

# DURRINGTON SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride

**22 July 2024 special edition**



Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride

# Pride of Durrington

What a year! We can't quite believe where the year has gone. There has been so much to be proud of for many of our students and staff that we couldn't possibly fit it all into a single newsletter. However, hopefully you will have seen from the fabulous newsletters this year what has been going on. We finished the year in style with an amazing Pride of Durrington event last week where more than 30 students from across the year groups were recognised for their exceptional contribution to our school and the wider community. There are more details of the event and individual award winners in this special edition newsletter so please do have a read.

As has now become tradition our new SSLT have also created and set our Summer Aspiration Challenge for this year titled "Give a Little Back". Whilst the challenge is optional we very much hope that lots of students will get involved. The activities and challenges set are all very low (or no) cost and, when completed will make a positive difference. Please do encourage your child to get involved and send us a picture or two of them taking part.

Just a few of other reminders please in this last newsletter of the year:

1. As previously mentioned the school day and timings are standardised in September. Every day now starting with students being expected to be on site by 8.40am and finishing at 3.10pm
2. As you review and purchase new uniform items for your child due to their inevitable growth over the year we would very much welcome donations of second hand items. These can be dropped into the main reception of school at any time.
3. Students will return to school on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September. Details will come to you of the specific year group timings during the holidays and be on the website as well.

And finally, we thank you too, our fabulous parents & carers for all you have done to support your child and the school over the last year. It really has meant a lot to receive such lovely feedback during the year about how we are educating and supporting your children. Have a lovely summer.

Shaun Allison & Chris Woodcock

## *#TheDurringtonJourney*

# Announcing our Head Student's

## Greta Hite

I am so excited to be one of the head students this year and to be part of the senior student leadership team.

Ever since joining year 7, I have been welcomed into an inclusive and kind community. I especially love the PE and art department here at Durrington and love to get involved with sports competitions. I would love to inspire other students to make the most of their Durrington experience and go and take advantage of every opportunity presented such as extracurricular clubs. I could not be more grateful for the amazing opportunities and friendships I have made at Durrington and the support to help me achieve my goals and ambitions.



## Armin Merati

Hi, my name is Armin, and I am thrilled to introduce myself as the newly appointed Head Boy at Durrington High School for the 2024-2025 academic year. I am eager to contribute positively to our esteemed school community, not only through my academic endeavours but also as a dedicated athlete in basketball. I look forward to working together to make a lasting impact on our school.



# #StudentLeadership



# Pride of Durrington 2024

**Kindness in the Community**

**Volunteer of the Year**

**Amy Townsend**



Amy has spent time this academic year volunteering at the Worthing dementia hub. This is work that she has taken upon herself to help support the people of her community. It has taken place in the evenings after school and has involved talking to individuals taking part in activities and providing help where it is needed.

# Kindness Awards

## Kindness in the Community Charity Fundraiser of the Year Ella James



During the summer holidays between year 8 and year 9, Ella helped and set up tea parties to raise funds for Breast Cancer Now. During these events they managed to raise over 100 pounds. But what sets her apart from other volunteers is that she then went on to work as part of a team with Guildcare where she helped organise an inflatable event at Goodwood. This event raised almost 2000 pounds. Ella was a huge contributor in this and deserves to be recognised.



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Kindness in the Community Unsung Community Heroes Evan Bradley & Ben Packham



Both of these students were on their way to Tesco when they saw an elderly lady have a fall. She fell on her face and smashed her glasses and was clearly in a lot of pain, discomfort and was bleeding quite heavily. Both of the boys saw this happen and rushed over to help the lady. They called an ambulance and kept her calm and safe and followed the instructions from the 999 call to stay with her until the ambulance arrived. The paramedics were incredibly impressed with what the boys did and commended them on their excellent care.

# Kindness Awards

## Kindness in the Community

### Peer Support

### Kieri Marett



Kieri has been a constant base of support for her closest friends this year. Her naturally kind, compassionate and empathetic personality has shone through in her constant drive to support and protect them. As well as coping with her anxiety in the build up to her GCSE's, she has always found time and set aside her feelings to prioritise friends with their own difficulties and challenges. She is hugely valued by these friends and has certainly helped to support them through this academic year and exam period. She embodies “kindness”, she is warm and polite in her manner and always thinks of others.



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Outstanding Contribution to Extra-Curricular Activities

### Robyn Bond



Robyn has proven over the course of the year that she is determined to get the most out of her time at Durrington High School. One of the many ways in which she does this is through taking part in so many extra-curricular clubs. Not only is she a keen member of the Dance Live and performing arts team, she has also been made a sports captain, and the form rep for her tutor group. By being involved in all of these areas and taking a leading role she is becoming one of the key leaders in her year group and across the whole school.

# Aspiration Awards

## Outstanding Contribution to Sport

### Ryan Angell



Ryan's dedication and willingness to improve within all aspects of PE and extra-curricular sport has been absolutely fantastic over the past 5 years at Durrington. He has represented the school in 6 different sports including rugby, basketball, football and athletics. He has also represented the Worthing District Schools athletics team on numerous occasions at the county finals. His event being the 200m. Ryan has always shown excellent sportsmanship and etiquette while maintaining his competitive nature to win. He has also been a fantastic role model to many of our younger students during his time at Durrington.



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Outstanding Contribution to PE

### James Cook



James has been a phenomenal student throughout his time at Durrington both in terms of his theoretical understanding and his practical achievements. The way he conducts himself across all elements of the subject is exemplary. He is a keen footballer, aerially dominant and calm in possession. He has also represented the school at athletics, his best event being the triple jump although he could turn his hand to almost all of the athletic disciplines. James has also shone in the classroom too, the way he thinks about the subject and the content is far beyond his years. He would ask challenging questions and took a genuine interest in all aspects of the course. He was an absolute pleasure to teach, he is destined for greatness within sport or PE whether it be academically, practically or even both.

# Aspiration Awards

## Outstanding Year 7 Award

**James Rickus**



James has had an amazing start since joining us in September. His incredible warmth and sunny nature, paired with his fantastic behaviour and impeccable manners have made him an absolutely incredible addition to the Durrington High School team. He has already proved himself to be an essential part of the performing arts team, demonstrating his creative qualities through a number of school productions. Perhaps the highlight for many staff members was watching and hearing James take a crash course in learning how to play the organ. Well done on making the most incredible start to life at Durrington High School.



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Outstanding Contribution to Seacole House

### Sienna Perry



Sienna is the number one in Seacole for attainment showing her dedication and hard work across all of her subjects. She has proudly represented the school for almost every sport that we have, including handball, rugby and many others. But there is much more to her than just being successful, this is a student who always puts 100% into any task she is asked to do, who challenges both herself and her peers to be better every day. Someone who represent Durrington with pride and is a role model to many. Someone who supports her friends and will go the extra mile to support any member of staff and her peers.

# Aspiration Awards

## Outstanding Contribution to Attenborough House

Jenni Wood



Jenni has made her way through life at Durrington with distinction. She has worked incredibly hard every day for the last five years, always striving to improve and make those marginal gains in her lessons. She is a role model to her peers, hard working, intelligent but never boastful. We know she will go on to achieve whatever she puts her mind too! But first, she needs to make sure she has a well deserved rest over the summer! Stay in touch, we can't wait to see what you do next!



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Outstanding Contribution to Pele House

### Milena Ramashkevich



When it comes to selecting a student that has taken difficulties in their stride there was no one else to choose. Despite having a difficult year, Milena turns up to school everyday with an enthusiasm for learning. She has a mature and grounded attitude that has also led to her being a pillar of support for her dad and younger brother and on top of all this, she has a brilliant sense of humour which we all enjoy!

# Aspiration Awards

## Outstanding Contribution to Turing House

### Atipaishe Chitaunhike



Atipaishe is a credit to the house team at Turing. She models excellence every day through demonstrating out KAPP values. Not only is she supportive of her peers, she has the highest aspirations for herself too. She has taken on a leading role within our school leadership team and is one of our key diversity ambassadors raising awareness of issues that impact many young people in our community. She is always keen to be involved in extra-curricular events and push herself as far as she can has been demonstrated through her involvement in the Duke of Edinburgh awards.



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Outstanding Contribution to Malala House

### Adam Cooper



When Malala House considers all the attributes that best represent our house, Adam always comes out on top. He oozes kindness and goes out of his way to help others on a daily basis. He is also passionate about learning new skills and attends cadets weekly. This has had a knock on impact and led to him competing for a number of awards in competitions such as first aid giving. Most importantly he is so proud to be a Durrington student, he always wears his KAPP badges with pride and is an essential member of Malala House.

# Aspiration Awards

## Outstanding Contribution to Angelou House

### Freya Goddin-Derbyshire



Freya has consistently gone above and beyond to support us within Angelou this year. She has supported at multiple parents evening, achieved over 20 KAPP badges and represented the school on multiple occasions. On top of this Freya is consistently kind to all members of staff and students and a valued member of her tutor group. As a result of all this we want to make sure that her daily hard work is rewarded to the absolute maximum. Well done on making sure that your contribution to KAPP is clear in everything that you do.



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Student of Courage

### Arabella Cloake



In school Arabella has mentored younger students and supported transition events. She has also shown so much kindness to others and her kind actions have certainly not gone unnoticed by staff and her peers. Outside of school she is equally as giving to others. Over many years she has been incredibly helpful at home helping to look after her younger brother and also with foster placements staying with the family. On top of this she was the youngest ever helper at Chanctonbury Community Playscheme supporting children with often very complex additional needs. From seeing her work with these children it's clear she has a real gift both in terms of her ability to form relationships with them but also how she invests so much in terms of positive communication with them. Quite simply Bella is an all round superstar and this award is true recognition for all she has done and all that she has overcome. You have a bright future ahead of you and we are delighted that you are part of team Turing and our wider school community.

# Perseverance Awards

## Young Achiever

### Ethan Hardy



Ethan has demonstrated the perfect attitude to life at Durrington High school since he started 2 years ago. He has taken every opportunity to throw himself into all of the extra curricular clubs that we have available here. He has attended more extra curricular clubs than any other student in the entire school (over 1600 pupils). He has also achieved 1's for effort in every subject since joining the school and his 100% attendance is to be celebrated to the maximum. Well done Ethan!



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Environmental Champion

### Poppy Jackson



Poppy has been a fantastic addition to Eco Club at Durrington, and is an integral part of our efforts to combat climate change. She has helped to collect, sort and recycle hundreds of pens and glues, that otherwise would have ended up in landfill. We are very lucky to have an individual who is so passionate about the environment, and is taking action to make our world a better place. This is especially important when you consider the huge threat to the environment just now. She has proved herself to be a champion of raising awareness of the climate crisis.

# Perseverance Awards

## Overcoming Adversity

### Dexter Knight & Henry Gill



Henry Gill - One of the best parts of teaching is being inspired by our students. I can't think of a better way to describe Henry than as an inspiration to us all. This student never lets any set backs get them down, their resilience and drive to succeed has us in awe. No matter what is going on for them personally they come to school with a permanent smile on their face, a positive attitude and a joy for learning. They take time to be polite to others and make sure everyone around them is okay. They are never afraid to share their journey with others around them and I know this has been a source of inspiration for many of their friends and peers. So a massive well done from Seacole!

Dexter Knight- Dexter is the epitome of strength and selflessness. He greets everyone with a smile and gives his best in everything he does. Dexter is everything DHS could hope for in a student. Hardworking, resilient, polite and determined. Dexter, Malala House salutes you and we are exceptionally proud.



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Outstanding Commitment to Home Learning Scarlett Austin



On her reports since year 7 Scarlett has received 1's for her homework. She has been commended by her subject teachers more than any other student in the school for the effort that she has constantly put into her homework over the last 3 years. Sometimes this kind of effort can go under the radar, but we want her to understand that her effort and desire to persevere and go beyond her best is appreciated by all. Well done Scarlett.

# Perseverance Awards

## The Sally Baker Reading Award

### Hazel Fraser



Hazel embodies what a reader can get from a love of literature. She is always learning, always listening and caring and always ready to start another chapter! It's this passion and eagerness to learn, to empathise and to look for new and engaging things that show us that she will get the most out of life, looking for new opportunities, new challenges and helping others along the way too. She also has a naturally inquisitive mind and learns so much from what she reads. Her passion for characters often leads her to really feel for them. We've seen her laugh and cry in equal measure as she reads the stories she loves. To add to her love of reading, and to share that with her peers, she has joined our student librarian team. She has a natural ability to set others at ease, yet show them clearly and concisely how to do the role. We are so proud to have her as part of our team. With this award we not only celebrate Hazel's reading, but also take a moment to thank her for her contribution to the school community too.



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Outstanding Commitment to Performing & Creative Arts

### Ollie Marett



Ollie has been tireless in his commitment to the performing arts, supportive and kind to everyone and rising to every challenge that has been thrown his way. A true superstar and an inspiration to students in younger years. Ollie will be sorely missed by us all, with his sense of humour, commitment, dedication and talent. Ollie was even in Durrington performances when he was still in year 6. Ollie Marett, you have a bright future and will be missed by us all. Thank you for everything you have given to the department over the years.

# Perseverance Awards

## Outstanding Scholar

### Jess Moore



Jess has demonstrated an excellent attitude towards her studies ever since joining DHS, and has somehow seemingly even increased these efforts this year. She has been a member of our Platinum Academy since the beginning of the year and has engaged consistently with the material covered and the DHS alumni speakers we have had in to talk to the group, while also attending our visit to St John's College Oxford where she participated in a Q&A session with current students and taster lecture in British History. Her dedication to her studies is reflected in her outstanding performance so far in her year 10 assessments, in which she regularly ranks within the top 5% of students in the subjects she is studying, with particular highlights being English Language, Media and Maths where she is currently projected to achieve grade 9s.



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Outstanding Contribution to Careers

### Alfie Baker

This student was having difficulty finding a work experience placement in Year 10. He persevered and put himself forward for an opportunity at The Grand Hotel in Brighton. He chose to apply for a Front of House role at the hotel. This is a customer-facing role that requires a lot of confidence. At the time he and his family knew that this was putting himself out of his comfort zone but he was very engaged with the whole process and was determined to do well. He travelled to Brighton every day and even requested if he could stay an extra day at the end though he did have to come back to school! On Careers Day he made a point of thanking the careers team for encouraging him and working with him on the placement. He has continued to engage with the careers team since, by considering how what he learned could be applied to his future and he is even thinking about opportunities to work outside of the UK.



# Perseverance Awards

## Darren Fox Award for Outstanding Contribution to Science

**Tamara Clayton**

The Darren Fox Award celebrates a student who embodies our values at Durrington and consistently maintains excellence in every interaction and science lesson. This year's award goes to Tamara, who is not only genuinely brilliant but has also consistently demonstrated a driven, inquisitive mind. We are confident that these qualities will serve Tamara exceptionally well should she choose to pursue a career in science in the future.



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Martyn Simmonds Award for Outstanding Contribution to Geography

Teia Bathory



Teia represents everything the Martyn Simmonds Award stands for. A brilliant attitude to learning and discovery - Teia takes immense pride from her work. A determination to always improve, she consistently aspires to be better and perseveres when the rigour ramps up, and of course has a keen enthusiasm for geography. All of this is wrapped up in the kindest personality and sunniest of dispositions. We're incredibly proud of Teia, she has been a superstar student particularly throughout her GCSE years with Mr Atkins and is wholly deserving of this award.

# Pride Awards

## Sam Bassett Award for Outstanding Contribution to Performing Arts

**Finley Lillywhite**



Sam Bassett was in year 9 when I first started teaching at Durrington, a loveable cheeky chap who got involved in every production and thoroughly loved his Drama and Music. Sam was always a joy to watch on stage and always made me laugh with his quick ad libs. This memorial award is in his honour as Sam sadly passed away thirteen years ago and since then DHS have honoured his memory by presenting this award to a student who has gone above and beyond for the performing arts department. The recipient tonight has been involved in every production and Dance Live since he joined us in year 7, but has hardly been seen on stage in that time, he has given hours of his time to supporting others from making awesome videos to creating props and generally being a calming presence for all the staff. Finley Lillywhite, you have been a pleasure to teach and I am so grateful for your continuous contributions. you have shown that you don't have to be in the spotlight to make a huge impact.



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Special Recognition for Pride Award

### Xabi Aguilera



Xabi has had the most impressive final year at school. It is probably fair to say that during year 8 and 9 school was not Xabi's favourite place in the world, but over the course of the last 2 years he has embodied everything that makes for a successful student. His focus on his academic achievement has been driven by the pride that he shows every single day. Even getting to school takes a huge effort from Xabi - he lives in Littlehampton and leaves the house so early that he gets the train, walks from the station and arrives at school by 7am every day. He has used this time to revise and prepare for his GCSE exams that have just taken place. Congratulations Xabi.

# Pride Awards

## Greatest Contribution to School Values

### Callum Cummins



Our school values run deep amongst our student body and Callum underpins the values of Kindness, Aspiration, Perseverance and Pride better than any other member of our school community. Callum was the first student to be awarded the platinum seahorse at Durrington High School. Demonstrating his dedication to our values. Not only this but he has also been selected after a rigorous interview process up against 50 of their peers for the SSLT. A key reason for this was the fact that KAPP runs through him like a stick of rock!



# Pride of Durrington 2024

## Headteacher's Special Recognition Award

### Grace Bridger



For us, the decision was simple. Grace epitomises what it means to be a Durrington student. Every day, she comes to school and embraces everything that Durrington has to offer. She works incredibly hard in all of her subjects and sets herself the highest possible standards. Alongside this, she also makes an amazing contribution to extra-curricular activities, through the performing arts. Grace has been an incredible Head Student this year and has been instrumental to so much of the great work that the SSLT has done this year. She has been a super role model for all the other students at Durrington. What's more, she does all of this with a smile on her face – every day.

# Pride Awards

Our values of kindness, aspiration, perseverance and pride could also be used to describe Grace. Whoever you ask about Grace you get the same messages:

English “Grace is a ray of sunshine every day without fail and always does extra work and asks for feedback”

History “Grace is one of the most inspiring students I have ever worked with, she is so kind, well mannered and dedicated”

Drama “Grace embodies kindness and is always on hand to support and offer a helping hand to others”

her form tutor “Grace is an excellent role model to others, universally liked and well respected by the whole tutor group”

The messages and quotes could have gone on and on and every single one of them is so well deserved. Both of us couldn't be more proud of you Grace and we thank you so much for all you have done for and given to our school. You will be an incredibly hard act to follow and we really do hope that you keep in contact with us and let us know how you get on next year and beyond.



Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride



# Summer Challenge

We know that over the course of the summer holidays many of you will be demonstrating our core values of KAPP every single day. With this in mind, we want to make sure that you are rewarded for all of your hard work. To ensure that this happens we would like you to take part in nominating your child in the following ways.



Summer aspiration challenge - Students can earn their aspiration badge by completing the summer aspiration challenge that has been set up by the Head Students and our SSLT. Students have been given a leaflet which highlights different tasks around the theme of aspiration. As they complete a task, we ask that they take photographic evidence and send it in to Ms Edwards at [ledwards@durring.com](mailto:ledwards@durring.com). Each task is worth a different number of points and to earn your aspiration badge students have to achieve 50 points.

Kindness and Pride nominations - We know that the summer holiday will present lots of opportunities for students to earn their pride and kindness badges also. If you think that your child has done enough to be nominated for a kindness or pride badge, please send in your nominations via the KAPP nominations form on the school website. The link can be found here:

**[Durrington High School KAPP nominations](#)**

Have a fantastic summer holiday and don't forget to let us know what you've been up to.

# KAPP 2024

## Please ask a parent/carer's permission first!

| Give....                | 5 points  | 10 points  | 20 points   |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|
| To charity              | -A single donation to a charity shop or clothes bank or similar   | -Sort through and organise your belongings, and donate any clothes, books or toys you no longer use                                  | -Organise an event to raise money for a charity of your choice (e.g. a bake sale, sponsored run)  |
| To a friend(/s)         | -Send 3 friends a message complimenting them  | -Make a card for one of your friends with things around your home  | -Organise and take part in a friends quiz night (big or casual)   |
| To family<br>Ask to ... | -Cook a meal (e.g. pasta) or make a treat (e.g. cake, cookies) for a family member<br><br>-Help with cleaning (could be washing the dishes or cleaning) within your household | -Visit or call or write to a relative and spend quality time with them showing your care for them<br><br>-Wash a family member's car | -Create a sporting challenge for you and your family to take part in  |
| To yourself             | -30 minute meditation<br><br>-Walk your/ a relatives dog<br><br>-Parkrun  | -2+ park runs<br><br>-3 + meditations or exercise classes<br><br>-Series of 3+ exercise activities (runs, walks, cycles)             | -5 + park runs<br><br>-Create a poster centred around your favourite subject at school<br><br>-Spend 30+mins practising mindfulness e.g. colouring, breathing exercises |
| To the environment      | -Pick up 10 pieces of litter from your local area<br><br>-Walk/Cycle instead of using a car on 2 separate occasions   | -Make a bug hotel or bird feeder with things around your house/local outdoor areas   | -Write a poem about being kind to the environment   |



*Going beyond our best through  
Kindness, Aspiration,  
Perseverance and Pride*



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