## DUNCTON CE JUNIOR SCHOOL

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### GRAFFHAM CE INFANT SCHOOL

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Friday 7th February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers.

It's been another super busy week at both schools – I can't believe how the time is flying. I have now met with several wraparound care providers and will be sharing details and options with governors next week. We have written a short survey which we would really appreciate you completing to help our decision making about setting up breakfast and after school childcare going forward.

This week, I have had some training from consultants at the Diocese of Chichester on SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools). Duncton school will be inspected at some point this academic year, so we are busy preparing for this. Here is a link to Duncton's most recent SIAMS inspection report from 2017 <u>Duncton S48 January 2017.pdf</u>

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Charles Beckerson

We are reviewing the wraparound care provision at Graffham and Duncton schools with the view to offering a new breakfast club (including breakfast) from 7.45am until school starts in the morning and an extended afternoon provision until 6pm (including tea). We would like to find out if parents at Graffham and Duncton schools would use these services and would be grateful if you could respond to the questions below.

The survey will close at 5pm on Monday 10th February so please submit your answers before then.

Please click on this link

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BKT7KGB

Next Week		
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 5 to MRC Rother Valley All Sing 9.30-11.30	
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Girls Football Match at Petworth Primary - 1.30-3pm	
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	COLOUR DAY!! Wear YOUR OWN CLOTHES AND YOUR FAVOURITE COLOUR to school for a £1 donation to the FGD	
	Cake raffle FUNDRAISER at the end of the day at BOTH schools with FREE hot chocolate for all children:)	
	Future Dates	
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> February	HALF TERM	
Wednesday 26th February	Duncton whole school trip to Arundel Wetlands Year 3-6	Letter will come home to parents next week
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Friends of Graffham and Duncton AGM	Graffham school 9am
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Preloved Clothes & Bags of Support Collection Day	Please drop off any clothes to the school reception on this day.
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Rescheduled Football match at Petworth Primary Y546	
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day	Information to follow
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Rescheduled Bags of Support Collection	Deferred by a week to allow FGD to hold a Pre-loved Clothes Sale beforehand. More details to follow.
Wednesday 12th March	Year 6 Residential	
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	INSET DAY	
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Teacher Consultations Years R&1 - Wren/Mrs Wethered (1.30-4.30pm) Years 1 & 2 — Kingfisher/Mr Lloyd (1.30-4.30pm) Years 4 & 6 - (3.30 - 6pm) Mrs Harris and Ms Bassett	Bookings will open after half term.  Please sign up via the school office from 24th February,
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Y3 Visit to Pizza Express Arundel	Information to follow
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Teacher Consultations Years R&1 – Wren/Mrs Wethered (3.45-6pm) Years 1 & 2 – Kingfisher/Mr Lloyd (3.30-6pm) Years 3 & 5 - (3.30 - 6pm) Miss Woods and Ms Bassett	Bookings will open after half term.  Please sign up via the school office from 24th February,
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Y4 Visit to Pizza Express Arundel	Information to follow
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Yrs R, 1 & 2 Astronomy Roadshow – A Mobile Planetarium  Dome is coming to the School Hall in Graffham	Information to follow
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Year 5 and 6 Visit to Tangmere Aviation Museum	Information to follow
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	INSET DAY	

<sup>\*</sup>New dates/additions are in GREEN

# **Parent Notices**

• We have had a case of NITS @ Duncton, please can you all check your children's hair this weekend.

#### Wren Class Year R and 1

This week in Wren class we've been busy bees learning about height, length and we've measured sticks, dinosaurs and ordered objects from the shortest to the tallest. On Thursday we had our first collective worship in Graffham church with Rev Vivien and we talked about one of our school values; Hope. We have also enjoyed creating our dinosaur sculptures (more photos on class dojo) and added long winding necks, spikes and heads to our bodies! They're all looking fabulous! Next steps will be firing in the kiln.









### Kingfisher Class Year 1 and 2

This week in Kingfisher class, Year 2s have made amazing progress in their multiplication learning. They're excited at the idea of starting to learn their tables. We've all been writing postcards about our past holidays inspired by Meerkat mail too and have come up with some brilliant vocabulary around food we've eaten on our holidays. The children have all also really enjoyed learning a classroom classic - Right said Fred by Bernard Cribbins. It's catchy though. Ask for a rendition at your peril!



#### **Kestrel Class Year 3 and 4**

Elizabeth, Gabriella and Maisie are reporting from Kestrel Class for the Friday Flyer this week. When we came in from break on Wednesday, we noticed there was a letter on the board. It was from Mr X! He asked us to learn some more about the Vikings and write back to him. In English we have been learning about Viking Gods, some of them are Loki - he is a trickster and mischievous, Freya - she is the Goddess of seasons, love and beauty. As well as Odin and Thor - he has a giant hammer which can make lightening, and he can bring back animals from the dead. On Thursday morning Year 3 went on a trip to MRC to the Big Sing, we sang a song called 'Together'. We also sang songs with lots of actions - there were lots of other local schools there too. It has been a fun week!



# Peregrine Year 5 and 6

This week we spent time learning about The Blitz and how people in cities, built Anderson shelters in their gardens to protect themselves from the constant bombing. We also saw how Morrison shelters were used inside houses. They looked like cages.

We are creating our own WW2 dances, incorporating steps from the Charleston, Lindy Hop and Lambeth Walk.

In art we are finishing our eye-catching propaganda posters for 2025.

In RE we are exploring Islam and Judaism thinking about Commitment to God and Sacred Texts.

Our Christian value this week is hope. We talked about Noah's Ark. by Charlie and Elodie Year 6



Y6 Gymnastics this week

# Thank you for all your DONATIONS this week for the FOODBANK challenge

Thank you to everyone that has brought tins in this week for the foodbank challenge, it's not too late if you would like to dop one in on either Monday or Tuesday next week.



### Volunteers wanted

### Help us to bring back Mavis and Buttercup!

We love our Graffham chickens – Mavis and Buttercup. You may have noticed that they haven't been roaming around the school recently. We would like them to return to school so that all of the children can enjoy their company, but in order to do so we are looking for a volunteer (or team of volunteers on rota) to let them out on Saturday and Sunday mornings, and put them away again at the end of each day. Please let us know if you can help.



#### Join Us as a Library Volunteer at Duncton: Share Your Love for Books and Make a Difference!



We have a fabulous library and a great selection of books, with regular donations adding to our collection all of the time. We are asking for a volunteer to come into school for an hour or two, once a week, to help us make the most of the library – organising the books, helping children to navigate around what we have, and generally making the most of this wonderful area of our school.

### LEGO CLUB AT DUNCTON

Finishing off our Spectacular Space theme this week the children were tasked with building Aliens .

Noah did a simple yet awesome alien called George, Edith and Elizabeth built some lovely friendly and colourful aliens whereas Jack went with a robotic dragon!

Well done all on your super builds! Looking forward to next week!



















# Children's Mental Health Week 2025 - Know yourself, grow yourself.

'Heads On' is the official charity for Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust who deliver child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) in Sussex and Hampshire.

They have sent out this link which we would like to share with you which shows how you can access CAMHS' series of pre-recorded webinars. The topics cover a range of difficulties that your young people may be experiencing and provides guidance on how you can support them.

https://www.sussexcamhs.nhs.uk/resources/resources-for-families-carers-and-professionals/parent-and-carerworkshops

Over the past few years, 'Heads On' have created a series of resources for Children's Mental Health Week covering a range of subjects. These resources were created in conjunction with CAMHS. If you would like to access any of the past resources, please email <a href="mailto:spft.headsoncharity@nhs.net">spft.headsoncharity@nhs.net</a>

'Heads On' will be supplying new resources for World Mental Health Day, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025. They would love to hear about what sort of resources you would like to receive, please email <a href="mailto:spft.headsoncharity@nhs.net">spft.headsoncharity@nhs.net</a>

#### **FGD NEWS**

Hi everyone,

One more week until half term break! It's been a cold, grey few weeks so hopefully some brighter days are around the corner.

To kickstart the week off for the children, we have been looking at some simple fundraisers to end this half term, with a bake sale in both schools and a colour mufti day. Any value donation is appreciated, and as always, ALL funds raised go back into the schools.

As a reminder, 'Bags of support' collection is arranged for after half term. Please drop in any clothing donations into reception the 27th February for Pre-loved clothes sale and Bags of support collection

Thank you and enjoy your weekend.

FGD Team.



# Cake Raffle



At Graffham we had this delicious lemon drizzle cake baked by Amy Dean (Fleet's mum from Year 1). Thank you Amy.

Our lucky winner was one of the teachers this week. Well done Miss Carter - Enjoy!



At Duncton we had a mystery cake that was being baked as we were writing this newsletter, thank you to Christoph for baking this for us (Petey Y4 and Alfred Y6)

Our lucky winner who will be taking the mystery cake home this week is Charlie Allfrey-Enjoy them over the weekend ©

#### Reverend Vivien writes:

Our assembly was very exciting for me today. Mr Beckerson had said, why don't we have your assembly in church sometimes, Revd Vivien. I said, yes please! So, we did today. I reminded the children that when we have assembly in school, we make the hall a special place for God to be in our minds and in our hearts and all around us. I also say, we can make anywhere a special place like this if we want to. The children agreed, suggesting a hospital or your own home or a classroom too can be special to think about God and have quiet time with Jesus. The special thing about a church though, is that it has been built for exactly that reason. And every time we come to church now, we can discover a bit more about how this space helps people to do that.

Today we saw some beautiful flowers in church. I explained they are here because soon lots of people will be coming into church to say thank you to God for a lovely old lady called Frances whose long life is complete with all the happy memories her family and friends have enjoyed together.

I told the children something very special about the flowers. On Frances's wedding day, when she was a young

lady, she had beautiful flowers in her wedding bouquet. So, her family said, let's have exactly the same kind of flowers in church for her special thank you day. That's a very lovely thing to do, and it will make everybody smile.

I said something else is very special about the flowers. They make us think of another day that we put beautiful flowers in church. Easter day, the happiest day in the year for people who are friends of Jesus. When we discover Jesus is our friend always, for ever and ever, is Frances' friend for ever and ever. That is a very hopeful thing for beautiful flowers to remind us of, on a thank you day like this.

As the children have thinking about hope all this week, we sang a very happy song about Mr Noah and his ark and the rainbow in the sky, another sign of hope. And in our quiet time with Jesus, we thanked God for churches to think of Jesus in and special people whom we have loved.







