



Durants News

A note from the Headteacher

As we reach the end of the first term of the school year I know I speak for all the staff when I say how proud we are of all our students. They have all worked hard throughout the term and have shown really good progress.

Thank you very much for all your support as yet again we have seen how, with home and school working consistently together, our young people do well.

Staff

We sadly had to say goodbye to two Teaching Assistants. Max Mitchell and Zoe Loizou have both moved on to new posts. Fortunately we have been able to welcome Costas Vrahimis, Tashan Charles and Daniel Nathan to the staff who are already well known to Durants.

Enfield Carers Centre

Counselling for Carers now available at Enfield Carers Centre. Free counselling service for unpaid Carers in the Borough of Enfield.

Sessions held:

- ◆ Wednesday afternoon
- ◆ Thursday morning
- ◆ Fridays



I hope you all have an enjoyable and restful Christmas.

Peter De Rosa
Headteacher



December 2012

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Race Night

On Friday 16 November 2012 The Red Lion hosted a Race Night to raise money for sensory equipment to be used in the Sensory Garden. Through massive support from staff, parents and Red Lion regulars we managed to raise a grand total of £561.10.

The event was great fun and a huge success.

A big thank you to the Red Lion for allowing us to use their venue and to the DJ Chris for supporting us by hosting and commentating the race night.



Aladdin

On Monday 17 December, we welcomed Parents/Carers to watch the students perform in our production of Aladdin and Christmas Songs.

The students were fantastic and we are very proud of their performances, particularly the soloists and dancers.

Thank you to all Parents/Carers who attended and helped make this event a success.



RAF Museum

On Wednesday 28 November Gold Class visited the RAF Museum in Hendon as part of their History topic on War.

The students really enjoyed looking at the different types of aircraft used in past and present conflicts.

The students were really well behaved and celebrated by having McDonalds. Hooray.



Red Class visit

Red Class went to visit Santa Claus at Springtime in Crews Hill. We went on a train ride and saw all the decorations. We waved to Santa and even saw some real reindeers!



Silver Class

Silver Class have been learning the sport of Boccia with Marion Coram Ware — a Borough Advisory Teacher. Marion came to school and gave us some coaching and selected a few students to train as officials.

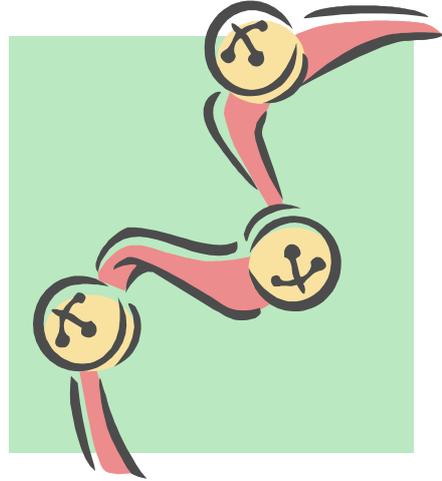
Last Friday Silver Class went to Enfield College to play a few matches with the college students. Everyone enjoyed it so much that we are looking into setting up a boccia team to play against other teams.

Jingle Bell Walk

On Wednesday 5 December students from Beige, Amber, Silver, Red and Gold classes joined The Ramblers' Association and the Mayor of Enfield at the Jingle Bell Walk in Broomfield Park, Palmers Green. After an invigorating walk around the park, Durants students gathered on the tennis courts to sing Christmas carols and played percussion instruments, before enjoying their mince pies. The students had been rehearsing their carols for several weeks, and sounded fantastically festive! The walk was a great success and the students were excellent ambassadors for the school throughout the morning.

Thank you to all students who took part in the walk, and to all the staff who came along and supported.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Bronze Class



With the money raised from our plant sale at the Christmas Xstravaganza, Bronze Class visited McDonalds as a Christmas treat on Monday 17 December.

News from Beige Class

This term Beige Class has visited several different places on the minibus and everyone has behaved excellently and had a really good time!

We saw some fish at Wild Woods aquarium and were allowed to touch the koi carp!

Stephen, Paul and Ruweyda all did some excellent shopping in the supermarket and their behaviour was outstanding.

Silver Class

Silver Class has been given the opportunity by Enfield Police to access an Active Working Gym. Over the four sessions they have learnt to warm up appropriately, how to operate cardiovascular machines, how to operate resistance equipment and understand how their bodies react to a safe and controlled schedule.



We have made a few trips to Forty Hall where the pupils looked for different animals and birds and made a note of what they had seen.

Last week we went to see the Christmas decorations at Springtime Nursery and the pupils enjoyed seeing the reindeer.

The whole class team has been thrilled with the pupils' behaviour and has enjoyed its trips out this term.

WELL DONE BEIGE CLASS!

Parent Council

Members: Mr Shala (Red Class)
Mrs Armstrong (Lilac Class)
Mrs Oppong Konadu (Yellow Class)
Mrs Sailsman (Red Class)
Mr Hill (Gold Class)
Ms Candinho (Amber Class)

We have set up a new Parent Council and so far we have only met once. However, this was a very successful and informative session. We would like to meet each term and we would really like to ensure that all classes have a representative. The following classes do not have their own representative: - Orange, Indigo, Blue, Bronze, Silver, Beige and Green. Please can you let Helen Bruce know if you would like to join the Parent Council.

Reminder

Christmas Church Service
Thursday 20 December
10.30am

St James's Church (Enfield Highway
by Durants Park)

Please join us!

End of Term

School will finish for the Christmas holiday on: - THURSDAY 20 DECEMBER at the normal time of 3.00pm.

School will re-open for all students on: - MONDAY 7 January 2013 at the normal time of 8.50am.

Christmas Xstravaganza

A BIG THANK YOU to all who supported our Christmas Xstravaganza on Thursday 13 December. We would like to give a special mention to the following who donated to this event: -

Mr and Mrs Irish

Percy Ingle Bakers

Greggs Bakery

EFG Housewares Ltd

Tesco Ponders End

John McCarthy at Genie Interiors

Cineworld Enfield

Playmobile

99p Stores

Card Factory Edmonton Green

Casemir Chocolates

We raised £500.00 which will go towards enriching our students' learning and experiences and provide activities throughout the year.

Father Christmas visited the school on Tuesday 18 December and gave each student a Christmas present. This was funded by the Durants fund raising team DEAL. (Durants Empowering Autistic Learners).
