



### YOUNG VOICES

I have heard that Friday's event was absolutely fantastic! The children, staff and parents had a brilliant time. Thank you to Mrs Payne and Mrs Delmaine arranging the experience. We will get a full write up of the day from one of the children, in this week's newsletter however, here are a few photos! Yes, your eyes are not deceiving you, Mrs Kingscote did make a guest appearance!



### Year 5 & 6 Girls Football Festival

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January, we went to Rednock for a football festival. When we got there, we sat in lines, and we were given a number. They did this for all the schools taking part. I was number four and I went in the red team with children from other schools. The first thing we did was to pick a team name. Someone from another school suggested, "Flutter Sprinkle Unicorn" and I suggested Poppy. The team picked Poppy! The first match we played, we lost but that was ok! After that, we moved to a different pitch and we played our next match, but we lost that as well. My team lost the next two matches and we did feel sad, but we did not give up and we tried our hardest!

By Grace

On Wednesday, we went to Rednock for a football festival. We had so much fun playing against different teams. All the teachers from the different schools decided that every person in a team would be separated and get put into a different team, with different teammates so that everyone could have the chance to meet someone new and to play with different people. It was hard to be in a different team, but everyone was having a lot of fun. Everyone enjoyed it! We had five matches and my team won four and we tied on the last round. We then walked back to school. Thank you for reading!

By Prisha

### ATTENDANCE

This week, I will be sending out attendance reminders to parents/carers of children where their attendance is below 92%. I am very concerned with the attendance figures here at Dursley, particularly the number of children who have attendance which is less than 90%. If your child's attendance is less than 90%, this is classed as Persistently Absent.

To have attendance which is less than 90% means your child will have missed at least 10 days of school. Which does mean, in Key Stage 1, this is **10 sessions of phonics missed**. We teach 1 phonics sound a day, so that is 10 sounds!

It is really important to remember that missing school will make your child fall behind in lessons and will impact on their academic progress and achievement. It can end up a bit of a cycle too, and they are reluctant to return due to worry about what they have missed, as well as worry about re-establishing friendships after missing so many social opportunities during the school day.

When you are deciding to keep your child off school, please use the attached poster to guide your decision-making.

### PARENTS EVENING

Parents evening dates are 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Please be advised that there will be no after school clubs this week. I am very conscious that Maple Class have not had their Parents Evening from October, with this in mind, we will be holding a Parents Evening for Maple Parents/Carers only in the Summer Term. More communication regarding Parents Evening will be sent out soon.

### Holidays During Term Time

Whilst we realise absence through illness is unavoidable, we do have concerns about children missing school through holidays and the impact this makes on their learning. Children also need to be present for important assessments throughout the year – **there are particularly important tests for Year Six and Year Two in May and Year One in June. We cannot, therefore, authorise any requests for family holidays except in exceptional circumstances.** If you do need to take your child out of school for a long absence, please contact the school office for an absence request form.

**Kindness, Respect, Responsibility, Thankfulness, Forgiveness and Perseverance in Action**

**FENCING CLUB!**

WOW! What an amazing response to our new Fencing Club- it was full within 24 hours. In response, our fantastic PE Coordinators, Mrs Lyons and Miss Sibert reached out to SportsPlus, and have arranged for a Circus Skills Club to start after half term. The children will have a taster day on the 6th February, and an email will be sent out to all parents/carers. It is fee-paying, and I am sadly unable to offer the discounted rate again this time. However, please do reach out if your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium Funding, as the school may be to offer some financial support if needed.

**NUT FREE SCHOOL REMINDER**

Thank you for your due diligence this week with removing nuts from your children's lunch boxes. We have a number of staff and pupils with a nut allergy, and should they come in to contact, this could be very serious, even fatal. It is really important to keep our eyes peeled and check the labels, to ensure that all of our children and colleagues can enjoy eating safely at Dursley.

**NEW WEBSITE FEEDBACK**

Thank you so much for all of your lovely and helpful feedback about the website. It was brought to my attention that the website's menu was really tricky to read. I have gone away, and managed to get it fixed. Hopefully, it is much more user friendly!

 **Value Leaves Awarded**

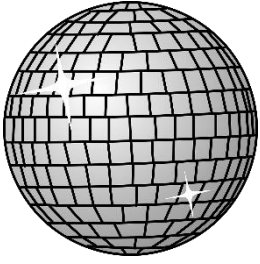
<b>Kindness</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Perseverance</b>
Daron J Leila C	Benito M Ernie G Alex C-B	Sherlin M Stanley S Kacey-Marie N-M
<b>Thankfulness</b>	<b>Forgiveness</b>	<b>Respect</b>
Chloe I	Jasper S	Grace C Leo N

	<b>Dates for your diaries</b>
<b>Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January</b>	Our school vision talk – Junior playground 8.30-8.50
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Circus Skills session – across the school day
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>	School Association Cake Sale – donations from Sequoia class
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Half Term Holiday
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Inset Day – School closed to all pupils
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Parents evening (details to follow)
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b>	Coffee and Chat with the NHS Health and Wellbeing team 9am School Hall
	Parents evening (details to follow)
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February</b>	School Association Pub Quiz at The Old Spot.
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>	School Association Cake Sale – donations from Larch class
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	School Association Cake Sale – donations from Maple and Cedar classes
<b>Coming Soon</b>	More dates coming soon!

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## School Association



### **School Disco**

We hope the children had lots of fun at the School Disco, we are pleased to say it raised

**£640.98!**

The School Association would like to express our thanks to the School's staff. Due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, it was possible that the disco was going to be postponed but thanks to the support of the School's staff, it went ahead. We would like to give a special mention to Rachael and Ange in the school office.

**Massive thanks to everyone who helped on the night!**

From Dursley C of E Primary Academy.

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