DUCKLINGTON
C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nurture, Bloom, Rejoice

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Tel. (01993) 703651 Website: https://ducklington.oxon.sch.uk/

Headteacher: Mrs H. Bramwell Chair of Governors: Mrs R. Buckland

Friday 16th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2026. I would like to start by saying thank you for making me feel so welcome. I have enjoyed many conversations at the gates during drop-off and pick-up, and it has certainly helped me settle into life at Ducklington.

We have had a busy start to the term already. As I settle into my role here at Ducklington, I wanted to share with you the heart of everything we do – our school vision: **Nurture, Bloom, Rejoice**, which is inspired by the Prophet Isaiah's promise: *"*It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing*"* (Isaiah 35:2)

A school vision is more than words on a wall – it's the foundation that guides every decision we make and shapes the experiences your children have each day. It reflects our shared aspirations for what we want our school to be and helps us stay focused on what truly matters for your children's education and wellbeing.

Nurture – We create a warm, safe and supportive environment where every child feels valued and cared for. We recognise that children thrive when they feel secure and loved.
Bloom – We provide the rich learning experiences and encouragement each child needs to grow, develop their unique talents, and reach their full potential.
Rejoice – We celebrate every child's achievements, progress and individuality. We foster joy in learning and take pride in being part of our wonderful school community.

This vision isn't just something we talk about – it's something we live every day. You'll see it reflected in our classrooms, in how we support your children, in the decisions we make and in the way we work together as a school community.

Over the coming weeks and months, I look forward to showing you how we bring "Nurture, Bloom, Rejoice" to life in everything we do.

If you would like to get in touch, please contact me at: office.3122@ducklington.oxon.sch.uk

With warmest wishes,

Mrs Bramwell

Celebration Assembly Superstars

The children have made a great start to their learning and were excited to see certificates in our Celebration Assembly!

Here are our Celebration Assembly Superstars:

Ducklings: Elise, Daisy, Dorothy, Abel

Owls: Laureen, Aya, Freddie, Harry

Mandarins: Ocean, Arthur, Gideon, Kai

Eagles: Tilly, Baram, Miles, Zina

Robins: Blake, Olivia, Hallie, Jake,

Kingfishers: Harry, Kaylem, Lucy, Isla

Red Kites: Shannon, Harrison, Camden, Sam K

Around the School

Ducklington has been a hive of activity over the past two weeks! Here is a snapshot of school immersed in their new learning.

Safeguarding:

The safety and wellbeing of your children is our top priority. We want to make sure you know who to contact if you ever have any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing.
Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mrs Heidi Bramwell, and she is supported by Mrs Chowne, Mrs Allen and Mrs Towler.
They are responsible for:

- Leading our safeguarding work across the school
- Supporting staff with any safeguarding concerns
- Working with other agencies to protect children

Please see the attached poster with photos of our safeguarding team. We're sharing this information because we believe in being open and transparent about how we keep children safe, and we want you to know exactly who to speak to if you need support.
If you have any concerns about any child's safety or wellbeing, please contact a member of our safeguarding team immediately.

SEND

Mrs Zoe Wells is our SENDCo and her working days are Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon this half term. After half term, she will be in school every Friday. She can be contacted at Sendco@ducklington.oxon.sch.uk or via the office email. Here are some Parent workshops that are being run online throughout February and March.

allthingsautismltd@gmail.com
01895 649211
https://allthingsinclusionandautism.com

Workshops for parents / carers (and practitioners) -Spring term 2026

All things visual strategies Supporting autistic children / those with communication difficulties with visual strategies - why use visuals, which visuals to use and how to use them? **Friday 13th February 2026** **10 - 11.30am** Online - via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person	**Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA)** Understanding PDA and practical strategies to support **Wednesday 4th March 2026** **9.30 - 11.30am** Online - via Zoom £44 plus VAT per person
All things communication and play: Supporting autistic children with communication and play skills - laughing and learning together **Thursday 5th March 2026** **9.30am - 12** Online via Zoom £51 plus VAT per person	**Autism and Girls** Exploring differences and diagnosis . Understanding how autism impacts on girls and strategies and ideas to support them **Monday 2nd March 2026** **10 - 11.30am** Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person
All things behaviour - supporting positive behaviours for autistic children **Thursday 29th January 2026** **9.30am - 12** Online via Zoom £51 plus VAT per person 	**All things sensory processing** - a workshop exploring the sensory needs of autistic children and practical strategies to support their needs **Thursday 12th February 2026** **9.30am - 12** Online via Zoom £51 plus VAT per person

All Things Toileting Exploring the challenges around toilet training for autistic children and practical strategies to support them **Tuesday 3rd February 2026** **10 - 11.30am** Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person	**Gestalt Language Processing** How to support early language skills for young children including Gestalt learners **Wednesday 11th March 2026** **10 - 11.30am** Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person
All Things Sleep - Looking at the challenges around sleep and bedtime for autistic children, and practical strategies to support **Tuesday 24th March 2026** **10 – 11:30am** Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person	**ADHD** Understanding ADHD in young children and practical ideas to support them **Wednesday 21st January 2026** **10-11.30am** Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person
Supporting children with Bereavement and Loss Looking at the impact of bereavement and loss on young children and strategies to support them **Tuesday 10th March 2026** **10 - 11.30am** Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person	**Promoting positive mental health in young children** Examining causes of mental health difficulties, learning about anxiety and trauma **Thursday 19th March 2026** **9.30 am - 12** Online via Zoom £51 plus VAT per person
Selective Mutism Understanding the causes of selective mutism (situational mutism) and practical strategies to support children in early years and primary **Monday 23rd February 2026** **9.30 - 11.30am** Online via Zoom £44 per person plus VAT	**Introduction to Signalong** Signalong is a sign supported communication system for children with additional needs, supporting the development of speaking and understanding. This course will introduce you to the Signalong and you will learn some everyday signs that you can use in your home or school/setting. **Friday 27th February 2026** **9:30-11:30am** Online via Zoom £44 per person plus VAT

The Curiosity Programme
(Face to Face training)
Supporting young children with social interaction or social communication needs (with or without a diagnosis of autism) that may not yet be developmentally ready for group intervention.
Covering all 4 stages of the Curiosity programme. You will learn how to get started, make connections and nurture social communication
1:1
Friday 20th March 2026
9am-4pm
St Giles' Church Hall
Corner of, Swakeleys Road High Road
Ickenham
UB10 8BG

Contact Jaci Smith or Nikki Duhig at allthingsautismltd@gmail.com or 01896 649211 to book your place/s

Attendance:

We would like to remind you of the importance of punctuality and our morning routine at Ducklington Primary School. Our school gates open at 8:30 am. We ask that all children arrive promptly to take full advantage of the morning activities.

During the time from 8:30 am to 9:00 am, children engage in important early morning work, address any misconceptions from the previous day and participate in targeted interventions. This period is crucial for setting a positive tone for the day and ensuring that each child is ready for learning.

Arriving on time helps all children, especially those who may feel anxious, to smoothly transition into the school day. Being late can cause unnecessary stress for some children, which we aim to avoid. Please support us in helping your child have a calm and productive start to their day by ensuring they arrive on time. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Upcoming Diary Dates:

Monday 19th January – Year Hockey Tournament
Wednesday 21st January – Year 2 Library visit
Friday 30th January - Disco
Wednesday 4th February – Talent Show
Thursday 5th February – Year 4 Trip to Hill End
Friday 13th February – Non-uniform day
Friday 13th February – Last day of half term
Monday 23rd February – Back to school

Following a busy Autumn term we will be running the following events in January and February and we hope you'll get involved and continue to support FODS fundraising efforts for the school!

In 2026 we'll be focusing on fundraising for outdoor resources to enable the children to regularly use the outside space in their learning. We are also continuing to provide 3 books per class per term this year and have already provided new books to Nursery, Reception and Years 2, 4 and 6.

Vicky's After School & Holiday Club Ltd

Providing quality & accessible childcare for children aged 4-11 years within a safe, fun & stimulating environment

February half term

Monday 16th - Friday 20th February

8:30am - 5:00pm

Location: Aston & Cote Primary School

Tax free childcare vouchers accepted!

MESSY PLAY

SPORTS

BAKING

STEM

OUTDOOR PLAY

GAMES

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BOOK NOW!

Contact Vicky Hickman

07888771454

holiday@vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

www.vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

Bring your own packed lunch & a light tea will be provided

£42 per day

Fun for ages 4-11