



DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pear Tree Lane

Dunnington

York YO19 5QG

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www.dunningtonprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Clare Thompson

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Friday 21st March 2024

Dear parent/ carer,

World Down Syndrome Day

Everyone is looking fabulous and utterly unique in their odd or bright socks today. Thank you to Miss Dickenson for bulking up the staff collection of amazing socks.

In Collective Worship this morning, we learned a little bit more about Down syndrome. We learned that every single person is unique and that this is something that should be celebrated. We learned that babies are born with Down syndrome, and will always have it. We learned that children with Down syndrome share some physical characteristics, but they look more like their families than each other. We also learned that there are people all over the world with Down syndrome.

We then learned about the causes of Down syndrome – we found out that most people have 23 pairs of chromosomes, making 46 altogether, in every single cell in their bodies. We discovered that these chromosomes are really important as they decide lots of things about us, like whether we will be male or female. A person with Down syndrome is born with an extra chromosome in every cell, so instead of 46 individual chromosomes they have 47.

We were told that children with Down syndrome go to school, watch TV, have friends, love to play, have feelings and are just like everyone else! They might find some things, like speaking, remembering or understanding, a little tricky at times, but they will still be able to learn – it just might take a little longer.

We then listened to Chloe, explaining what Down syndrome is (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_2rmDYfz4). The children were really inspired by this video. Chloe told us that only 1 in 1000 babies are born with Down syndrome in the whole wide world and that she was one of those lucky babies! She told us that we need to be patient and just ask if someone with Down syndrome needs help – sometimes they will want help, and sometimes, they will really want to do something on their own. She told us that she loves to play and have fun and we just need to treat her in the same way as everyone else. What a wonderful lesson for all of us to live by!



Survey reminder

Over the next two weeks, alongside all of the other schools in the South York Multi-Academy Trust, we will be gathering feedback from parents and carers about the parent experience here at Dunnington CE Primary School. We want you to be able to express your opinion on parent and carer engagement and your overall confidence in the school's strategy.

To complete the survey, please click here: <https://edurio.com/teacher/poll/4u3Ufp>

Surveys are completely anonymous and confidential, though the responses will be aggregated for the purpose of analysis. Please note that the survey needs to be completed in one sitting. The survey will be available until Friday 4th April and should take no more than 15 minutes to complete.

We have had 28 responses so far and would be really grateful if more families are able complete the survey so we can get a picture of what parents/ carers think is going really well, and what areas they believe we need to particularly focus on.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

Collective Worship Group

Collective Worship Group did a superb job of leading Collective Worship on Tuesday.

As a school, we have been focussing on the Christian value of forgiveness this half-term. The group acted out a bible story which demonstrated how Jesus can forgive others and then they acted out a drama about how others can be forgiven within school. At the end of worship we reflected, considering how we could be ready forgive others.



Not only was the acting brilliant, but the group led thoughtful discussions and shared a song with actions they had come up with themselves.

The rest of the school are always really excited when it is a Collective Worship Group assembly, and they did not disappoint!

Thank you PTA

Year 6 would like to say thank you to our amazing PTA for the class donation – they used it to buy books and felt tips. This donation makes such a difference and we are incredibly grateful to the PTA.



Sporting Achievements

The girls in Y4 took part in a football cup match and won 4- 3 in a great match against Forest of Galtres. They are through to the semi-finals (to be played before May half term).

The Y5/6 mixed football team lost in a very close cut match with Burton Green Primary. The final score was 3-2- it was a super match and very evenly matched.

Two Y3/4 dodgeball teams took part in the York School league event and played brilliantly against Elvington Primary and Lord Deramore's Primary. We came 1st and 3rd and the winners are through to the York finals on 2nd April at Huntington Secondary School 1pm-3pm (more details to follow).

Congratulations to Lance and Zoe who represented the school in the North Yorkshire cross country finals in Giggleswick this week. To qualify for this event is such an achievement. Lance showed incredible resilience after being injured in the race – instead of becoming disheartened he said he was even more determined than ever to compete again next year. What an amazing sporting attitude!

Thank you to all the parents who helped with transport and supporting the children. We are always proud of the Dunnington pupils when they represent our school in sporting events.

Celebrating Shakespeare's Birthday!

On Wednesday 23rd April, pupils in KS2 will be taking part in a range of activities to celebrate the life and works of Shakespeare, all run by the wonderful Gemma Curry of Hoglets Theatre.

All pupils in Year 3 and 4 will experience an interactive workshop titled: Shakespeare is Awesome! Developed originally for the Bradford Literature Festival, this engaging session explores Shakespeare's life, language, and audience.

Pupils in Year 5 and 6 will experience a workshop and play titled: 'Spooky Shakespeare Suitcase Theatre' Hags, hauntings, hobgoblins and more emerge from the spooky suitcase owned by Lady Macbeth (Dotty to her friends). These spectres from performances past need to retell their stories before they can find peace in the literary afterlife. But are they friends or will we need to be vanquished back into the suitcase?

We are excited to have Hoglets Theatre at Dunnington Primary School and know that pupils will enjoy the funny, energetic and unique children's theatre experience; a world of hand-made puppets, music and storytelling.

We would welcome a voluntary contribution of £2.16 from each pupil in KS2 via ParentPay.

Kind regards, Mrs Priest and the KS2 team

Lambing

James, in year 3, was very excited to tell us that his sheep had its lamb last night, and he was the one who delivered it. What an amazing experience! James has promised me he will let me know what the lamb is called on Monday.



Dates for your Diary

New dates will be added in bold each week – dates for after Easter will be added next week.

March 2025	
Swimming catch up for years 5 and 6	Tuesday afternoons
Year 3 and 4 Production	Wednesday 26 th March 2025 (6pm) Thursday 27 th March 2025 (6pm)
Friday 28 th March	Yoyo assembly and workshops for year 2 and 5
April 2025	
Year 5 Virtual Reality Space and Robotics Day	Tuesday 1 st April 2025
Autism Awareness Day	Wednesday 2 nd April 2025
Easter Church Services	Thursday 3 rd April 2025 10 am KS1 11am KS2
Easter Disco	Thursday 3 rd April 2025
School closes for Easter	Friday 4 th April 2025

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

With very best wishes,

Clare Thompson

Links/ Attachments:

- **Parent Carer Family Newsletter**
- **Autism Support for parents from the Specialist Team for Autism**
- **What Parents and Carers need to know about Streamers**



DROP IN but helps if you can book at Dunnington Library's helpdesk or via @DunningtonGIG's Facebook event link so our volunteers can make sure we have enough materials for the activities.

Tues 8th April

2.15-3.30pm

Nature IMPs

**Sow Bee-Friendly Flowers &
Get Crafty with Pollinators
at Dunnington Reading Rooms
(Small Hall)**

Please bring a 9cm plant pot
or empty 300ml yoghurt/cream pot
for each child if you can.



#NatureInMyPatch

Very kindly sponsored by **Dean's Garden Centre** and
Friends of Dunnington Library.

More info at <https://www.facebook.com/DunningtonGIG/>  DunningtonGIG@gmail.com

Disability Sport Yorkshire

ACTIV8 YORK

SUNDAY 13TH APRIL 2025

11:00 - 14:00

York Sport Centre, University of York,
James Way, Heslington, York YO10 5NA

Free entry! Sign up online, or register on the day



MEDeQUIP



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This Easter Holidays



York RLFC Foundation are running free turn up & play sessions across York this Easter. Suitable for children aged 5+

Mon 7th April - 10:30–12:30pm. Park Grove Primary Academy, YO31 8LG.
2 – 4 pm. Fulford Parish Field, School Lane, YO10 4LY.

Tues 8th April - 10–12pm. Woodthorpe Green Play Area, YO24 2RX.
2 – 4pm. Millennium Bridge, Fulford, YO10 4EF.

Wed 9th April - 10– 12pm. Strensall Village Green, YO32 5XW.
1-3pm. Our Lady's Church Hall, YO24 3DX.
2 – 4pm. Orchard Park, Huntington. YO31 9EA.

Thur 10th April - 10– 12pm. Acomb Green, York, YO26 5LR.
2– 4pm. Homestead Park, Clifton, YO30 5RE.

Fri 11th April - 10am–12pm. Oaken Grove Playing Field, YO32 3QW.
10am – 12pm. Our Lady's Church Hall, YO24 3DX. (indoor).
2 – 4pm. Hull Road Park, YO10 3AA

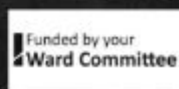
Sun 13th April - 12 – 2pm. LNER Community Stadium. YO32 9AF.

Mon 14th April - 2– 4pm. Homestead Park, Clifton, YO30 5RE.

Tues 15th April - 10–12pm. Park Grove Primary Academy, YO31 8LG.
2 – 4pm. Millennium Bridge, Fulford, YO10 4EF.

Wed 16th April - 10 – 12pm. Clifton Green Primary School, YO30 6JA.
2 – 4pm. Acomb Green, YO26 5LR

Thurs 17th April - 10 – 12pm. York Acorn RLFC, YO24 2N.
2–4pm Fulford Parish Playing Field School Lane, YO10 4LY.



yorkrlfc.com/schoolholidays #RISEUP | #WEAREYORK

CITY, KICK, ABOUT. IN THE PARK



FREE EASTER ACTIVITIES

JOIN OUR COACHES FOR FUN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY SESSIONS

**ORCHARD PARK,
HUNTINGTON YO31 9EH**



Book in advance using the QR code. Limited spaces will be available for turning up on the day. Parental supervision is required for 11 and under.

www.officialsoccerschools.co.uk/yorkcity

Thursday 10th April

Thursday 17th April

2pm - 2.45pm (4-5 & 6-7 years)

3pm - 4pm (8-10 & 11-14 years)

CITY, KICK, ABOUT. IN THE PARK



FREE EASTER ACTIVITIES

JOIN OUR COACHES FOR FUN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY SESSIONS

**ETHEL WARD PLAYING FIELD,
HAXBY YO32 3NU**



Book in advance using the QR code. Limited spaces will be available for turning up on the day. Parental supervision is required for 11 and under.

www.officialsoccerschools.co.uk/yorkcity

Tuesday 8th April

Tuesday 15th April

2pm - 2.45pm (4-5 & 6-7 years)

3pm - 4pm (8-10 & 11-14 years)



Easter Fitness Fun!

Swimming Courses

Ideal for kids aged 5+, our swimming courses cater to beginners and those looking to enhance their skills. Choose from exciting options like Rookie Lifeguarding and Snorkelling.

- 30-minute sessions
- 4 or 5 day courses
- Starting from £33

Join Our Junior Triathlon Day Camp

For ages 8 to 14, our camps focus on swimming, cycling, and running with expert coaching - all while having fun!

- Dates: 9th & 16th April 2025
 - Time: 10 am to 4 pm
 - Cost: £35 per day

Contact us to book your space!

Venue: [York Sport](#)

Email: info@york-sport.com | Phone: 01904 32575

Join us for

Mothering Sunday

Sunday 30th March 10.30am

at St Nicholas Dunnington or St Mary Warthill

In our shorter, all-age informal services we'll
be celebrating Mums, those who are like
Mums to us and those who parent us in faith

Help us build our

EASTER GARDENS

Wed 16th April 10am

St Nicholas Dunnington

Thurs 17th April 9.30am

St Mary Warthill

