



Durants News



Newsletter Spring 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for all your support over this past term. It has been lovely to welcome all pupils back to school. I am delighted to be able to update you on our return to school. We have had a very successful term, I have been so impressed with the cooperative, positive, 'can do' attitude displayed by every single student

Thank you to all staff

I want to thank all the staff for their immense efforts over the last year. I also want to thank them for continuing to educate all students throughout the pandemic both in the classroom and remotely. Without the tireless efforts of all our staff, children would have experienced an even greater disruption to their education.

Thank you to all our teachers, teaching assistants, therapists, office and premises staff. I hope you feel valued for the expertise, dedication and creativity you bring to leadership and management of your areas. During this pandemic you have shown yourselves to be especially resourceful, resilient and determined. You have been open to new ideas, new challenges and new ways of working. You put children and families first and you are an absolute credit to Durants school.

Whole school Covid 19 Risk Assessment

All of our Covid-19 safety rules set up last March remain in place. Our updated Risk Assessment can be located on the school website.

Goodbye

We have one member of staff leaving us this Easter. Jake Mockford, scale 4 Teaching Assistant, has worked at Durants for many years and is moving to a new post. We would like to thank Jake for all his hard work at Durants and wish him every success in all his future endeavours.

Have a lovely Easter break

Thank you

Rachel



March 2021

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Inside this issue:

A Note from the Head Teacher	1
World Autism Awareness Week	2
Asdan	2
Calling all students over 18	2
Thank you Waitose	2
Language and communication	2
Skydiving for Autism	3
Isaac Newton Class	3
Enfield Virtual Day Services	3
Guess Who?	3
Total raised for red nose day	4
Lucky winners	4
Dance Exercise	4
Anthony Hopkins Class -super heroes	4
Nana Kufour class	4
The Felix Project recipe cards	4
End of Term dates	4

Fund raising for Durants School

On the 2 May 2021, **TEN BRAVE MEMBERS OF DURANTS STAFF** will be defying fear and logic by jumping from a plane, at a height of at least 10,000 feet, to help raise funds for the school's charity "D.E.A.L". The money raised will be used to help fund sensory play equipment for the pupils at Durants School.



Skydiving for Autism

We are asking for parents, relatives and friends of Durants School to help support this cause by donating money using the following link:

justgiving.com/crowdfunding/lina-melodalvao

You can also donate by scanning this QR code



Many thanks for your support



Isaac Newton Class

Isaac Newton class have been busy this term learning about Vikings and First Aid, doing lots of Media work in English and making Mother's Day picture frames. We have also been upcycling items for a sale later in the year! Our latest footstool however, turns your trousers purple when you sit on it so might need a bit more work...



We also filmed a show for Comic Relief Red Nose Day based on Superheroes and the power of kindness. We had 2 amazing heroes featuring 'Supersense and Captain Kind', a VERY convincing villain 'Master Disaster', a superstar Portuguese rapper, 2 fantastic narrators and a superstar cameraman! Those involved really enjoyed making the film and we hope the rest of the school enjoyed watching the video

We have also started a new lifecycles project and have some rapidly growing (Very Hungry...) caterpillars that we are hoping will become butterflies that we can release by the end of term!



Enfield Virtual Day Services

Enfield Virtual day Services are brought to you by Enfield Council, Radio Marathon and some of the fantastic day services across the borough.

If you live in Enfield, are over the age of 18 and have a learning disability or autism why not join the fun of virtual activities from the comfort of your home.

For further information on activities available please e-mail

Enfieldvirtual@gmail.com

Guess who?



On 19 March 2021 the theme for Red Nose Day at Durants School wasSUPER HEROES.

Can you name the SUPER HEROES in the photographs below and guess the name of the member of staff behind each costume?



WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS WEEK 29 MARCH 2021—4 APRIL 2021



On the 29th March - 4th April 2021 it will be World Autism Awareness Week.

At school, the pupils have been involved in lots of different activities, celebrating how we are different and what makes us amazing. We have made a Durants WAAW (World Autism Awareness Week) 2021 video to the song 'This is me' that you can watch on our school website :-www.durants.enfield.sch.uk

www.durants.school



This term teachers have presented a number of students Transition Challenge books for external moderation to ASDAN. The students have worked on five modules over two years before presenting their work. Their portfolios were first moderated internally by Heads of Department and then ASDAN select a few student's folders to be sent away to be externally moderated.


ASDAN are very clear about how they want the work to be presented and completed and I am happy to say that last week I received an email to say that all students had been successful and they were very pleased with the presentation of the books.

So, it is thank you to those staff who supported our students completing all their Transition Challenges, as well as the students themselves.

Well done to everyone!!

Frances Sutherland-Head of Upper Department



Calling all students over 18 – Please note that GP's in Enfield are now inviting all adults with learning disabilities to have a coronavirus vaccine. 

Some students in Post 16 have already had their vaccine and we look forward to other students over 18 receiving theirs.

To keep up to date with useful information for young people and adults with learning difficulties please visit "mylife.enfield.gov.uk/enfield" website.

A BIG THANK YOU TO WAITROSE

Durants School would like to say a big "THANK YOU" to **WAITROSE**, at Winchmore Hill, for their kindness and generosity donating £167 as part of their green token scheme earlier this year. **WAITROSE** has also donated an Easter egg this Easter to each of our pupils. I am sure they will enjoy eating them.



Language and communication

We have been using lots of sensory activities to support pupils attend to an activity in a small group. This helps build on social communication (e.g. eye gaze, smiling, gestures like reaching & pointing), early language (asking for "more", "go" using speech, signs and picture symbols) and building language (e.g. commenting on what's happening, expressing an opinion).



Sally Mordi-

Speech and Language Therapist





Lucky Winners

We are proud to announce Sean Fail and Aston York are the two lucky winners of the Pitfield Way Red Nose Day raffle and both have been gifted with a hamper containing lots of goodies for them and their families. Congratulations Sean and Aston!



VIRTUAL AFTER-SCHOOL DANCE EXERCISE



We are now delighted to be able to offer students the opportunity of a virtual after-school "dance exercise" club brought to you by Angela, our wonderful Enfield MoveIT instructor.

Sessions will be weekly on a Tuesday at 5pm during the summer term. There will be a small cost of £1 per session and payment arrangements are straightforward and explained in the link below.

Follow the link below for more details and to sign up:

<http://www.moveitenfield.co.uk/>



Anthony Hopkins Class Super Heroes

We have had a super term in Anthony Hopkins class. We have been learning about the super powers of expressions and emotions, telling others how we feel and listening to others so we can help our friends. We have put in lots of hard work to become SUPER HEROES.



The Felix Project Recipe Cards

The Felix Project have issued a set of Spring recipe cards, just in time for the Easter holidays, which can be found using the link below:- thefelixproject.org/uploads/files/Spring-Recipe-Cards.pdf

We hope you'll have fun making meals, using these recipe cards – inspired by the fruits and vegetables that The Felix Project often deliver to our school.



NANA KUFFOUR CLASS

This term Nana Yaa Kuffour class have looked at different modes of communication. Transferring this to how modes of communication are used to broadcast the news.



They have also taken the time to welcome in Spring by creating a beautiful display.

END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

School will finish for the Easter holiday at the normal time of 3.00pm on

Thursday 1 April 2021

Monday 19 April 2021 and Tuesday 20 April 2021 are inset days.

School will re-open for all pupils at the normal time of 8.50am on

Wednesday 21 April 2021

