



Durants News

July 2013

A note from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you

On behalf of all the staff at Durants, I would like to thank all our Parents/Carers for all your help and support this year. The Annual Reviews were well attended this year and Open Evening on 16 July was fantastically supported by Parents. Thank you for joining us to discuss your child's achievements. By working together it means that we can work collaboratively in the best interests of all the pupils at Durants.

It has been a challenging year at Durants as we have been providing leadership support to Waverley School throughout the year. It has been positive for Durants too as we have been able to give more staff the chance to develop leadership skills.

Additional Resourced Provision

The new Additional Resourced Provision (ARP) based at Winchmore Secondary School will be opening in September.

It will have 8 places but will start with only 4 pupils initially. It will be staffed by a Teacher and a Teaching Assistant from Durants.

We are hoping that Waverley will have a new Headteacher in post for January 2014.

Finally, please remember that school starts for pupils on **Wednesday 4 September**. We have had to reinstate the second INSET day in September to enable the Durants staff to reorganise the school as it will be extensively used by the CAPAG group during the summer. We will not be having the planned INSET day next April to make up for this.

Finally have a lovely summer and I look forward to working with you all again next term.

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Goodbye and Good Luck

We have four pupils leaving Durants this summer.

Daniel Meniru will be moving on to study at Southgate College. Joe Dominic is moving to Oaklands College. Jonathan Bull has a place at the Person Centre Day Opportunities in Enfield. Marios Pittis is moving to a school in Hertfordshire.

They have been fabulous pupils at Durants and we wish them and their families all the very best for the future.



We also say goodbye to two members of staff. Ann O'Hagan is going on maternity leave and we wish her well.

Samantha Deane, Teaching Assistant, is leaving us to complete her PGCE and gain Qualified Teacher Status.

Good luck to all!



Mother Nature—Designer

On Tuesday 4 June, Beige Class visited the William Morris Gallery in Walthamstow. For our topic 'Mother Nature—Designer' we have studied the work of William Morris and made some of our own artwork using images from nature. The visit to the gallery began with an exciting workshop with Anna Alcock, the gallery's resident artist. Anna taught the pupils several different ways of making printed designs, and showed them how to use the printing press, which they really enjoyed. After the workshop we looked around the gallery, which has recently been renovated and is really

beautiful. The sun was shining while we had our picnic lunch in the lovely gardens outside the gallery and everyone enjoyed themselves. The pupils all behaved really well and everybody had the opportunity to try something new and exciting!

Beige Class would like to thank the school's charity, DEAL, for helping to fund our wonderful visit. Thank you!

Treasureland

Welcome to Treasureland, the new venture with Waverley School. The shop is now well underway with new walls, flooring and electrics. There are plans to paint the back room, fit a new back door and ramp as well as building the counter area and shelving units on the walls.

We have appointed a Shop Manager, Nazire, who will begin in September. She hopes to have many volunteers to help her, as well as working with staff to provide valuable work experience in the community for

both Durants and Waverley pupils. The shop will be open during school hours and offer clothes and bric-a-brac goods for sale.

Hopefully we will be able to have a grand opening in the first week or so of October, so watch out for invitations!.

Finally, if you were thinking of helping out as a volunteer, even for a few hours a week, please don't hesitate to contact the school and we can sort out your CRB application.

Tate Modern Museum Work Experience

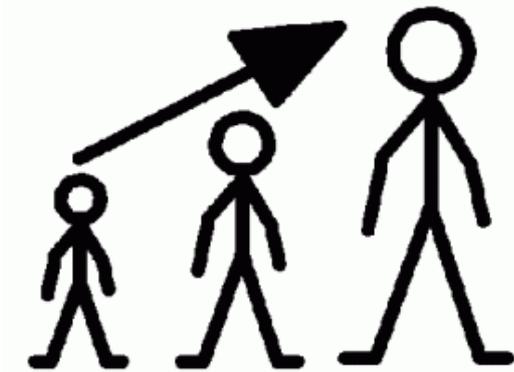
On Wednesday 12 June, Amber and Silver Classes visited the Tate Modern Museum. Everyone enjoyed the visit, and we saw lots of interesting pieces of artwork and sculptures. We had a picnic in the gardens beside the museum, and enjoyed listening to a lunchtime concert! After that we walked over Millennium Bridge to St Paul's Cathedral and along the Embankment looking at the sights such as The London Eye, The Houses of Parliament and Big Ben. All in all we had a very cultural day!



In the Summer Term the pupils in Silver Class completed a range of work experience placements at various establishments. Three pupils worked in an office and did very well with their secretarial skills. Two pupils worked in a Pre-school and did so well that they were able to continue doing one day per week for the rest of the term. Two pupils tried their hands at being sales assistants in a shoe shop and one pupil worked in a charity shop and learned about what is involved in this type of work. One pupil worked in Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, and thoroughly enjoyed the work, including the chance to eat as many doughnuts as he liked! **All the pupils did extremely well and were all highly praised by their employers. Well done!**



Transition Event



Thank you to all the Parents, Carers and Adult Service Providers who attended our annual transition event on Thursday 4 July 2013. This event helps to keep everyone informed about what services are available as our pupils enter adulthood. All the information provided was very helpful and informative. Daniel and Elvis, two of our sixth form pupils were fantastic helpers on the day, we couldn't have done it without them!

D.E.A.L.

The DEAL Committee would like to thank everyone who supported this year's Summer Fete on Saturday 13 July. A good time was had by all and we raised in excess of £1700—which is an amazing amount. We will be using this money in the forthcoming academic year to enhance your child's learning experiences.

Money raised in previous years has helped pupils to go on many trips (including bowling/museums/cinema, restaurant and farm trips).

Please contact us if you would like to become a member of the DEAL committee or if you have any suggestions on how to raise money.

We will be planning many more fundraising events in the coming academic year, so please watch out for further information.

We value your continued support.

Siblings Group

On Thursday 18 July 2013 the Siblings Group went to the cinema and watched 'Despicable Me 2'. The film was very funny and enjoyed by all, including staff!

Thank you to all the siblings that have attended the group regularly and made it such a success, you are a fantastic bunch and I am looking forward to more fun and adventures next term! If any siblings are interested in becoming a member of the Durants Siblings Group please contact myself, Karly Barker (Family Support Worker) at the school.



End of Term

This is to remind you that the last day of term is Wednesday 24 July 2013 and school will finish at the normal time of 3.00pm.

New Term

School re-opens for all pupils on:

WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2013

at the normal time of 8.50am.

Strut your stuff for autism

Young people with autism, and their families, are preparing to take part in a unique fashion show in London. Wear It For Autism—on Tuesday 10 September at The Vinyl Factory, Soho—will see mums, dads, grandparents and young people on the autistic spectrum getting professional make-overs and strutting their stuff on the catwalk.

The event, which runs from 6 to 8pm (doors open 5.30pm), is organised by autism campaigner Anna Kennedy OBE. Heavyweight sponsors include Littlewoods, Toni & Guy, Pineapple Arts, London Beauty Queen and Mahogany.

Tickets priced at £25.00 are on sale now.

Email: lisa.robins@thevines.org.uk

Annakennedyonline.com/wear-it-for-autism-2
