



# Durants News

March 2012

## Ofsted Update

Following our OFSTED visit on Wednesday 21 and Thursday 22 March, Durants has been judged to be a **GOOD** school. This demonstrates the great progress the school has made since the last inspection where OFSTED considered Durants to be only satisfactory.

This is all down to the fantastic effort made by all the staff at the school. We do appreciate the huge support we get from our governors in moving the school forward. We also really value the enormous positive contribution to Durants that our parents make. Without the partnership between school and home that has developed at Durants our pupils would not make the great progress they do. Well done to everyone.

## Cashless system

Please remember that as from Monday 16 April 2012 the school will be implementing a cashless payments system for school meals. Durants School will no longer be accepting cash or cheques for school dinner money.

Please could Parent/Carers ensure their on line account is topped up at

Our next goal must be to make OFSTED judge Durants to be Outstanding in three years time!!!

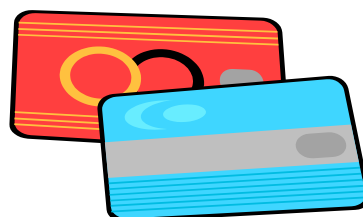
I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome our new Parent Governor Mr Vincent Sailsman and Community Governor Sophie Castell to the Board of Governors. I know that they will both help the Governors ensure we all do our best for the pupils.

Have a good Easter holiday.

Peter De Rosa



all times. It is recommended that you top up a week in advance so that you are always £10.00 in credit.



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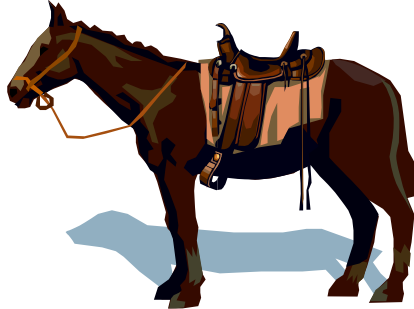
www.durants.enfield.sch.uk

## Inside this issue:

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Ofsted update        | 1 |
| Cashless system      |   |
| Horse riding         | 2 |
| Friends of Durants   |   |
| Siblings Group       | 2 |
| Swimming/Transport   |   |
| Science Museum       | 3 |
| Café/Panathlon       | 3 |
| Indigo - Out & About |   |
| Sports Relief        | 4 |
| Dance Festival       |   |
| Easter holiday       | 4 |

## Orange Class

**Orange Class** have enjoyed going to Gillians Riding Stables every Friday morning this half term. All the pupils who have been going have liked stroking their horse. It has been a very successful experience for them and they have become more confident in the saddle. During the lesson, over the past two weeks, they have been able to trot. Judging by the squeals of excitement, the boys are thoroughly enjoying their lessons!



## Friends of Durants

Friends of Durants School are contributing towards horse riding lessons for various classes within the school.

The feedback from the staff is that the pupils are thoroughly enjoying this activity.

Further classes will be going after the Easter holiday.



## Siblings Group

On Thursday 15 March, Siblings Group got together for an unusual evening!. ZooLab sent one of their rangers over to show us some of their critters. Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening, some were even brave enough to touch the animals. There was a snake, a snail, a rat, frogs a tarantula and a cockroach! The evening was finished off with a jump around in soft play! Thanks to everyone for a lovely evening. Photographs can be seen on the website.



## Swimming

**Lilac, Amber, Gold, Silver, Red and Yellow** Classes have all been accessing swimming at Southbury Road Leisure Centre this academic year. All the pupils have been working really hard to develop their skills and most of the pupils have achieved one or two badges this academic year.

Well done!

## Transport

**Yellow Class** have been looking at different types of transport to support their learning. They went out and about on the minibus to see what different types of transport they could see. Then on Thursday 22 March, **Yellow class** went on a trip to Andrewsfield Aviation. Pupils took turns to explore and sit in a small aeroplane. The pupils had an amazing experience. On Tuesday 27 March **Yellow class** travelled on two buses and two trains. The pupils were really good and enjoyed both experiences. Photographs of these trips will be appearing on our website soon.

## Science Museum

**Silver Class** spent a lovely day at the Science Museum. As members of the School Council they went to gather some ideas for equipment for our Sensory Garden. They spent time in 'The Garden' exhibition and tried out some interesting pieces of equipment.



## Gold Class

**Gold Class** tuck shop has been running for the last five weeks on a Friday, in order to promote the exchange of money in a 'real life' situation. We ask pupils to bring a small amount of money (e.g. a maximum of 20p). The classes who come on a regular basis look forward to the activity. It also enables **Gold Class** pupils to meet their peers and practice their money and communication skills.



## Indigo Class – Out & About Sessions



**Indigo Class** are all accessing our out and about sessions. This term they have been working on going into different sweetshops, being able to make a choice and being able to pay for this item. Their confidence in the community is increasing and using a familiar structure has helped them to be less anxious in new environments. Well done **Indigo Class**.

## Panathlon Challenge

**Amber Class** took part in the Panathlon Challenge at Southbury Leisure Centre on Tuesday 6 March. They were part of the Enfield Team, competing against Waltham Forest and Haringey.

The students took part in Polybat, Boccia, New Age Kurling, Table Cricket as well as field athletics including standing long jump and shot putt. All had a wonderful sporting time and came away with several medals.



## Sports Relief

Durants School took part in the Sports Relief Mile. **Red, Amber and Blue** classes took part in a sponsored walk to Durants Park and completed their one mile challenge—**Amber class** completed 3 miles. They had a fantastic time and had a little picnic in the park after our walk. The rest of the school cycled 300 laps of the playground.

All pupils and staff enjoyed the day immensely. The pupils and their families raised £101.20.



**We wish to thank everyone for their support!**

## Dance Festival

Pupils in Red, Blue and Lilac will be performing at the Enfield Dance Festival on Tuesday 26 and Thursday 29 March. They will be dancing to the theme of inspirational music of the past and present. **Good luck to all participating.**



## Easter Holiday

The Easter holiday commences Monday 2 April to Friday 13 April.

**School will finish at the normal time of 3.00pm on Friday 30 March.**

**Pupils to return to school on Monday 16 April at the normal time of 8.50am.**

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## World Autism Awareness Day

**Please Support World Autism Awareness Day**

**At Durants School**

**Thursday 29 March 2012 - 9.30am—12.00 noon**

**Music, snacks, stalls, class performances and a balloon launch.**

**PLEASE COME ALONG**

