

SUMMER TERM

NEWSLETTER

North Duffield Community Primary School
Growing Learners for Life



This term:

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Y6 RESIDENTIAL



Mr Russell's Update

We are at the end of another school year; the last 18 months have been difficult for us all in many ways and hopefully we will start to return to normal at school in September. Everyone at school would like to thank you for your support throughout lockdowns, home schooling and the return to school since March. I would also like to add my personal appreciation to the staff for their dedication in ensuring the children continued their learning and kept the school running, I would also like to thank parents (including staff) who had to home school their own children.

The children have been brilliant throughout the disrupted year, whilst we know they missed some learning and their friends, they have tried hard this term and are making good progress.

We will be sending out information, via email, regarding the start of the new academic year early in September, after any updated guidance from the Government.

MRS DE BETHEL

After working at North Duffield School for a number of years, teaching across Key Stage 1 and 2, Mrs de Bethel will be leaving us to start a new adventure. We would like to thank her for her hard work and the amount of time she has given to the school and the children. I am sure you will join me in wishing her all the best in her new venture.

Mr Russell's Update Continued...

MRS PEARS

We welcome Mrs Pears to the teaching staff at school. She has recently been working at Longman's Hill in Selby and has many years of experience teaching in Key Stage 1 in North Yorkshire and the East Riding. Mrs Pears will be teaching with Ms Henriques in Class 2 next year on a Thursday and a Friday. We know you will join us in welcoming her to North Duffield, she is an excellent addition to the staff.

LEAVERS

At the end of the year, we say goodbye and good luck to the pupils leaving the school, especially our Year 6's. Moving to high school is an exciting time, we know they are ready and will thrive from all they have learnt and been a part of at North Duffield School.



(Year 6 Residential, Allerthorpe Lake, July 2021)

SPORTS DAY

We managed to have our annual Sports Day this year, it was a glorious afternoon, KS1 and Early Years pupils showing great skill, determination and resilience in all the races, whilst KS2 treated us to many different activities and scores were really close. Due to the restrictions we could not invite the community to join us this year, hopefully that will be different next year. The result will now be announced at the Leavers Assembly on Friday 23rd July.



Finally, I would like to say thank you again for your support throughout the school year. Our school has a wonderful happy, family ethos with friendly, smiling, hardworking pupils and staff. We are proud of all their achievements this year and look forward to September (Tuesday 7th September) when we all return. Have a great, safe and enjoyable summer.



Charity Events

We have collectively raised a whopping £327 to donate to various charities, since returning to school in September.

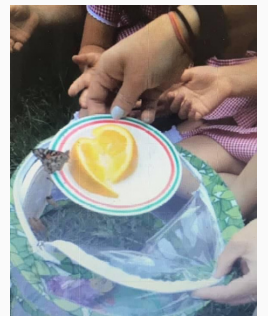
Children in Need received £157.70, our Poppy Appeal raised £37.26 for the Royal British Legion and our contribution to Comic Relief was £132.20.

Several children have also told us of their personal money raising efforts to support NHS Charities Together, to help in the fight against Covid-19.



Lifecycles

Class 1 spent over a month caring for and observing a group of caterpillars, as they underwent their incredible transformation into butterflies. The children have each made their own fact book based on their new knowledge of lifecycles, including wonderful diagrams and illustrations. After a bit of encouragement with fruit and flowers, four beautiful Painted Lady butterflies were successfully coaxed out of their habitat and released into the wild. All of the children have been sharing with us what their favourite part of the experience has been.



"I watched them fly away and shouted bye bye"

"Coming back to school and seeing them in cocoons"

"I loved them when they were baby caterpillars"

"When they turned in to butterflies they could fly"

"It was so much fun watching them fly away"

Forest School



We were absolutely delighted to receive a free tree for every single child in the school, from the Woodland Trust.

These have been planted by the children to create a boundary between Forest School and the playing fields and all around the perimeter of the school grounds. We have a mixture of Silver Birch, Rowen and Wild Cherry.

The children are taking responsibility to keep them safe from our outdoor activities, watering them in the hot weather and regularly checking on their growth.

If you would like to get involved at home please follow this link for some great activities;

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/>

Nepal Connections

On Wednesday 28th April, Year 6 discussed gender equality. We drew a boy and a girl and put post-it notes around them, listing whether we thought they had different expectations based on their gender. These were sent to the Gorkha Model school in Nepal we have partnered up with. They will now do the same exercise so that we can compare the results.

Young Voices



On Tuesday 15th June, Year 6 took part in the Young Voices Biggest Sing, where they broke the world record for the biggest choir (300,000) with other school children.

They sang 'Lovely Day' along with Billy Ocean, who joined them from the O2 London by video link.



Community Challenge

During lockdown, Selby High School set a challenge to walk, run and cycle 38,000 miles, 'virtually' stopping at seven wonders around the world.

We are delighted with how many of our families joined in with this challenge, keeping themselves fit and helping to raise awareness of mental health. A huge well done to you all!

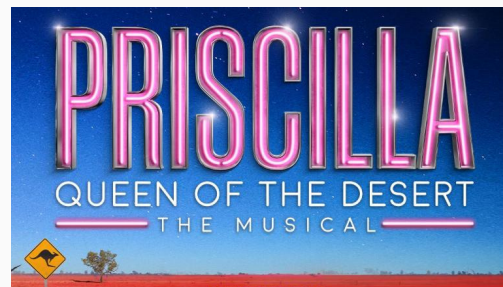


Congratulations

We are always very proud of the achievements of our pupils outside of school. Unfortunately, due to social distancing, we have not been able to hold our weekly Award Assemblies for over a year. We very much look forward to re-introducing these as soon as it is safe to do so and are certain there will be a great deal of celebrating to catch up on. However, we felt that a few achievements needed a special mention before our Year 6 class leave us for high school this week.

One of our pupils has been awarded 'Best Young Actress' for her part in a short film called 'Waiting Games' by the London Independent Films Awards. The film has been entered and short listed in other short film festivals, so we are hopeful that she may win a few more! This is a great achievement, the organisation receives nominations from all around the world.

Another pupil landed his first professional acting role as Benji in the touring production of Priscilla Queen of the Desert. He performed in four shows at the Leeds Grand Theatre earlier this month and thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. We are extremely proud of him and look forward to hearing about his acting success in the future.

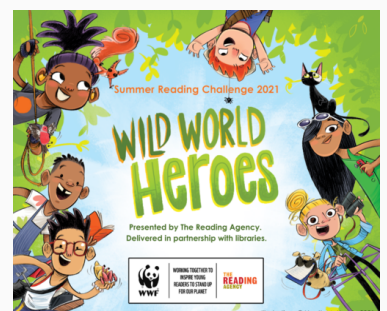


We would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate one of our Year 6 girls who came second for her year group in the North Yorkshire Sport Ultimate Warrior. A great sporting achievement! Well done to all of our pupils who took part in this exciting challenge as part of their PE lessons during lockdown.

Summer Reading Challenge

Children can once again sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge at their local library between now and 11th September. This year the theme is Wild World Heroes and is all about nature and looking after the planet. The challenge is to read 6 library books of their choice and collect special stickers and other prizes along the way – everyone who finishes will receive a medal and a certificate. There will also be a fantastic programme of online activities and some libraries may be able to hold their own branch events, depending on Covid restrictions.

For more information visit <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>



Community News

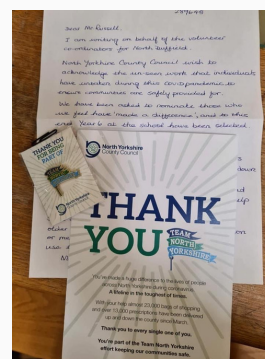
We would like to say a huge thank you for the generosity of our community and the hard work of the team at Laptop & Devices Donations. We were gifted enough computers to enable ALL of our pupils to access the vital technology they needed, to work either in school or remotely at home, during the lockdown periods. Neal Sargent, Dean and Jane voluntarily sourced, 'cleaned' and delivered over 50 laptops and tablets to primary schools in Selby and the surrounding area, what an incredible act of altruism.



It was a pleasure to take part in the NDU5's Village Scarecrow Trail earlier this month. Class 3 made a wonderful dragon, guarding a nest of eggs and Class 4 created Harry Potter and Aragog the spider. A big well done to one of our Year 3 pupils and her family for winning First Prize with their fabulous Wizard of Oz display!



Our Year 6 children were acknowledged for their help during lockdown, to support those in need within our community. North Yorkshire County Council and the volunteer co-ordinators sent a thank you pack to the pupils for the posters they designed and created, to raise awareness of the village helpline. If you are isolating at any point and require help, please ring Judith on 289648 or Emma on 282274.



The Skipwith Heritage group have been in school to talk to the children about their latest project. They brought lots of fascinating artefacts with them including dinosaur teeth and Stone Age pottery. They are currently carrying out an archaeological investigation in the local area and would like to involve our community in this exciting exploration. Geophysics has suggested there could have been a moated Manor House standing on the site, dating back to William the Conqueror. They will be holding a family day and doing tours around the site over the Summer.



Dragons

We are sure most of our pupils and their families have now heard the rumours that we have had a dragon at school! It all started earlier this term, when Class 3 began reading "The Boy Who Grew Dragons" by Andy Shepherd. They then started writing their own stories and haiku poems and creating some amazing art work, the clay dragon eyes were very lifelike. Mrs Duffy then discovered a nest, hidden amongst the trees in Forest School. With their new knowledge of dragons, Class 3 were certain the colourful eggs had been laid by one and reports then started coming in from children all over school of sightings.

We felt it was best to call in the specialists. PC Angela Hollywood from our neighbourhood policing team cordoned off the area around the nest and Andy Shepherd advised the children on how to stay safe when the eggs hatched. A glimpse of the dragon was then caught on our outdoor security cameras late one evening - to see this incredibly rare video footage please visit our Facebook page. On 17th June the eggs finally hatched. York Mix Radio caught wind of our story and ran a feature on their Late Show, you can listen again here - <https://soundcloud.com/theyorkmix/yorkmix-radio-north-duffield-dragons>. It has been a very unusual and exciting time and one Class 3 certainly won't forget!



Reminders

Please can we remind parents/carers that if you are bringing children in to school after their start time, you must come via the school office and not go straight to their class entrance. Thank you.

Please can we also note that school lunch accounts should always be kept in credit. School meals must be paid for in advance via Parentpay. ParentPay offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please note that for the next academic year 2021-2022 school meal prices will be kept at £2.50.

Dates for the Diary

July

- 23rd - Leaver's Assembly
- 26th - INSET Day
- 27th - Summer Holiday Begins

September

- 6th - INSET Day
- 7th - Autumn Term Begins



<http://www.northduffield.n-yorks.sch.uk/website>



<https://www.facebook.com/northduffieldschool/>



<https://twitter.com/northduffieldsc>