



30th January 2017

ISSUE NO. 14

Executive Head Teacher

Payment of School Meals

We would like to remind parents all dinner monies should be paid on the Monday of each week. The majority of parents do pay each Monday, but we have found a minority are not paying until much later in the week, if at all.

This causes the obvious problem that some children are having dinners which they have not paid for and unfortunately, a debt is being created. Apart from being unfair on the parents who are paying at the beginning of each week it is also placing additional work on our administrative staff who have to send out letters and emails to remind parents who have not paid. These reminder letters also result in extra cost to the school. If you wish to pay online please request a code from the office to sign up.

Supervision before School

Parents are reminded there is no supervision available on either site until 8.45 am each day. Children on the Mostyn Site may not be left in the playgrounds unsupervised before that time. This includes the offices on both sites.

Parents are also reminded not to leave children in the office waiting area in the morning as there is no supervision.

Children from Year 4 to Year 9 may wait before school on the Hackford Road site on condition of their good conduct in the playground.

Please remember children on both sites are not allowed to be on the climbing equipment before or after school.

Stars of the Week

Congratulations go out to our stars of the week:



3A - Jadine
3B - Jamel
3C - Zaynab
3D - Daniel
3E - Oshea
3F - Ahmed
5B – Okanadu
5C – Alex
5D – Sarai
5E – Salma
5F – Ridwan

We are very pleased to be giving these stars of the week for a variety of accomplishments across the curriculum and more improvements in behaviour and presentation.

Contact Information

If you have recently changed your number, home address or email address please let the school reception know. It is important to have up to date contact details for all the children in case of emergency.

Year 6 Trip



On Tuesday 17th January, 30 students from Year 6 went on a school trip to the Houses of Parliament. We were given a guided tour of Westminster Palace and were shown around every room except for the House of Commons. In the Norman Porch, a hallway in the Victoria Tower was Her Majesty's changing room. In this grand dressing room was a royal chair commissioned by Prince Albert for Queen Victoria. We even saw Mr Speaker (who keeps the peace during debates) and other officials travel in procession from the apartments to the debating chamber!

In the House of Lords we saw a spectacular throne which Her Majesty the Queen sits on during the state opening each year. We stood on the government side which is where the conservative party debate their cases. Did you know that members of the public can watch these debates from the galleries for free?

After our guided tour, we took a short walk to another government building where many civil servants work. We were given the opportunity to interview different employees to find out more about their job and what they worked as within the government. There are a broad range of jobs within the civil service including jobs in finance to jobs in education!

Our final task of the day was to practice our public speaking and presenting skills. Working alongside government employees, we had two minutes to sell obscure and entertaining products such as a 'glue-stick butter spreader' and a 'scooter pram'. Zakirah in 6E and Asmaa in 6F were specially mentioned for their presenting skills – well done!

Written by Miranda and Shamone – Year 6

Year 5



I woke up a bit startled! I checked the time and it says quarter past seven. I was so annoyed because my alarm was supposed to go off at half past six! I jump in the shower, brush my teeth and grab a bottle of water. At quarter to eight I start my hair. At ten past eight I run out of the door slamming it behind me.

I run as fast as my legs could carry me. I missed the bus. I run as fast as I could go. I looked at my watch and it said half past eight. At eight fifty-two I was crossing the road. I continued running, I made it just as the whistle blew.

Written by Cheyanne – 5F

When I first started at Durand Academy I thought to myself, "What will I do without my old friends". I was extremely shy and could not do anything. Then two girls who did not know me all of a sudden became my best friends. As I grew older and older we continued to be best friends and still are to this day.

Now I am in Year 5 and can do everything my teacher has expected. When I thought I could not do anything, I could! That is when I kept on trying. Do not judge yourself just because you feel you cannot do anything, you can!

*You just have to **KEEP ON TRYING!!!***

Written by Neveah – 5F



Attendance

Weekly attendance percentages for last week are:

Nursery	94%	Year 6	98%
Reception	93%	Year 7	94%
Year 1	94%	Year 8	93%
Year 2	96%	Year 9	88%
Year 3	95%	Year 10	92%
Year 4	96%	Year 11	91%
Year 5	96%	School Total	95%

The national average is 95%

School Journey

The Year 6 School Journey to the Kingswood Centre in Staffordshire will take place from Monday 19th to Friday 23rd June 2017.

The fourth payment instalment is due by Friday 3rd February 2017.

Payments can be made online at www.scopay.com/durandacademy. If you wish to register to pay online, please email the office (admin@durandprimary.com) to request a code.

Please ensure prompt payment is made as the centre requires regular deposits.

School Term Dates 2016-17

Spring Term 2017

Finish Date Friday 10th February

Half Term **Monday 13th to Friday 17th February**

Start Date Monday 20th February

Finish Date Friday 31st March

Summer Term

Start Date Tuesday 18th April 2017

Bank Holiday Monday 1st May 2017

Finish Date Friday 26th May 2017

Half Term **Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2017**

Start Date Monday 5th June 2017

Finish Date Friday 21st July 2017

Three INSET Days to be decided

Sweets

Please be reminded children are not permitted to bring sweets or chewing gum to school.

DREAM BIG
SAY PLEASE and **THANK YOU**
TRY YOUR BEST
be **GRATEFUL**
CHOOSE to be **HAPPY**
S M I L E
HUG **OFTEN**
OFFER to **HELP**
SING, LAUGH, DANCE
REMEMBER YOU ARE LOVED

Notices

Medicine

If your child needs to take medicine at school parents must send a signed and dated letter confirming this. Please ensure the letter includes the child's full name and the date. The school is unable to administer medicine to your child.

Footballs/Basketballs

Please do not bring footballs or basketballs into the school. The school will provide balls for children to play with.

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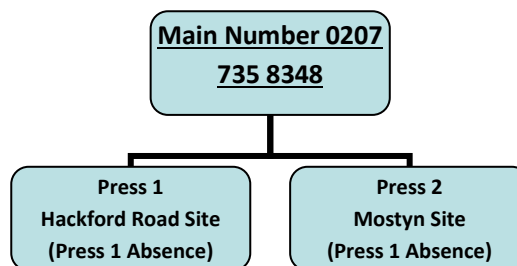
Labelling Clothes/Lost Property

Please ensure you label your child's clothes. This helps parents identify items of clothing kept in the lost and found.

If your child mistakenly brings home an item of clothing which does not belong to them, we ask parents to ensure this is returned to school the next day.

Absences

If your child is going to be absent from school, we kindly request parents to leave a clear message on the school voicemail and not call to speak to the administrators directly.



Parents must leave a message on the voicemail for each day your child is absent from school.

If your child is absent for more than three days, you must provide a letter from your doctor confirming this. Without this, your child's absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

You can view past newsletters on our website at <http://www.durandacademy.com/news/>.

If the school does not have your email address please give it in to reception or email admin@durandprimary.com.