



## Doncaster School for the Deaf Newsletter

**October 2023**

### Welcome

Welcome to our first newsletter of the 2023/24 academic year. It was lovely welcoming pupils back to school and watching them catch up with their friends after the summer break. They have all settled back into school routines really well. We are delighted to introduce Mrs Webster and Mrs Davies who have joined the teaching team this September and a warm welcome back to Ms Croggon who has returned from maternity leave.

It has been a very busy half term including an Ofsted inspection!



Mrs Webster



Mrs Davies

### New pupils

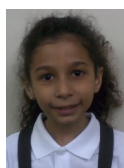
We would like to offer a very warm welcome to our new pupils: Emily, Deontay, Silvia, Alice and Harmony.



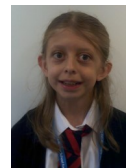
Emily



Deontay



Silvia



Alice



Harmony

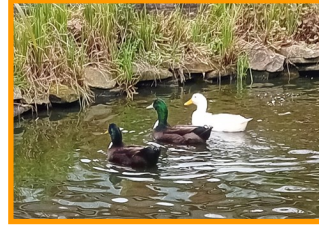
### Ofsted

Ofsted visited school and carried out a 2 day inspection on the 26th and 27th September 2023. Ofsted provide an independent assessment of the quality and standard of education in schools and check whether pupils are achieving as much as they can. They spent time with senior leaders, observed lessons and sought the views of pupils, staff and parents.

*We will share the outcome of their inspection when available.*

# Three little ducks went swimming one day

During the summer break three not so little ducks joined the other residents in the school quad pond, much to the delight of our pupils!



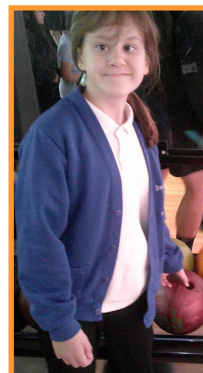
# Experimenting with Science

Pupils are enjoying their science lessons in the newly refurbished science laboratory. Work was carried out during the summer holidays, staff and pupils alike are all really impressed with the new lab.



# Panathlon Challenge

Primary attended a bowling competition organised by Panathlon. They had a fantastic time, coming in 2<sup>nd</sup> place and taking home the Silver certificate! Well done to Dariens who achieved the highest score of the day with 93 points.



# School Council

Nominations for the school council have taken place and the following pupils have been chosen by their peers as representatives: Silvia, Dariens, Simas, Oliver, Keira, Lili, Vhon and Emily S. Congratulations to Keira who was elected as 'Chair' and to Emily who was elected as 'Deputy'.

The council have already met and made plans for an end of term Halloween event for everyone to enjoy. They will continue to meet on a regular basis throughout the academic year.

## Macmillan Coffee morning

Pupils enjoyed a selection of delicious, homemade cakes to raise funds for the Macmillan Cancer Support charity. As part of their AQA unit award, Henry and Christine could be involved in a charity event and chose to support Macmillan.

Thank you to Miss Peace, Mrs Payne, Henry and Christine for organising this event for such a worthy cause.



## History

In Primary History, some pupils have been learning about the job of archaeologists and how they know so much about the Stone Age, even though it was such a long time ago. They conducted their own archaeological dig and discovered artefacts buried beneath the different layers of built-up earth. Some pupils were very fastidious and extracted the artefacts carefully. Others .... had a great time!



# Black History Month

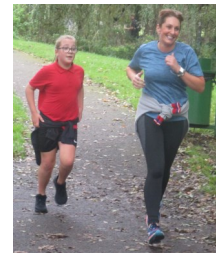
October is Black History Month and this year's theme is 'Saluting our Sisters', to highlight the crucial role that Black women have made in shaping history and inspiring change.

Primary pupils have been studying the life of Rosa Parks and seeing how one seemingly small decision by a black woman has altered the course of history. They are working towards creating fact files about this amazing pioneer! Pupils have really enjoyed learning about pioneering Black people, men and women alike, and many have felt inspired by their stories. While October is a month dedicated to celebrating the achievements of Black people, all of our pupils agree that this is important every month and will not stop on the 1<sup>st</sup> November. We will look forward to learning more about Black History all year round!



## Keep on running...

Pupils enjoyed the annual cross country event at the Royal School for the Deaf in Derby on a crisp, sunny day.



A few pupils chose the walking race whilst others ran the whole course. Congratulations to Isabel who came 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in the junior girls 1 mile race, a fantastic achievement. All the training and hard work paid off as the pupils ran good times and finished in good positions.

Pupils enjoyed socialising with new and old friends from other schools. They were a credit to both themselves and to the school. Mrs Taylor-Bunting and Mrs Gaywood were so proud of everyone.

It was a hugely enjoyable and successful event, and we look forward to next year's competition.

# Achievements and Recognition



Congratulations to Lili, Hadiqa and Seth on achieving Functional Skills English at Level 1. Lili has also achieved the BSL Level 2 award. Fantastic news.

Kourtney, Hadiqa and Emily have all worked really hard to achieve Distinction grades in BTEC Level 1 Introductory Award in Sport.



Well done to Vhon on passing the BSL Level 1 award. Great news!

Following the successful completion of the RGG Careers Leader course we are delighted to announce that Emma Smith has been appointed the school's Careers Lead. Congratulations, Emma.



## Pupil of the Week

Simas was chosen for the Pupil of the Week award for transitioning well into Year 7 and working hard in class. Alice was chosen for adjusting well to a new school. She is enjoying making new friends.

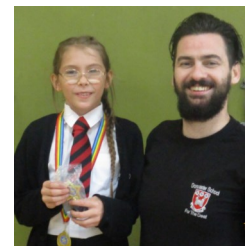


Congratulations to our Pupils of the Week: Lucy, for being kind, considerate and hard working and Christine, for having a great attitude to learning and maturity when in school and out on school visits.

Lili always works hard in class and is a good friend to others. An excellent role model.



Congratulations to Hadiqa and Harmony! Hadiqa was chosen for being kind to friends and role model to our younger pupils. Harmony has settled well into school making several new friends.



# Careers

Secondary pupils enjoyed a tour of Nuffield Health Doncaster Fitness and Wellbeing Gym. They met with a variety of staff members and gained an insight into some of the job roles within the company and learned about individual career paths, qualifications gained etc. The duty manager explained her progression within the company, originally working in the café, then the gym's reception before training to management level despite struggling with dyslexia.

A retired dental surgeon spoke to pupils about his experiences at university and the procedures he carried out as a surgeon and emphasised the importance of resilience and how you must persevere with things, despite them being hard.

Pupils enjoyed their time with a gym instructor who explained how he had found his passion for fitness after enrolling at a gym and losing 9 stone in weight. This led to his desire to train and qualify as an instructor himself.

It was a very informative and worthwhile visit.



# ASDAN

As part of the ASDAN unit, 'Environmental Awareness' Lacey, Igor and Christine have been learning how to re-use materials carefully and sensibly, so they do not go to waste. Pupils were encouraged to take reusable bags when out shopping.

They also set up re-cycling boxes in all the classrooms and took ownership for emptying them on a regular basis. They visited the local recycle centre where they were able to see first hand what other materials can also be recycled.



## Keeping school informed

If you have moved house recently or changed your mobile number or email address please remember to inform the school office. Either email [secretary@ddt-deaf.org.uk](mailto:secretary@ddt-deaf.org.uk) or telephone 01302 386733. Many thanks for your continued support.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Friday 20th October 2023**

**Monday 30th October 2023**

**Friday 22nd December 2023**

**Monday 8th January 2024**

**Thursday 8th February 2024**

**Friday 9th February 2024**

**School closes for half term**

**School re-opens**

**School closes for Christmas**

**School re-opens**

**School closes for half term**

**Training day. School closed to pupils**