



Durants News

A letter from the Head Teacher

Welcome

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the first newsletter of the school year.

We have been very pleased to welcome 13 new pupils and their families to Durants this September. As usual the school has been very busy with pupils settling down in their new classes.

The attendance so far this term has been very good at 96%. Please keep this up and ensure that your son or daughter comes into school every day unless they are unwell.

Please always feel free to contact the school if you have any worries or concerns or would just like to chat about something. You can contact either your child's class teacher, Karly Barker our Family Support Worker or the Head Teacher or Deputy Head Teacher.

The better the contact between school and home the better all our pupils will achieve.

I hope you all have a good half term and that everyone returns refreshed on Wednesday 4 November.

Peter De Rosa

Head Teacher

A Very Big THANK YOU!

A very big **Foundation**, for their generosity in sponsoring our Student ID Cards, designed for pupils with Autism.

To help support our pupils' safety when out in the community, we have designed purposeful ID cards and the Financial Director of O'Neill and Brennan has purchased a high-tech Card machine and Accessories for our school. Work is underway on the cards and our pupils will shortly be issued with their own ID Student card.

This ID card contains information unique to the holder and it will allow members of the public to support our young people if they encounter difficulty when out in the community.

October 2015

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Meet Our Mascot "Jessey"

Meet Our Mascot "Jessey"

Hi!

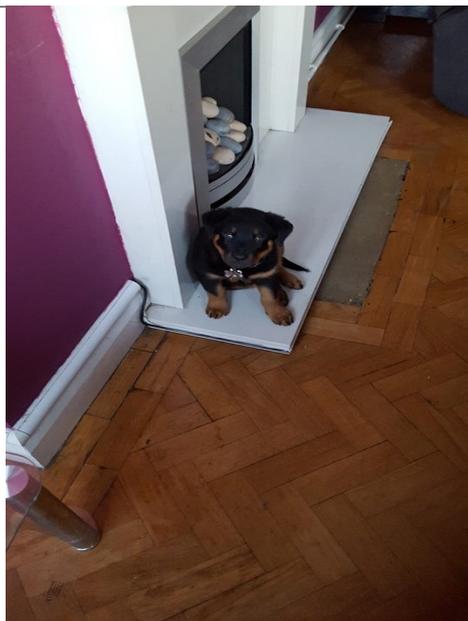
My name is Jessey, but I prefer to be called Jess.

I live with Kevin the Premises Manager and I am 15 weeks old.

When I am older and have had training, I may be allowed in to visit some of the pupils as a therapy dog. This is a little bit off in the future as I have still got some basic learning to do before I am assessed for Pets As Therapy training.

I will keep you all updated as to my progress.

Woof Woof :)



New Staff

New Staff

We would like to welcome new staff at Durants School.

We would like to welcome Sym to Durants.

Sym is our new Emerald Class Teacher who joined us in September. He is an experienced practitioner who has worked both in mainstream and special schools previously.

We would also like to welcome Carmel to Durants.

Carmel is a new teacher who joined Red Class in September. She is an experienced practitioner who has worked both in mainstream and undertaken placements in special schools.

Transition Event 2015

Transition Event 2015

Durants School held its annual Transition Event on Thursday 1 October 2015.

This event is aimed at parents who have pupils in year 9 and above to help them start thinking about possible options for the future.

The staff here at Durants are aware how stressful transition can be and try to help it run as smoothly as possible.

A big thank you to all parents and services who attended the event!



Gym Time

Gym Time

Silver Class are back at Albany Leisure Centre to attend their gym session on a weekly basis. They are following a tailor-made fitness plan which allows them to access a number of cardio and resistance training machines under the assistance of their class team.

Silver Class have enjoyed their sessions and look forward to continuing to maintain a healthy lifestyle as well as learn about independent travel, money management and life skills.



Lilac Class In Bloom



Sinking At Trent Park

Sinking At Trent Park

Green Class experienced a very different kind of outing to Trent Park this week. Parking in the overflow area proved to be quite an experience, resulting in the minibus getting stuck in the mud.

A very big thank you to the Trent Park Rangers, for coming to our rescue, also to Massimo at Enfield Parks, for providing us with a Key, which will enable us to use a more suitable entrance for both our students and minibus.

Bush Hill Park Cycling

Bush Hill Park Cycling

On Thursday 8 October, Red Class went to Bush Hill Park's cycling scheme.

The children were able to ride a variety of bikes: two wheelers, tricycles and handbikes.

All of the children went on a bike and enjoyed a cycle around the park.

They had a lovely time and they are looking forward to having another park outing!



Lilac Class In Bloom

This term Lilac Class are leaning about horticulture and developing an area of the school grounds to grow vegetables. Kim and Elisabeth from 'Organiclea' have provided us with flowerbeds, compost, seeds and plants.

The pupils have enjoyed filling the flowerbeds with compost, then planting them up. The pupils have also begun to paint the flowerbeds.

Thank you 'Organiclea'



Magic Breakfast

Magic Breakfast

Magic Breakfast is a UK registered charity, dedicated to ensuring every child starts their school day with the right breakfast. Magic Breakfast believes no child's education should suffer for the lack of a breakfast and provide free healthy breakfast food to schools with over 35% free school meals to reach the hungriest children. Durants would like to say a huge thank you to Magic breakfast who has agreed to support us for a year. We have already started receiving our food deliveries and it has been a big hit with the pupils, especially the bagels!

magic breakfast
fuel for learning

delivering free, healthy breakfasts to UK schools

Half Term

Half Term break commences on:

**Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October
2015**

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

Inset Day

**Inset Days have been arranged for
Monday 2 November and Tuesday 3
November and school will be closed to
all pupils on these days.**

**School re-opens for all pupils on:
WEDNESDAY 4 NOVEMBER at the
normal time of 8.50am.**

"Wanna Be Friends" Halloween Disco

"Wanna Be Friends" Halloween Disco

"Wanna Be Friends" Halloween Disco at Forty Hall, Enfield, EN2 9HA.

Note: A non parents/carers event.

An opportunity to meet new friends and enjoy an evening of music and dancing!

Time: 7.30pm to 10pm

Tickets cost: £10.00

Age limit: 13 to 19 years old and be registered with a disability

For tickets and further information, call: West Lea School on 0208 887 1160 or email: jhalford@westleaschool.co.uk



**"Wanna Be Friends"
Halloween Disco
at Forty Hall, Enfield
Happy Halloween
Saturday 31st October 2015**

An opportunity to meet new friends and enjoy an evening of music and dancing at
Forty Hall, Enfield, EN2 9HA
Doors open at 7.30pm until 10pm.
Tickets only: £10.00 (cheques made payable to West Lea School)
(age limit restrictions 13 to 19 years old and be registered with a disability -
This is a non parents/carers event)
Cost includes food and drink
For tickets either call: West Lea School on 020 8887 1160
or email: jhalford@westleaschool.co.uk