

# F DUNCOMBE'S FOOTPRINTS



## **Additional Safety Precautions During Critical Threat**

In light of the government raising the UK threat level, we will now be taking additional precautions to keep your child safe.

Please take note of the following:

- We will ensure that all parents/carers leave the school premises by 9:05 in the morning and by 3:45pm after school. This is so that the school gates are locked and the grounds are secured. Late children will have to buzz for the office staff to allow them to enter.
- During playtimes and lunchtimes no visitors or deliveries will be admitted to the school as the children will be in the playground. Visitors will be required to wait until playgrounds are clear.
- Parents will no longer be able to use the toilets before or after school. Once children have been handed over to their parents at the end of the school day, they will not be permitted to re-enter the school until the next school day. Entry to the

toilets from the back playground will remain open until 3:45pm to help parents not returning home immediately.

- If you are attending a class performance, a member of staff will supervise parents' entry and any parents arriving late will not be admitted.

**Please do not buzz the office during these times to be let in.**

- All trips are being risk assessed in light of the current threat level using government guidance. We are awaiting Local Authority confirmation that trips can go ahead with our additional precautions. Please bear in mind that while these measures may seem extreme, we feel that they will add an additional level of security for our children and staff. We thank you for your support and vigilance at this time. Please report any concerns you may have to a member of staff.

## **Manchester Terrorist Incident**

Our children requested a minutes silence in

memory of the people injured or killed during the terrorist incident in Manchester on Monday night. Our thoughts and prayers go to the families and victims of this tragic event.

## **Mobile Phones**

Another reminder to all our parents with regards to the use of mobile phones on the school site, the making or taking of calls whilst on the school premises is not permitted. Pictures should never be taken in school by any parent or carers. Please ensure your mobile phone is switch off whilst on the school premises. If calls do come through, please leave the school grounds to answer them.

## **Message from our Governors**

Please find attached a letter from our Governing Body for your attention.

## **Fair Funding for Islington Schools**

We have enclosed a statement by my Islington Headteacher colleagues and myself raising your

awareness of the difficulty we are in funding our schools at the moment. We have a considerable deficit at the moment in our school budget. We are also now required to find additional funding for services such as dust bin collection over and above what we pay in rates. All these additional charges and our budget cuts can only mean a reduction in staffing. Although we will aim to ensure the impact on our children is minimum we will find it very difficult to maintain our very high standards next September. Please read the Headteacher statement and question your local MP and Councillors as to how they are going to help us this year.

### **Cardfields**

Children from years three and four had a wonderful three days at Cardfields. The weather was kind and all returned with smiles on their faces and a feeling of achievement. The experience of a school journey has a huge benefit in developing a child's maturity. We have found, over the years, that children attending school journeys, even for as little as two to three nights, show on return, a marked development in maturity. Please consider carefully the opportunities we offer for school journeys in Year three, four and five and speak to myself or any of the Deputies or Assistant Headteachers if

you require any advice or reassurance.

### **Year 6 School Journey to Finborough Hall, Suffolk**

Out Year 6 children return from Suffolk today. I spent Wednesday and Thursday with them and they were having a marvellous time. The Xplore Team were fantastic and kept all busy from 9:00am until 7:30pm. The food was excellent and all had a great time with the other visiting schools. Many thanks go to all our staff who gave up their own time to ensure our children really enjoyed our School Journey.

### **Annual Whole School Trip**

We are extremely excited about this year's whole school trip to Golders Hill Park. We will be visiting our favourite park on **Friday 7th July** for a fun filled day; fingers crossed that the sun continues to shine for us! More information with regards to the trip will follow shortly.

### **Holiday Reading**

Please encourage your child to read every day of the upcoming holiday and keep a record of their reading in their reading diary. Once again, all consistent readers will be rewarded with a special Duncombe prize on our return from the holiday. Reading is both the

easiest and most effective support that you can give your child. Please read with your child every day.

### **Pure Voices**

Our choir performed once again at the Union Chapel on Upper Street. Many other schools also gave a wonderful performance and all of the children sang three songs as a huge choir. What an evening! We were very proud to be part of such a great advert for Islington schools.

### **Change of Address/Telephone Numbers**

If you have moved address or changed any of your telephone numbers, please inform the school office as a matter of urgency. It is very important that we have up to date contact details for all our children.

### **Uniform shop**

The next uniform shop will be held on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2017** from 9.00 a.m. until 10.00 a.m.

### **Polling Day**

A further reminder - the school will be **closed to all children and staff on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017** as Duncombe is a Polling Station for the General Election.

### **Summer Holiday**

Advanced notification that we break up for our

summer holidays on  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017  
at 1.30pm. **Children, with  
the exception of our  
new Reception/Nursery  
Classes, will return to  
school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>  
September 2017.**

**Half Term Holiday**

We break up for the half  
term holiday today **Friday  
26<sup>th</sup> May 2017** and  
children will return to  
school on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup>  
June  
2017.**

We wish you all  
a safe, happy  
and restful half  
term holiday.