

# F DUNCOMBE'S FOOTPRINTS



## **Mobile Phones**

Would all visitors to the school please refrain from using their mobile phone on any part of the school premises. Due to the actions of undesirable people in other parts of the country using their phones to photograph children No non-school owned phones can be used in schools. If you must make a call, please go outside the school gate. Many thanks

## **Aberfan -1 minute silence**

We marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at 9.15am this morning with a minute silence. The Aberfan disaster was the collapse of a colliery spoil tip in the Welsh village of Aberfan that killed 116 children and 28 adults on 21 October 1966.

## **Secondary School Applications**

The last day for applications must be received for transfer to Secondary School by the end of half term. Please ensure your child's application is completed online by this date, otherwise your application will be deemed as a late application and you may not be given the

secondary school of your choice.

## **Harvest Festival**

Harvest is a time where we celebrate and appreciate the food that we enjoy every day. This week we had a visit from a farmer, who brought his wonderful farm and farm animals for the children to enjoy. The children met and learnt about the animals and found out more about where food comes from. Harvest is also a time for sharing with those in need. We would like to thank you for your generous contributions of food for the Islington Food Banks. We appreciate the continued generosity of all our families helping to support our wonderful Islington community. The food collected will be divided equally between two Food Banks, the Trussell Trust and The Hive Food Bank. They are both local charities that support poor families and destitute young people.

## **Parents Evening**

**On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016**, we will be holding our first Parents Evening of the new school year. The evening will run from 3.45pm until 7.45pm that

gives us 8 minutes for each meeting. We hope that every child is represented by a parent or responsible adult. We would rather see an elder brother or sister of 17 years or over rather than no one if you really cannot come. Although we will be discussing your child's academic progress, our priority this term will be to talk about your child's ambition and how we need to work together - parent-child and school in order for them to achieve them. All appointments will be limited strictly to ten minutes; please do not hold others up by staying over your time.

## **Reporting Absences**

A reminder that parents must telephone the school **every day** their child is absent from school, not just on the first day of absence. Please ensure you telephone the school on **020 7272 5620** extension **802** and leave a message on the answerphone explaining the reason for your child's absence.

## **Smoking Outside School**

Can we please ask parents/carers to refrain from smoking outside of the school. We understand that it is an adult's right to choose

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whether or not they smoke, but it is unhealthy and distressing for our children and parents to walk pass and inhale their smoke. The effects of passive smoking can be as dangerous and harmful to a non-smoker as a smoker. Please bear this in mind!

#### **End of the School Day**

Please note that the school gates will not be open to parents until 3.25pm. This is to ensure the safety of our children who may be using the playgrounds and to stop intruders trying to enter the school premises. Please do not ask to enter the playgrounds until this time.

#### **Coats and Jackets**

It is quite worrying that some children are still arriving at school without a suitable winter jacket or coat. With the weather getting colder and wetter, please make sure your child comes into school with a coat. Also, if your child is wearing boots to school, please ensure they have their black school shoes to get changed into on arrival.

#### **Children's Names in Uniform**

Please ensure that all items of your child's school uniform are clearly labelled with their name written in them. The school cannot be held responsible for items of school uniform that have been lost or taken. Any items of lost property are

placed under the sheds in both the Infant and Junior playgrounds.

#### **Two Great Opportunities for Friday Lunchtimes**

Reba's Bengali Dance Group runs every Friday lunchtime from 1.00pm - 1.30pm. All children, boys and girls and all nationalities and backgrounds are welcome. Please encourage your child to come along and have a great time. Green forms for children attending five classes in any half term!

We also have a wonderful story telling sessions at the same time in the library run by Fartuun and Semra. If your child feels like a restful story, then please come along.

#### **Families for Life Community Programme**

Please find attached a flyer from Families for Life giving details of sessions they have organised for parents.

#### **Football Competition**

Duncombe pupils have been very active this term and have taken to the sports field a number of times in a very busy term. The results of the competitions are shown below:

Year 5 & 6 finished 3<sup>rd</sup>

Year 2 boys finished 3<sup>rd</sup>

Year 2 Girls finished 2<sup>nd</sup>

Year 3 & 4 boys finished 4<sup>th</sup>

Year 3 & 4 Girls finished 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### **School Money Payments Online**

We are considering introducing a facility for parents to make payments online for school activities such as school trips, school uniform and after school clubs. Parents would no longer have to find the correct change or having to write cheques out. To ensure we experience the maximum benefit from this service, we are requesting that all parents notify the school office of any changes to their mobile numbers or email addresses.

#### **Upper Holloway Bridge Replacement Works**

Please find attached a letter from Transport for London with regards to closures taking place from this evening (Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016) until January 2017 on Holloway Road.

#### **Uniform Shop**

Our next uniform shop will be held on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016** from 9.00 a.m. until 10.00 a.m.

#### **Half Term Break**

We break up today Friday (21<sup>st</sup> October 2016) for our half term break. **Children return to school on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016.** Have a wonderful, safe and restful holiday.