



# Durants News



## Newsletter Spring 2024

A note from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

As always, this has been a very busy term at Durants school. Please read below to find out about some of the fantastic things we have been up to. May I also take this opportunity to wish you all a lovely Spring Break and we look forward to seeing the children back on Monday 15 April 2024.



### Easter Market

We held the Easter Market in the hall last week. This was to raise funds for DEAL

The market was a huge success, the pupils enjoyed all activities on offer and DEAL raised £270 on the day. Thank you to everyone for your support.

### Easter Egg Hunt

We had a wonderful Easter Egg Hunt on Friday, the pupils thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the event & of course enjoyed their Easter Eggs. This was funded by DEAL.



### Godfrey the Therapy Dog

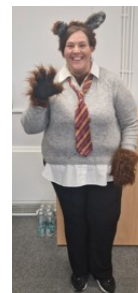
We are really lucky at Durants school to be involved with 'Therapy Dogs Nationwide'. It is a charity where visiting

volunteers take their own dogs into establishments to provide comfort and stimulation. The children have the opportunity each half term to visit Godfrey and his owner Pam. Some children are very confident around dogs and enjoy walking Godfrey around the school hall with Pam, while others are a little more apprehensive and may look through the window one week, stand in the hall the next and then hopefully stroke the dog. We always go with the child's lead and carefully supervise the children at all times.

We know that Godfrey supports our children to feel more at ease around dogs in their community and also offer comfort. For more information follow the link <https://tdn.org.uk/>.

### World Book Day

We celebrated World Book Day. Pupils and staff dressed up as their favorite characters from their favorite books. The pupils really enjoyed a wonderful day.



## March 2024

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# Transport for London

## Travel Training



The students from Durants School had an incredible opportunity on 7 March to learn valuable travel skills from the experts at Transport for London. During the session students were taught how to act whilst travelling on a bus, which included positive behaviour while riding and how to handle uncomfortable situations with other passengers. The experience was enjoyed by all and many students had their first ride on a red bus. The staff and students alike are grateful for the opportunity. A big thank you to Claire, Tara and Ariel from Transport for London for their outstanding support and skills teaching our students.

### Winchmore ARP-2 Trip to Imperial War Museum- London

We had an exciting opportunity to visit the Imperial War Museum on 9 February as part of our World War II studies in history.

We explored the retired commercial planes, which we found were very different to the ones nowadays. We walked to the Land Warfare hangar, where there were lots of vehicles including tanks, military jeeps and much more. We also got to see the olden day military uniform, which we enjoyed trying on.

Everybody enjoyed the trip and found it exciting and extremely interesting. It was very powerful and showed us all just how catastrophic World War II was and how many lives were lost. It was a great opportunity for everyone to learn and discover together.



## Isaac Newton class - boat trip on the Thames



On Friday 22 March Isaac Newton class embarked on an unforgettable boat trip, fulfilling a dream that had long been cherished by Allegresse. The incredible experience was made possible when Allegresse was awarded the Jack Petchey award and decided to use it for this once in a lifetime journey. The students were ecstatic as they set foot on a boat for the very first time, creating memories that they will treasure forever.

## Maths Challenge - Anne Hegerty class VS Armani Williams Class

On the 23 February, Anne Hegerty Class issued a challenge to Armani Williams Class: a Maths tournament between classes. Anne Hegerty Class organised a range of mini-games, including activities focused on patterns and symmetry, a calculator challenge, and number problem-solving tasks. Each pupil from these classes had the opportunity to participate in the challenge, aiming to secure the prestigious class trophy and a bag of delicious treats. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the competition, relishing the chance to go head-to-head and collaborate as a team. In the end, it was Anne Hegerty's class that emerged victorious, proudly claiming the grand prize for their class.





On 8 March 2024 it was International Women's day.

Shannon was asked by her teacher to write a speech, from the perspective of a young woman with autism, that she could read out to all pupils and staff in the Southgate assembly on Friday 8 March.

Please see below her amazing speech.



"I am an autistic woman and I was only diagnosed at three year old. Most of the girls and women weren't diagnosed at an early age, because they were masking the symptoms. It feels like I am different from other normal people, but that's O.K.

What's being different is not being able to play sports what men play because they would not just play with you but ignore you sometimes.

But I am able to have artistic skills and also, I'm quite intelligent as well!!!! Every gender should have rights!" (Shannon Bako)

Shannon read beautifully and we are all very proud of how Shannon's confidence has grown.

Thank you from D.E.A.L

I am happy to share that DEAL is thrilled to have received your support, which enabled us to successfully fund the Easter Egg Hunt and also provide drinks during the bake-off competition.

Your support plays a crucial role in helping DEAL fund various activities for all our students to enjoy and promote their progress. Thank you for being part of this journey and helping us achieve our goals to support the students.



## End of Term arrangements

School will finish for the Spring Holiday at the normal time of 2.50pm on Wednesday 27 March 2024 as

Thursday 28 March 2024 is an inset Day.

School will re-open at the normal time of 8.50am on

Monday 15 April 2024