have two PE days.

In order for this to work, it is important that children wear the correct uniform on both PE and non-PE days.

As a reminder, the uniform is as follows:

School uniform:

- dark grey or black school trousers, skirts, pinafore skirts or shorts (not sports trousers)
- a school sweat top or cardigan in red or blue*
- a white, red or blue polo shirt or school shirt*
- a summer dress (optional) in red or blue check/stripes

*** these items can bear the school logo and can be purchased from School Shop (<https://school-shop.co.uk/> see flier below). However, there is no expectation that the school logo is worn*

Clothing for Physical Education:

- Black Shorts/ jogging bottoms
- White T- Shirt
- Black hoodie or sweatshirt (non-branded)

Footwear:

- To reduce costs and to ensure children can play safely, children can either wear sensible school shoes (black) or training shoes appropriate for sport. These should be dark and unbranded. They must wear trainers on PE days.

Jewellery:

- Earrings should be plain studs. These need to be removed for PE sessions.
- Watches and fitness trackers (no smart watches) can be worn but must be removed for PE.
- No necklaces, bracelets or rings should be worn.

Birthdays at school

From September, we will no longer be having birthday assemblies in KS1. However, we would like to invite children to wear their own clothes on their birthday (only if they would like to of course). If your child's birthday falls on a holiday or at a weekend, they can wear their own clothes on the day of the week that falls nearest to their birthday.

Dates for your Diary

New dates will be added in bold each week

July 2024

Frozen Fridays Ice lollies on sale for 50p in both playgrounds	Every Friday until the end of term
Afternoon tea and year 6 leavers' assembly	Thursday 19 th July – 2pm
PTA Disco	Thursday 18 th July
Year 6 Leavers' Service – school staff and pupils only	Friday 19 th July
Year 6 T-Shirt signing	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

2024-2025 (more dates will be added in the Autumn Term)

September 2024

Inset Day – School closed for pupils	Monday 2nd September
Inset Day – School closed for pupils	Tuesday 3rd September
First day of the Autumn Term for pupils	Wednesday 3rd September
Year 5 and 6 Welcome Meeting for parents	Tuesday 10th September 6pm
Year 1 and 2 Welcome Meeting for parents	Wednesday 11th September 6pm
Year 6 Victorian Day	Tuesday 17th September
Year 5 Trip to Murton Park	Wednesday 18th September
Year 1 and 2 trip to Harlow Carr	Wednesday 18th September
EYFS Welcome Meeting for parents	Wednesday 18th September 6pm

Year 3 and 4 Welcome Meeting for parents	Thursday 19th September 6pm
Whole School Lego Day	Wednesday 25th September
Parent Consultations	Teachers will be available on 2 out of the 3 dates, to be confirmed nearer the time. Tuesday 22nd October (until 7pm) Wednesday 23rd October (until 6pm) Thursday 24th October (until 6pm)
Last day of half-term	Friday 25th October
School re-opens for pupils	Monday 4th November
Tree decorating assembly	Monday 2nd December
Flu immunisations	Tuesday 3rd December
EYFS and KS1 Nativity	Tuesday 10th December 2pm Wednesday 11th December 2pm
Christmas Services at St Nicholas' Church Parents Welcome	Friday 20th December 10am EYFS and KS1 11am KS2
School closes for Christmas	Friday 20th December 2024

I hope you all have the most wonderful summer.

With very best wishes,

Clare Thompson

Attachments:

- York Summer HAF programme
- Parent carer newsletter
- Tiny Happy People Playtime Challenge

30 DAY PLAYTIME CHALLENGE

1. Pull as many silly faces as you can	2. Try some pretend role play	3.  Drum with pots and pans	4. Play hide and seek	5. Pair your socks together	6. Make some homemade play dough
7. Choose a sensory play activity	8.  Make your own rainbow	9. Make a cosy den	10. Make a game from bathtime	11. Play the traffic light game	12. Play with bubbles
13. Go on an outdoor adventure	14. Make a tower with building blocks	15. Pretend to be different animals	16.  Play "What's in the bag?"	17. Have a teddy bear's picnic	18. Have a dance party
19. Play a game of I-spy	20. Get creative with a box	21. Play a game of copycat	22. Try some clapping games	23.  Play with sock puppets	24. Play with a teddy bear
25.  Make a homemade jigsaw	26. Make a DIY toy	27. Play a "Ready... steady... go!" game	28. Play whilst cooking your tea	29. Play with paper	30. Make an obstacle course

1:30pm - Viewing of winning entries



The Village Green (Road closure application pending)

1:30pm - Y01 Radio commence broadcasting

1:30pm / 3:20pm - York RI Development Band

2:10pm / 4:00pm - Tengu Taiko Drummers

2:15pm - Fun Dog Show

2:50pm / 4:30pm - Morris Dancing

5:00pm - Tug of War!

Throughout the afternoon there will be children's donkey rides (in aid of the Yorkshire Air Ambulance), hog roast, coffee and ice cream vans.

Note: Dunnington Parish Council reserve the right to change the timings or cancel events.



The Snake Davis Band

7:30PM @ DUNNINGTON SPORTS CLUB
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE CLUB



Note: Dunnington Parish Council will be taking photos at this event that will be used for social media and publicity purposes. For more information, please see our website.

WWW.DUNNINGTONPARISHCOUNCIL.GOV.UK

DUNNINGTON VILLAGE SHOW
**CHILDREN'S
COMPETITIONS**

Saturday 10th August 2024

**A drawing in colour
of your pet
(or if you don't have a pet,
the pet you would like to own)**



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OR

**2 homemade decorated
muffins or cupcakes
(any flavour)**



cupcake PNG designed
by AlessandroPagn
from pagtree.com

OR

**Cress grown in an
UNUSUAL container**



Watercress designed
by shevika from
clearpng.com

RULES:

- Drawing can be any size and in any medium.
- All entries must be the child's own work.
- The judge's decision is final.
- Please make sure the child's name and age are presented with their entry, together with an adult's email address.
- All entries must be taken to the Reading Room before 10:00am on the morning of the show.



Note: Dunnington Parish Council will be taking photos at this event that will be used for social media and publicity purposes. For more information, please see our website.

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Your child is invited to sign up for the **Summer Reading Challenge 2024: Marvellous Makers!**

What is the Summer Reading Challenge?

The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children to keep reading during the school summer holidays – and to enjoy reading anything they like! Children aged 4-11 are invited to sign up, read/share 6 books over the summer and collect rewards for their reading. They'll collect stickers, a medal, and a certificate.

This year we also have some fabulous prize draws they'll be entered into where they could win family tickets to **Wonderlab, Clip n Climb, Aqua Splash, York Maze, Inclusive Music Project Holiday Club and Grand Opera House!**

Why should my child sign up?

- Becoming more independent in their reading boosts children's confidence and self-esteem.
- The library provides free access to books and low-cost fun family activities all through the summer.
- Library staff are on hand to offer support and book recommendations.
- They will be better prepared to return to school in the autumn.

How can my child take part?

Just visit your local library from **13 July** and sign up.

What do families think?

"Enabled us to have some fun cheap days out and reading together has brought us closer than before." Parent/carer of 8-9 year-old girl

"My child lacks confidence. Going to the library and meeting the friendly staff has definitely made him.

more confident in himself and encouraged him to read more being able to pick his own books to read from their huge collection." Parent/carer of 10-11 year-old boy

Sign up for free at your local library from Saturday 13 July!



Back to School

Back to School is here and by the end of July we'll have all our finished stock in the warehouse.

Orders can be placed as soon as you wish and if you needed to exchange any item before school starts in September, just send the item(s) back to us and we'll send the replacements straight away.

Orders can be placed online, or from 8th July you can book to come to our shop in Elvington.

The best way to ensure a prompt service if you come to our shop is to make an appointment and you'll be seen promptly. You can still just call to our shop but you may have a wait if we have people with appointments waiting.

Need Advice or help?

Quite often parents have a number of questions, particularly if your child is just starting school or starting a new school for example moving up to Year 7.

If you need any advice or have questions relating to uniform for your school, then please get in touch.

The best way to contact us is by e-mail and we aim to respond within 24 hours.

Send your questions to:

sales@school-shop.co.uk

Saturday Opening

We will start our Saturday opening as soon as schools break for Summer.

Our first Saturday will be 20th July and our last Saturday will be 31st August.

Our Saturday opening times will be 8am to 3pm, again we recommend making an appointment, just visit our website from 8th July to book.



The cut-off date for ordering uniform online before school starts in September is:

29th July

Uniform can be ordered any time throughout the summer, but to guarantee you have your uniform in time for school starting in September please ensure we have your order by 29th July.

Due to the volume of orders received it can take up to 2-3 weeks to process orders which are placed during Back to School.

If you require an update on an order, please allow 2 weeks from placing the order before you contact us for an update and the best way to contact us is by e-mail.

IF YOU DON'T RECEIVE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION OF YOUR ORDER FROM US, PLEASE CONTACT US STRAIGHT AWAY AS THAT MAY MEAN THERE HAS BEEN A PROBLEM WITH THE PROCESSING OF YOUR ORDER.