



October 2024
Issue 1.2

Dear Families and Friends of The Duke of Norfolk,

This term seems to be disappearing in the blink of an eye and we are already in the fifth week. The children have been actively engaged in so many areas of learning across the whole school. It was lovely to welcome so many families recently in to school for the Meet the Teacher, the Reading Café for year 5 and 6 and the EYFS parents coffee mornings. A huge thank you to both the PTA and Mrs Hargreaves especially for organising the cafes. A number of visitors to school have commented positively on the children's attitudes to learning and engagement in their lessons. We will also be supporting the local food bank in Glossop, via our Harvest festival in church. On another note the staff team would like to express their warmest congratulations to two valued members of staff, Mr and Mrs Daly on their recent wedding, we all wish you both the very best.

Yours with best wishes

Mrs. S Barker

OPEN DAYS

Over the next few weeks, we will be welcoming families to visit school for Reception places for September 2025. The dates are as follows, the 22nd October at 9.30am & 10.30am, 23rd October at 1.30pm, 24th October at 9.30am, 10.30am and 1.30pm or the 25th October at 9.30am. If you know of a family who is looking for a Reception place for their child, please encourage them to join us for a tour of the school, bookings can be made directly with the school office. We look forward to you joining us.

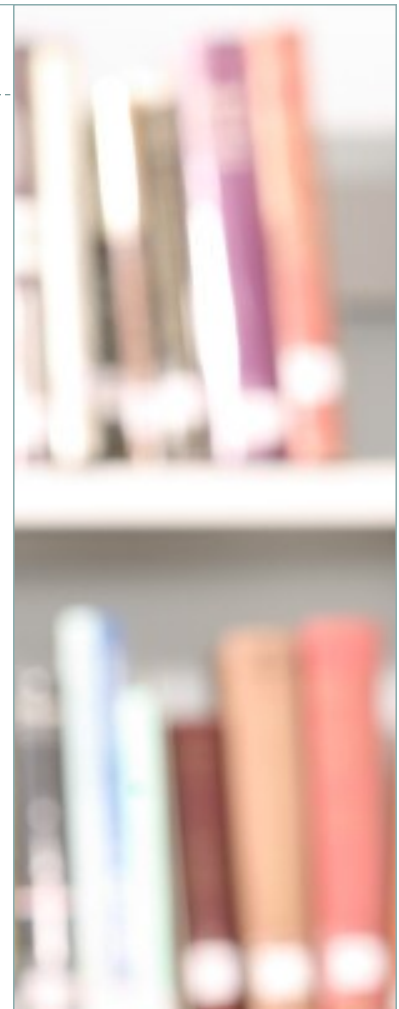
PARENT HUB

As technology and the world of communication moves on, so does Dukes. We have recently upgraded our messaging service to parents and have decided to switch to a new provider called parenthub. This can be accessed via an app on your phone and will allow you to access documents from school more effectively. Please look out for the special Dukes only code which will allow you to access the app, this was handed out in class on Friday 4th October. As with any technology we hope that the transfer between system will be as smooth as possible, so please be patient with the new system, as staff will be learning too! The transfer and switch between system will take place over this weekend.



Harvest Festival

We will be celebrating Harvest Festival at church on Thursday 10th of October, just with the children due to space. Like in the past we will be collecting donations, to be taken to the local foodbank in Glossop. We will be dropping off any donations after the service. If you would like to make a contribution, please bring items into school from Monday 7th October.



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Reading Café Update

It was amazing on Monday morning when the Year 5 and 6 Reading Café took place and it was lovely to welcome so many families to school to take part in the event.

I am sure you are all aware of



the importance of reading and reading for pleasure, as this skill fundamentally is the cornerstone to the wider curriculum. Our next Reading Café will be on Monday 18th November for years 3 and 4.

PTA EVENTS

The PTA have been very welcoming to me over the last few weeks and work hard on behalf of the school to arrange events for the children and fundraise for the benefit of the school community. They recently welcomed new families to the school at the successful EYFS coffee morning. They are always interested in welcoming new members to support them too, details can be found on their notice board near Holly class.



Future events are on the school calendar and include;

- A stationery tuck shop on Thursday 24th October after school
- 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.

Spelling Shed

Something New

At Duke of Norfolk School, we recognise the importance of teaching our children to spell accurately. Children who can spell feel confident and are able to write with enjoyment. We want our children to be equipped with a range of strategies for learning spelling and to be able to apply their strategies when spelling words in their independent writing. We encourage our children to enjoy exploring and investigating the patterns and contradictions of the English language and to take delight in what they discover. To support us to do this, you will be aware, we have signed up to Spelling Shed for children in Years 2 – 6. Spelling Shed is a game-based tool that can be used at home to boost children's confidence in spelling. Children enjoy playing the games and practise their spellings in a fun, interactive way. Your child has been given their login information and they can access Spelling Shed online here: <https://play.edshed.com/en-gb/login>.

Thank you to all of the families who have already engaged with Spelling Shed over the last few weeks. Mrs. Hargreaves has been busy finding out from the children how they are getting on with the new resource and the teachers have really noticed the children's enjoyment in their spelling lessons and engagement. Therefore, I would encourage you to discuss spellings as a part of your parents evening appointment if you need some further support with the system. As ever, please do carefully supervise your child when they use the internet.



WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY 2024

Thursday 10th October

*World Mental Health Day is a **global initiative** to raise awareness and support for mental health issues*

To mark the day, we will be asking all children and staff in school to wear a small flash of additional yellow as a part of their school uniform. This might be yellow socks, a yellow hairband or a yellow T-shirt. On the day the children will be thinking about the different things they can do to look after their own health and well-being.





Glossop Rotary Club

It was a lovely surprise to school to receive a cheque from Glossop Rotary Club recently in support of our repair work to the forest schools area. Mrs Hadfield received this cheque on behalf of the whole school and we cannot thank them enough.



Glossop Jog

This Sunday 6th October, marks the Glossop jog, fingers crossed the weather will be kind. A number of the staff have kindly volunteered to support the cause and I know they will be on the look out for lots of familiar faces.



Sporting Success

A huge well done and round of applause to all the children who took part in the Cross County—Mr English is very proud to say Dukes came first overall, despite the awful weather! A huge thank you to all families for helping with transport too. The football team came third in their recent tournament too, well done to each and every one of you. Plus we were fourth in the recent netball competition as well, what a fabulous start to the year.

School Term Time Holidays

You may have seen last monthly newsletter and the recent paper letter from school related to attendance. The guidelines for school attendance have changed considerably. Holidays will continue to be unauthorised and may be met with a fixed penalty notice, following stricter national guidelines. This can include a fixed penalty notice for both parents, even spilt parents if the main carer allows children to go on holiday with the other parent.

For the first month of September our whole school attendance is currently 97.3% which is amazing. As a school we are currently above the national attendance at 95% which means we are giving our pupils a super start to the year. Please see class group attendance rates so far on the school website for further details.

Sorry to Keep Asking

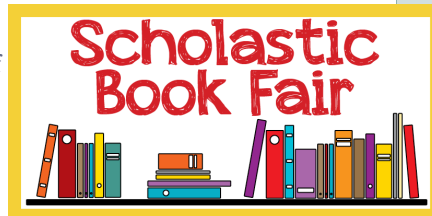
As a school we need additional midday supervisors to support the children at lunchtimes and the Governing Board of Duke of Norfolk Primary School is **seeking to appoint two lunchtime supervisors** to join our current hard working team of supervisors. This is a valued role in school and an essential part of the children's day. The hours of work are 11.55am to 1.20pm, Monday to Friday. Further details about the position can be found on the Derbyshire County Council Jobs website. If you would like further details please talk to either Mrs. Ford or Mrs. Cousen in the school office. **This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.**

Musical Theatre in School

On Monday the 7th October we will be welcoming a Image Musical Theatre group in to school to perform The Selfish Giant for the children.

Book Fair

We will be welcoming the book fair to school from Friday 11th October to 16th October and during the week. It will run every night after school in Holly classroom (Miss Maltby's).



KEY DATES

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

Sunday 6th October—Glossop Jog

Monday 7th October—Musical Theatre Visit

Monday 7th October—Sunflower Group Restarts—Invitation only, please see Mrs Hadfield for further details

Wednesday 9th October - School Photographs

Thursday 10th October—World Mental Health Day

Thursday 10th October—Harvest Festival

Friday 11th October—Book fair Arrives in school

Tuesday 15th October and Thursday 17th October—Parent Consultation Evenings

Tuesday 15th October—Flu Vaccines in school

Friday 18th October—INSET for whole staff training event

Friday 25th October—School closes for the Half Term Holidays

Monday 4th November—All Children return to school

Tuesday 5th November—Stay and Play for EYFS

Wednesday 6th to Friday 8th November—Residential Visit for Year 6

Thursday 14th November -Class Assembly for Oaks

Friday 15th November—Children in Need

Thursday 21st November -Class Assembly—Beech

Thursday 28th November—Class Assembly Willow

INSET DATES

Friday 18th October 2024

Monday 24th February 2025

Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Monday 2nd June 2025

