

# NEWSLETTER

North Duffield Community Primary School  
*Growing Learners for Life*



## Mr Russell's Update

As a school, a lot of work went into making sure we could safely open for all our pupils in September. During the first half term of the academic year, we have been fortunate that Covid has not had a major effect on the health and learning of the pupils and staff. Since September, as a school community, we have all followed the measures that have been put in place to keep us all as safe as possible. I would like to say thank you to all the parents, pupils and staff for all the support.

The country has been placed into a second national lockdown. As stated by the Prime Minister, the schools will remain open. We are constantly reviewing the guidance sent by the Department of Education and are making alterations to the risk assessments when necessary. Please can I remind all parents that if you need to speak to any member of staff, we would prefer you to call or email the school office. However, if you do need to come into the building you must have a face covering, unless you are exempt, ensure you follow social distancing rules (2 metres) and use the sanitiser provided. Thank you for your co-operation.

### PARENTS CONSULTATIONS

Unfortunately, due to the restrictions placed on the number of adults we can safely have in school and the space we have to ensure social distancing, we are unable to offer a face to face consultation this term. We have decided to write reports for parents, explaining what your child has been learning, how they have settled back in to school and the areas we will be targeting in the coming weeks. As soon as the restrictions allow we will organise face to face meetings. If you would like to contact your child's class teacher please use the school email [admin@northduffield.north-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@northduffield.north-yorks.sch.uk)

### REMOTE LEARNING

We are working hard to make sure we will not need to close a class bubble. However, we have a contingency plan to ensure we can offer education to the children that may have to self-isolate. Using government funding we are intending to use Google Classroom as an online area for teachers, parents and pupils in Year 1 to 6 to communicate and find, complete and receive feedback on the work. The system will be up and running in November, each class will be accessing training on the correct use when online, as well as, how to find and submit work. Once we are able to fully roll out Google Classroom I will send further details and instructions for parents. Hopefully we will not need to use it. In Class One we have decided to continue using Tapestry. The staff already upload learning on the system to create the children's learning journeys, but we can also use it to set work and communicate with parents.

### PARKING

Due to the staggered start and one way system in place, it has been noticed that parking outside school on Broadmanor has been better. However, please can I remind anyone coming to school by car **must not park on the yellow zig zag lines or in front of the school gates**. We need to keep these areas clear for the safety of the children and to allow access to the school site in an emergency. Parking Enforcement Officers have and will be patrolling outside school.

It has been a different time for us all during the pandemic, but it is lovely to see the children and staff happy to be back in school, into a routine and enjoying learning.

# Harvest

Unfortunately, due to the current circumstances, we have not been able to celebrate harvest time with our usual festival. We have however been able to give the children a more hands on experience, by bringing in our first crop of school-grown fruit and vegetables!

Our Year 1 & 2 children did a fabulous job collecting lots of delicious courgettes, marrows and pumpkins from our vegetable plot and picking the ripest tomatoes off our vines. These were put on display in Class 2 and provided inspiration for some wonderful poetry and artwork.



## House Captains

We are delighted to officially announce our new Year 6 House Captains!

Mallards - Henry Farr, Captain & Sophia Foulds, Vice Captain  
Teals - Florence Corrigan, Captain & Dylan Ross, Vice Captain  
Sunbirds - Isaac Harrison, Captain & Evie Holroyd, Vice Captain  
Robins - Lewis Weightman, Captain & Sarah Hinchliffe, Vice Captain

We would like to congratulate each of them and wish them every luck in their new roles, we know they will make us very proud.

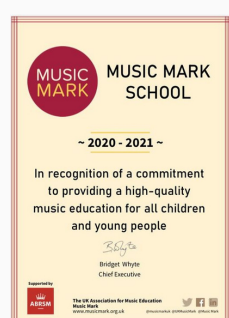
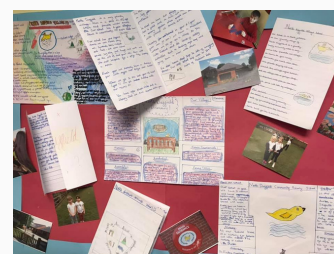
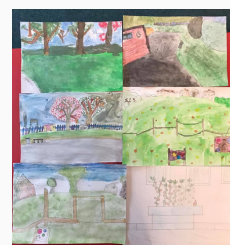
## Nepal Connections

We are very excited to be building a relationship and exchanging communications with Gorka Model School in Lamahi, Nepal.

We aim to promote global citizenship in the classroom, encouraging the children to think about the world beyond their community, experience different cultures and inspire curiosity.

Our Year 6 pupils have initiated contact, sharing information books about our school and paintings of "a view from our classroom".

We look forward to seeing what they send in return.



## Music Award

We are delighted to have been nominated by the North Yorkshire Music Hub to receive a Music Mark. We have been recognised for the value that we place on music in education. Music Mark members recognise the importance of the pursuit of learning to sing or play an instrument, learning to listen critically and compose and the myriad of other musical skills.

## Outdoor Areas

Getting fresh air and spending time outside has never been more important and we feel very lucky to have such incredible outdoor spaces for our pupils to enjoy.

We have divided the school grounds in to five zones, in order to ensure the class 'bubbles' are not mixing at breaktimes or over lunch. All children get to experience each zone during the week including; two hard surface playgrounds for basketball, skipping and hoops, the new sensory garden, the outdoor gym equipment, balancing and climbing on the obstacle course and tyre park, running (and rolling!) on the hill, exploring Forest School, building dens and two large grassed areas for football and many other imaginative games.

You can spot many of these wonderful areas on our aerial shot on the front page of this newsletter, kindly provided by Nigel Taylor. We have also made the papers twice in the last month with articles showcasing our sensory garden and Forest School.



Zack Jenkins, Class 3 - Winner of our Forest School Sign Competition, with his fabulous design professionally made by the York based signage company, Harrison Signs.



## Dates for the Diary

### November

- 11th - Remembrance Day
- 13th - Children in Need

### December

- 18th - Last Day of Term

### January

- 4th - INSET Day

## School Photos

Tempest Photography made a socially distant visit to school last month to take individual and sibling school photographs. All orders placed by 2nd November will be delivered to school free of charge, but you can still place orders and pay the P&P charge to have your photographs delivered to an alternative address.



## A Big Thank You

As we were unable to have our annual Summer Fayre at school this year, Olivia and Roseanna Uttley decided to hold their own mini fundraiser on our behalf. The girls sold homebaked treats, organised fun games and ran a stall on their driveway in July. All money raised was donated to the school, a whopping £85! Well done girls and thank you very much.



## Vacancies

We are looking for Co-Opted Governors and a Local Authority Governor to join our voluntary Governing Body. If you would like to know more about how you could make a difference, please visit the Governor page on our website.