



November 2024
Issue 1.3

Dear Families and Friends of The Duke of Norfolk,

Welcome back! I hope you all have had a restful break over the half term. It has been a delight to see so much of the good learning that has taken place, as the children have certainly come back with a buzz. I regularly pop into to all classes to see children working and being in classes is one of the highlights of my work in school. I have been so proud of all the children this week who have been fully engaged with their learning and focussed on doing their very best.

Thank you to everyone who attended our parent consultations last term it was lovely to see so many of you over both evenings. If you missed your appointment or were not able to book a slot, please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible to book a meeting.

There are many events planned for the next few weeks, so please keep an eye on the school calendar and check your parent hub messages too. This week is no exception, as it was lovely to welcome so many parents this week to Stay and Play in reception and nursery. We have also waved off the year 6 pupils on their residential trip and I cannot wait to hear about all their adventures when they return.

This half term we are in the fortunate position to be welcoming two new Mid-day Supervisors to the school lunchtime team. Plus, Miss Cousen of Fir Class has recently celebrated her wedding over the half term break and returns to school under her new name of Mrs Parker. We all send the happy couple our best wishes for the future.

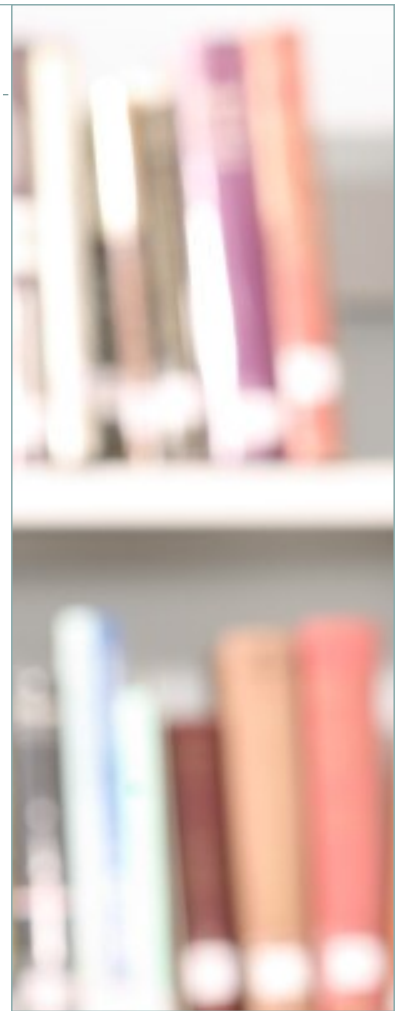
Yours with best wishes

Mrs. S Barker

Headteacher

The Selfish Giant

At our school as part of our music development plan we aim to provide opportunities for the children to enjoy live performances at least once a year. As part of this offer, all children have recently enjoyed a performance of The Selfish Giant performed in school by the Image Musical Theatre Company. The children enjoyed being part of the performance by learning songs and actions in Makaton as well as watching their classmates perform small roles within the show. The performance not only included audience participation but moving sets, puppets and lots of laughs. Many thanks to the PTA for supporting school and the children by paying for these performances.



INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER

- Updates
- The Selfish Giant
- Prefects—learning to lead
- Anti-Bullying Week
- Black History Month
- PTA
- Poppy Appeal
- Open Days
- Attendance
- Children in Need
- Key Dates



Prefects Assembly

Celebrating Learning to Lead

Our new Prefects and Heads of School have been announced! These leadership positions will be held by Year 6 students. The role of a prefect is a vital part of our school community, offering both leadership opportunities and a chance for pupils to contribute positively to their school environment. Prefects act as role models and provide pupils with a unique platform to develop meaningful life skills. Our prefects will take on various responsibilities, from assisting in school events

and promoting a sense of community. Two of our new prefects have kindly volunteered to take part in the Glossop Remembrance parade and will be placing the school wreath at the event, please look out for them both this Sunday morning.



PTA EVENTS

Thank you to the PTA for their continuing commitment and hard work for Dukes. They have recently held a popular stationery tuck shop after school. So the next events are the three movie nights, the dates are below followed by the Christmas Fair on Friday 13th December.



- Three movie nights, Tuesday 12th November (EYFS, years 1 & 2), Wednesday 13th November (years 3 & 4), Thursday 14th November (years 5 & 6).
- The Christmas Fair on Friday 13th December with donations towards the event on Friday 8th November (secret Santa), Friday 22nd November (bottles) and Friday 6th December (sweets) - all three dates are non-uniform in exchange for a donation.

Reception Place Open Day Visits

We are holding three further Open Day visits on Wednesdays for parents who would like to view school for a place in our Reception classes for September 2025. Please book via the school office, for Wednesday 20th November at 1.30pm, Wednesday 27th November at 10.30am or Wednesday 4th December at 1.30pm.

Anti-bullying Week 2024

Choose Respect

Monday 11th November to Friday 15th November

Monday 11th November marks the start of a very busy week in school and the start of national Anti-Bullying Week. The theme for 2024 is Choose Respect, a theme that empowers the children to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes.

Anti-Bullying Week is an annual event that aims to raise awareness of bullying of young people, with an emphasis on prevention and effective responses to bullying. To mark the week the children across our school will take part in a daily lesson. As part of Anti-Bullying week, we would like all pupils on Tuesday 12th November to wear odd socks to school for the day. This day is an opportunity to encourage children to express themselves and celebrate their individuality, highlighting what makes us all unique!





Black History Month

We had a fantastic time during our Black History event week just before half term. The children had a fabulous time joining in a loud and rhythmic drumming workshop.

The children have researched a range of historical and modern day figures who have inspired others and produced a range of artwork influenced by black artists, plus tasted a range of foods from around the world and in some classes held their own carnival.



Remembrance day

As a school we will be marking Remembrance day in school with a special assembly.

Dukes will again be supporting the British Legion Poppy Appeal by selling a range of merchandise alongside the more traditional poppies. All items will be on sale this week, we have a limited stock as we only have one box, so please buy early to avoid disappointment.



Attendance

Congratulations to Cherry Blossom Class with Miss Hampson, who had the highest attendance last half term! Also well done to all classes across the school who achieved attendance over 95%, a super achievement.



High levels of attendance and punctuality at primary school helps with good outcomes for your child, with higher levels of wellbeing and achievement.

If your child is absent from school for any reason, please let school know. You can do this by phoning the school office and leaving a message or by

absence@dukenorfolk.derbyshire.sch.uk

If school is not provided with a reason for an absence then your child's absence will be marked as unauthorised. The staff in the office are currently spending a lot of our time chasing absences so please help us by letting us know where your child is, if they are not attending school. Can I remind all parents that term time holidays and persistent absences for no reason are likely to incur a fine under the new guidelines. Also please provide medical evidence when attending medical appointments of sickness lasting for five days or more.

Children in Need

Traditionally the School Council have always supported a charitable event and cause. The council have asked if we will support Children in Need this year on Friday 15th November. To make donations easier for yourselves families can use their Parent Pay account. The school council would like all pupils who wish to support the charity to come in school dressed in their Pyjamas on this day, Friday 15th November.

KEY DATES

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

Monday 11th November—
Remembrance Day in school

Tuesday 12th November—Odd Socks day for Anti-bullying week

Thursday 14th November—Class Assembly for Oaks

Friday 15th November—Children in Need, please come to school dressed in pyjamas in exchange for a donation via Parent Pay.

Monday 18th November—Reading Café for years 3 and 4

Wednesday 20th November—The Owl Man visit in Reception and Nursery

Thursday 21st November—Class Assembly—Beech

Thursday 28th November—Class Assembly Willow

Class Drop ins during the week of the 2nd December (Monday 2nd December Reception and Nursery, Wednesday 4th December years 1 and 2, Thursday 5th December Year 3, 4, 5 and 6)

Christmas Dates We are trying to give you as much notice as possible.

Tuesday 10th December in the afternoon (2.30pm) and Wednesday 11th December in the morning (9.30am) both performances for parents of Chestnuts and Sycamores only.

Christmas Jumper Day in school Thursday 12th December

Christmas Craft Friday 6th December more details to follow

Christmas Carol Service in church at 2pm on Monday 16th December

Christmas Dinner in school Thursday 12th December

Christmas Class party days

Tuesday 17th December nursery and Reception

Wednesday 18th December years 1 & 2

Thursday 19th December years 3 & 4

Friday 20th December—years 5 & 6

