



Newsletter

Dojo

A reminder that the dojo messaging service will end on Monday 4th May. Please contact us through the arbor app, talk to us on the gate or give the school office a call. For more complex issues, contact us through enquiries@duckmantonprimary.org.uk or request a meeting through the office

Free Breakfast Club

Our school has been successful in our application to join the free breakfast club programme. The Breakfast Club Programme is funded by the Government to provide access to a free breakfast for children in Reception to Y6. From Monday 13th April our new Breakfast Club offer will be as follows:

- 7.45 – 8.15am (30 mins) – charged session of £2 per child. Open to Nursery to Y6 children. Booking required through ParentPay.
- 8.15 – 8.45am (30 mins) – free session for children in Reception to Y6 children. Nursery children are also welcome, however the cost of this is £2 per child (unfortunately the DFE funding is only for children in Reception class and above). No booking required but sign in on arrival by an adult (children in Nursery – Y4), is required.

Year 5 Science Visitors



Year 5 had 2 little visitors as part of their Science topic on human development. Mr Beeden's wife brought in their baby, Wilf, and talked to children about how he had grown and developed from pregnancy and through the first 6 months of his life. They have learnt what he has already learnt to do and how his parents support him. They also measured him and compared his height to Tilly, who Mrs Smith brought in to visit them the previous week!

SEND Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend us for the SEND Coffee morning. We talked about what inclusion looks like at our school and took the opportunity to signpost some of the services available to all parents. The slides shared and a questionnaire for adults at home are available on Class Dojo!



Scholastic Book Fair

The Book Fair has been at school all week. Thank you to everyone who purchased items and helped to support our school. And thank you to the pupils who took on leadership roles including advertisers and shop managers, calculating and budgeting for the week. We couldn't have done it without you!

Compass Stress & Anxiety Workshop – Y6

The Year 6s took part in a stress workshop as they approach transition to secondary school and their SATs assessments in May. Thank you to Compass Changing Lives for coming in to work with us. They will be holding a parent session later on in the school year.

DuckBrook Pantry

A local community pantry offering affordable food and fresh essentials each week. Poolsbrook Social Welfare, S43 3LP. Open every Thursday from 10am – 4pm.

Year 5/6 Netball Competition

Well done to our fantastic Year 5 and 6 netball team who took part in a competition this month, finishing in 3rd place. They grew in confidence throughout each game and worked together as a team. A special 'Spirit of the Games' award was presented to Joey for showing the School Games values of Determination and Passion, insisting on playing on after an injury (he was ok!). Huge thank you to the parents who helped get the children there and cheered the team on, we really appreciate your support.



Well done George!

Huge well done to George who has been running a mile a day this month to raise money for Ashgate Hospice. All classes were given the opportunity to run, walk or simply support George over lunchtime last week and what a turn out we had. The atmosphere at lunch was brilliant, everyone was so supportive and encouraging. We are very proud of each and everyone who took part to support him. A huge well done to George, we are all here cheering you on for the final part

Sun Reminder



As the weather warms up and the sun shines brighter, it's important to ensure our children are well protected from harmful UV rays during school hours. Please apply sun cream to your child before they head off to school each day. Even on cloudy days, UV rays can still penetrate through and cause damage to their skin. Please also ensure that children bring a water bottle and sun hat. By taking these simple precautions, we can help ensure that our children enjoy the outdoors safely and avoid harmful effects of sun exposure.

School Site

A friendly reminder that we do not allow the following on the school site:

- Dogs – any size or breed
- Smoking – any form of cigarette including E-cigarettes
- Electric scooters or bikes
- Bikes and scooters – please do not ride them on the site, but you are welcome to push them.
- Anti-social behaviour including swearing, intimidating or aggressive behaviour
- Parent cars between the hours of 8.00am and 4.30pm

If you or your child is registered as disabled, please contact the school office, who will be able to issue a carpark pass.

Project Linus

This week we had a visit from Pauline, area co-ordinator for the Linus Project. The Linus project's mission is to provide gifts of new, homemade, washable quilts and blankets to babies, children and teenagers who are sick, disabled, disadvantaged or distressed and who would find comfort from a 'quilty hug'.

Pauline gave us 4 blankets, which will be used in school to support our children.

A BIG thankyou to Ms Alton who told Project Linus about us 😊



Safeguarding Focus

Your Child's Mental Health

Signs of depression or anxiety in children can sometimes look like normal behaviour, particularly in older aged primary children and teenagers who might keep their feelings to themselves. So, knowing how to talk to your child about their mental health is important.



Many children or young people will feel stressed or anxious about things like exams, changing year groups or moving to a new school. But while these experiences can be challenging, they're different from longer-term depression or anxiety, which affect how a child or young person feels every day.

It can help to think about what's normal for your child and if you've noticed signs that they've been behaving differently.

You can help a child who's struggling by:

- letting them know you're there for them and you're on their side
- talking to them over text or on the phone if they don't feel able to talk in person
- being patient and staying calm and approachable, even if their behaviour upsets you
- recognising that their feelings are valid and letting them know it's OK for them to be honest about what they're feeling
- thinking of healthy ways to cope. You could try things like yoga, breathing exercises or mindfulness together
- encouraging them to talk to their GP, someone at their school or [Childline](#). Especially if they're finding it hard to talk at home.
- taking care of yourself and getting support if you need to. Try not to blame yourself for what's happening, and stay hopeful about your child's recovery.

Further information about children's mental health can be found at:

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/depression-anxiety-mental-health/?utm_old=depression

Attendance


Our attendance target for this academic year is 96%+

Key

Attendance is at or above the school target of 96%

Attendance is between 92 – 96%, below school target and being monitored

Attendance is below 92% and significantly below the school target of 97%. Action to improve attendance needed

Class	Attendance for April	Winning Class
NEST & Nursery – Mrs Orme	92.07%	WELL DONE  Year 1
Reception – Mrs Pickering	98.05%	
Year 1 Miss Smyth	98.67%	
Year 2 Mrs Daysh	95.41%	
Year 3 Mrs Siddall	93.43%	
Year 4 Mrs Wright / Draper	95.87%	
Year 5 Miss King / Miss Hill	96.48%	
Year 6 Mr Beeden / Miss Hill	95.52%	
Whole School	95.31%	



Holiday requests during term time

Any requests should be an official school Leave of Absence Request form which is available on the school website or collectable from the school office. This should be handed into the school office for consideration prior to any holiday/leave arrangements being made.

In September 2013 the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2013 came into force. The regulations make it clear that Headteachers should not grant approval for any leave of absence during term time, including holidays unless there are exceptional circumstances. These regulations also state that holidays cannot be authorised retrospectively. You may be issued with a Penalty Notice should leave be taken which is not authorised. If unpaid, this could lead to prosecution under section 444(1) of The Education Act 1996.

Upcoming Key Dates

You can find a comprehensive list on our website.

Governors of Duckmanton Primary School

Miss S Scarborough	Chair of Governors/ LA Governor
Mr C Martin	Co-opted Governor
Mrs E Levers	Headteacher
Mr J Beeden	Staff Governor
Mrs M Lane	Co-opted Governor
Mr D Barlow	Staff Governor
Mr M Copestake	Parent Governor

Contact: Miss S Scarborough

Duckmanton Primary School, West Crescent, Duckmanton, Chesterfield S44 5HD

