



Durants News

February 2014

A note from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

The main event at Durants this half term has been our recent re-accreditation visit by the National Autistic Society. We were visited by three assessors on the 28–30 January 2014. The assessors visited lots of lessons during the three days as well as looking at our paperwork, talking with pupils, parents and governors. Although the final report has not yet been finalised we were given very favourable feedback from the lead assessor who told us that “Durants clearly makes a difference to people’s lives.” Thank you to all the parents and governors who took the time to come in and speak with the accreditation team. We will, of course, let you know when the final report is published.

Attendance and Sickness

As I have mentioned many times we are keen that all our pupils should be in school as much as possible. However, I would ask that should your son or daughter be unwell that you keep them at home. Should they have sickness or diarrhoea they should stay at home for 48 hours to ensure they are not infectious. These regulations are in place to protect all pupils and staff. In a school it is very easy for illnesses to quickly spread so I would request that you adhere to these guidelines. This is particularly the case at this time of year. **If you are asked to collect your son/daughter I would ask that you come as soon as possible.**

Many thanks for your help with this. It is much appreciated.

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Dates of coffee mornings

Please note that we shall be holding coffee mornings on:-

Friday 28 February—home safety, procedures if a child absconds and ID cards

Thursday 6 March—Ipads and autism

Friday 21 March—Oral hygiene

Friday 16 May— Puberty and growing up.

Friday 20 June—New Parents

Thursday 10 July—Transition event

Further details and reminders will follow in due course.



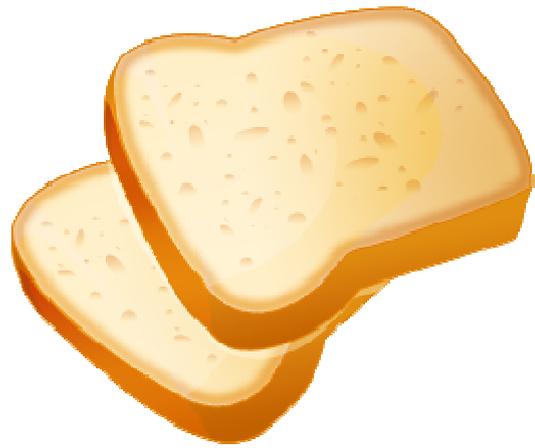
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Silver Class Café

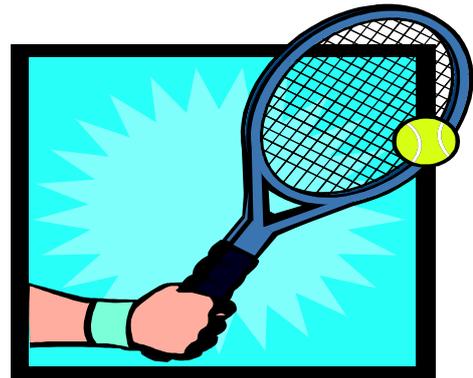
As part of their work on the Post-16 curriculum, Silver Class has been running a café on Friday mornings. The pupils have taken responsibility for buying ingredients and preparing and serving the snacks in the café.

So far we have been serving pupils from Orange Class their mid-morning snacks, and after half term we are planning to extend our opening hours and provide breakfast for Bronze Class as well. Silver Class pupils have all worked really hard to set up the café and have experienced a number of different roles, including taking orders, calculating bills and working out change, and keeping food preparation areas clean. Orange Class pupils have enjoyed their visits to the café so far and it has been great to see pupils from different classes interacting with each other.



Pupils enjoy Tennis

Pupils from Orange and Red classes enjoyed a morning of tennis at the Southbury Leisure Centre. Pupils engaged in skills training, games and a fun competition at the end of the session so they could use their skills against their friends and other pupils from West Lea School. Staff were happy with the pupils participation, efforts and their social interaction outside of school. More events are being offered by the borough and these young people will be able to access a wide range of sport this year. Well done guys!!!!



Blue Class trip

On Friday 17 January the pupils in Blue Class went to the Harvester Restaurant in Enfield for their AQA and ASDAN work and to develop their personal social skills.

All the pupils did well at choosing their own food from the menu and enjoyed choosing from the salad bar.

Blue Class had a fantastic day.

Thank you to DEAL for funding the meal.



Art – Orange and Red Classes

In Art, Orange and Red Classes have been working on the theme of Landscapes.

They have looked at the work of the French artist Henri Rousseau for inspiration.

They have used poster paints, prints using sponges, corrugated cardboard and different materials to create a mixed media picture of a rainforest.



KS3 Art Group



The KS3 Art group have been working on Egyptian Art.

They have created a mask using paper mache and decorated them using gold and acrylic paints.

They have been practising their printing skills and produced prints on different coloured paper fabrics.

KS4 Art Group

The KS4 art group have been working on Venetian masks.

They have used paper-mache to create a 3D mask, they have painted it using bright metallic paints and then they have used different materials such as corrugated cardboard, pipe cleaners, paper tiles and fabric to decorate their work.



Yellow and Indigo enjoy swimming

This term Yellow and Indigo Classes have been making a splash on Friday afternoons with swimming sessions at Waverley School pool.

Pupils are exploring skills such as water confidence, paddling and treading water.

Pupils are already beginning to make great progress in the water and are eager for the next session!"



Tennis sessions

Tennis Sessions
Saturdays 12pm to 1pm
Mayfield Tennis Club

All abilities are welcome

See our website for full details

Half Term

The half term break commences on:-

Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2014.

School will finish at the normal time of 3.00pm on Friday 14 February.

School re-opens for all pupils on Monday 24 February at the normal time of 8.50am.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Accident and Emergency (A&E) Department at Chase Farm Hospital, The Ridgeway, Enfield, closed on 9 December 2013. **PATIENTS REQUIRING EMERGENCY TREATMENT** will no longer be treated at Chase Farm Hospital. This means any patients needing life-saving treatment will now need to go to either:-

Barnet Hospital
Wellhouse Lane
Barnet
EN5 3DJ
Tel No. 0845 111 4000
Or 020 8216 4600

North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust
Sterling Way
London
N18 1QX
Tel No: 020 8887 2000

Chase Farm Hospital site will continue to provide a care centre for less serious illness or injuries such as sprains, suspected broken bones, wounds, minor burns etc. which is open 12 hours a day from 9am—9pm, 7 days per week, 365 days per year.
