



DURRINGTON NEWSLETTER

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride

30 June 2023 edition



Well it certainly is a busy time of the school year with year 11 having reached the end of exams, year 10 mid-process in their first formal set of mock exams and so many trips and activities also taking place.

Diversity week (led by Mrs Ward) has been brilliant across the school and is such an important message to get across to all students. We are so

proud as well to be renaming our companies (which we will call houses from September) with a diverse and hugely impressive group of role models for all.

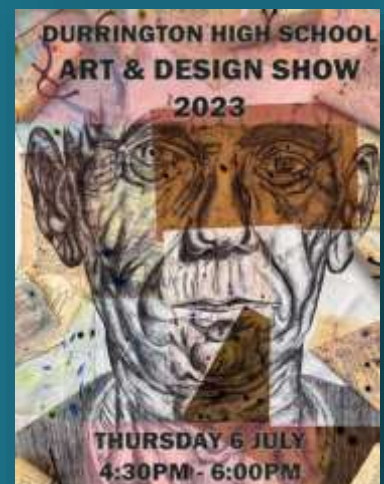
We continue to thank parents/carers for all their ongoing support both of the school and their own child/children.

*Shaun Allison &
Chris Woodcock
Co-Headteachers*

KS3 English celebration

On Monday 3rd July selected KS3 students and members of the Creative Writing club have been invited to present their outstanding work in front of family, fellow students and staff as part of a KS3 English Celebration Evening. This will take place from 6.30pm in the school library.

DHS Art & Design Show



Thursday 6th July 4.30 – 6.00pm
Venue: Durrington High School

Diversity Week @TeamDurrington

Diversity across the curriculum ...

This week has certainly been diverse as staff across the curriculum have planned themed lessons in KS3 to embrace Diversity Week at DHS.

English: students wrote their own ghazal which is a form of Arabic poetry that has two major rules as the poem must contain five or more couplets, and have a rhyme or repeated refrain.

Maths: students designed their own Rangoli patterns which are associated with Diwali, these are placed indoors as a welcome to the Hindu Goddess Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth. Students also learnt about the origins of Algebra as well as playing maths games from around the world.

Science: Edward Bouchet, the American physicist and educator, who was the first African American to earn

a Ph.D, was the topic in science and students carried out an experiment linked to his research.

History: discussions on diasporas in Britain took place, looking at different cultures who have been displaced from their country of origin and now live and contribute to the society we live in.

Geography: focused on 'moving stories' and looked at the impacts of migration on the UK.

SME: students looked at the LGBTQ+ faith and immigration in our changing population.

Textiles: Indian textiles were explored such as suzani, muslin, organza and voile with students exploring the origin of these fabrics and designing their own patterns and costumes.



Drama: lessons involved students sharing their choral voice and movement as they explored a poem about diversity.

Music: samba workshops on the field were enjoyed by all and students also wrote their own lyrics about diversity.

Art: students looked at the huge array of diversity in the arts which is central to the vitality of creativity and culture to be found.

DT: students were challenged to design an environment or product that can be accessed and used by as many people as possible, regardless of age, gender and disability.

Food: students researched food choices relating to religion, culture, ethical and moral beliefs.

PE: sports across the cultures were taught including lacrosse, badminton, softball and cricket, as well as looking at the impact of social groupings on participation of sport based on race, religion, culture, disability, gender, age and family and friends influence.

MFL: students were introduced to the use of non-binary pronouns in languages used around the world.

Computing: the focus was on Alan Turing who helped create one of the first computer machines to crack the German codes, as well as how machines today are adapted to help all sectors of society gain access.

“Unity in diversity is the highest possible attainment of a civilization, a testimony to the most noble possibilities of the human race”.
Gandhi



Diversity across our community



Diversity door challenge

The whole school were challenged to create a 'diversity door' representing our key messages of diversity which bring our community together, and the results were fantastic!

Poster & essay competition

Students were asked to think of a diverse and inspirational person/group that has made a difference to the world and create a poster using graphics and a short essay outlining their achievements.



Diversity lanyard

Using a template provided students were given the opportunity to design their own diversity lanyard reflecting our key values. The Senior Leadership Team will choose the best entry which will become the new staff lanyard next term. The winner will be announced next week!



**"Diversity is like an ocean, different,
equal and full of colour." Ashton Hegde Year 8**



"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin, but by the content of their character".

Martin Luther King Jr

Read your world library challenge

We want to encourage all our students to educate themselves about life from different standpoints. We are promoting this through the **'read your world project'** where students look for main characters who differ from themselves so they can reflect on the lived experiences of others. Students can then leave a review on their chosen book to then be in with a chance to win a reward from the LRA staff.

Diversity clubs

Extra-curricular clubs ran throughout diversity week with a range of subjects to choose from music to food, DT to computing, there was something for everyone to join in.

Diversitree!

Each tutor group have been working on their pledges to ensure everyone in our community feels part of Team Durrington.

These pledges will form part of the Student Senior Leadership Team legacy and will be placed on the new trees planted at the front of school which were kindly donated by Ferring Nurseries.

Diverse cuisine

Thanks go to Cucina who provided students with the option to taste different foods from around the world offering a varied menu during the week with recipes ranging from Mexican, Indian, French and Caribbean.

"Strength lies in differences, not in similarities."
Stephen Covey.



Introducing our new House names



Turing (currently Coubertin)

Alan Turing

"We can only see a short distance ahead, but we can see plenty there that needs to be done."



Pele (currently Mercator)

Pelé (Edson Arantes do Nascimento)

"Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do."



Malala (currently Shelley)

Malala Yousafzai

"I tell my story not because it is unique, but because it is the story of many girls."

Thank you to everyone who sent in nominations and we are delighted with our 6 new and diverse House names reflecting Team Durrington and our *Kindness, Aspiration, Perseverance & Pride* values.



Seacole (currently Roddick)

Mary Seacole

"Unless I am allowed to tell the story of my life in my own way, I cannot tell it at all."



Attenborough (currently Franklin)

David Attenborough

"What humans do over the next 50 years will determine the fate of all life on the planet".



Angelou (currently Da Vinci)

Maya Angelou

If you're going to live, leave a legacy. Make a mark on the world that can't be erased".



LGBTQ+ club

Since returning after half term in LGBTQ+ Club we have been celebrating Pride Month by making Pride Bunting to hang in the corridors.

Last week students designed their own leaflet about "How to come out" that will be made available to other students and to be a support leaflet for others in the community to know how to respond if someone talks to them about their sexuality.

We are also very excited to be working with the drama department in the upcoming weeks to complete workshops focusing on monologues and using drama to express yourself.

LGBTQ+ is a safe space for ALL students to come to and support one another whilst completing fun activities and sharing experiences.

Be Proud, Be You



A guide to coming out and
supporting others who do

“We are all different, which is great because we are all unique. Without diversity, life would be very boring.”
Student Senior Leadership Team

Pastoral Support award from The Rainbow Flag initiative

We are delighted to share our
'Pastoral Support' award from The
Rainbow Flag initiative.

This is our fourth award to
celebrate our diverse and inclusive
community as we continue to
ensure each and every one of our
students receive the best possible
education, as well as the guidance,
support and pastoral care each
individual student requires.



DHS Best of the Best



11th – 13th July 10am – 5.00pm

Venue: Colonnade House

We would like to invite you all to
our exhibition at Colonnade
House where you will be treated
to our amazing students fine art,
textiles, graphics & photography
work.



Celebrating our staff

Mrs Demetriou

Student Support and HLTA

23 years long service award



I came to work at Durrington in March 2000 following a quick chat in reception with Steve Frith, the then SENCO. He told me that I would never get bored and would get great job satisfaction.

He was not wrong, every day flies by and there is nothing better than seeing the light go on for a student following your help and them to now be able to access the work.

The teaching assistant job was very different when I started, working one

to one with a handful of students. Over the years my role has evolved giving me the opportunity to teach small groups as well as support SEND students in class within the maths department. I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to build rewarding relationships with many young people over the years, having been invited to their weddings and children's birthday parties. I am lucky to have worked within a very caring and devoted TA team, their support has helped me face the challenges of the day.

Pride of Durrington outstanding contribution to student support

With over 200 members of staff at Durrington who go beyond their best every day to support all of our students achieve their potential, in the classroom and beyond, this is a very special award that we want your nominations for. If you would like to nominate a member of our team who you feel embodies our KAPP values and makes a sustained and positive change to the lives of our students then we want to hear from you.

Please make your nominates on the link here: [Outstanding contribution to student support](#)

Farewell Year 11

This week we said farewell to our year 11s who have been an absolute brilliant year group. We are so proud of the perseverance they have shown, especially in the way they have overcome adversity caused by the disruption to their learning during Covid, and they have now successfully completed their final GCSEs.

During their celebration leavers assembly we were delighted to make the following awards.

The Martyn Simmonds Award

Congratulations to Freya Cummins who received this award for her outstanding achievements in geography.

Sports Person of the Year Award

This award went to Kadie Davis and Danny Jordan who have both gone beyond their best in a variety of sporting activities and events throughout their time at Durrington. Well done to you both.

The Summer Ball was held in the Grand Hall at the Avisford Park Hilton Hotel and the sun shone as the students arrived looking fabulous, and together

we enjoyed a truly lovely evening celebrating their time at Durrington.

We will be sharing photos from the event on our social media pages in the coming days.

Year 11 will return one last time on results day on Thursday 24th August when once again we will be celebrating their achievements.



“Diversity is the one true thing we all have in common ... celebrate it every day.” Student Senior Leadership





Computing ... the next generation

The Laurels Primary School students visited Durrington last week and had a taster session in our state of the art computer science classrooms.

The students built, refined and developed some amazing Lego spike cars and learnt about programming to get the cars moving.



“In diversity there is beauty and there is strength.”
Student Senior Leadership Team



By the end of the first session students were able to create their own lego robot wars and they all had an amazing experience thoroughly enjoying the technology on offer.

We really enjoyed our first computing partnership with The Laurels too and look forward to working with them again when they return for their next learning experience at Durrington.



Pride of Durrington

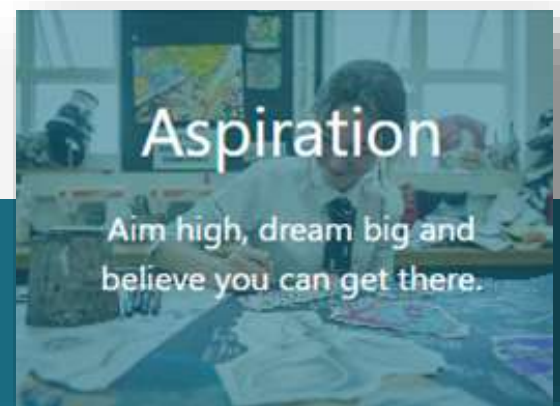
The deadline for nominations is 9am Monday 3rd July so make sure you submit your nominations this weekend!

[Pride of Durrington nomination form](#)

Award categories

Kindness in the community awards

- Volunteer of the year
- Charity fundraiser of the year
- Unsung community hero award
- Peer support award





Aspiration awards

- Outstanding contribution to extra-curricular activities
- Commitment to sport award
- Outstanding contribution to PE
- The spirit of adventure award
- Outstanding contribution to performing arts award
- Outstanding contribution to careers award
- Outstanding scholar award
- Diversity Champion award

Perseverance awards

- Student of courage award
- Young achiever award
- Environmental champion award
- Overcoming adversity award
- The Sally Baker reading award

Pride awards

- Pride of company (special recognition/contribution) awards
- Greatest contribution to school values award



Durrington High Leisure

At Durrington High Leisure we are proud to open our state of the art facilities to the local community and create a space for learning, sports and special events.

Sports Hall & Outdoor Pitches

We can accommodate a range of indoor and outdoor sports activities. Our facilities are suitable for Football, Rugby, Hockey, Tennis, Basketball, Netball, Cricket, Badminton, Martial Arts, Fitness, Dance and Yoga classes.

Dance Studios & Performance Space

We have great facilities for dance or exercise classes and the performing arts including rooms for rehearsal space or for larger events.

Events, Training, Meetings, Fayres & Exhibitions

We have a range of rooms ideal for meetings and training sessions as well as large Mall areas ideal for fayres, exhibitions and events.

The Brewhouse - Bistro

Our very own bistro 'The Brewhouse' offering a wide range of snacks and drinks (opening times vary).

To check availability or to arrange a viewing please complete an enquiry form [here](#).

Recruitment

Receptionist

Apply by 9am on Monday 3rd July 2023



Diary Dates

- Thursday 6th July - Art & DT show & PE celebration evening
- Thursday 13th July - Pride of Durrington 2023
- Thursday 20th July - Summer Concert
- Friday 21st July - Last day of term
- Term dates for the 2023/2024 academic year can be found [here](#)

Social media

Don't forget you can follow all the latest news on our social media pages:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Instagram](#)





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