

Headteacher: Mrs Jacqui Noakes
Deputy Head: Mr Stephen Mitchell
E-mail: admin@johnball.lewisham.sch.uk
Website: www.johnball.lewisham.sch.uk



John Ball School is fully committed to safeguarding all pupils and celebrating diversity.



Duke Award



October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

To encourage independence and self-motivation, our school will be once again running the optional scheme called the Duke Award.

There are six levels: Mini Duke Silver (YR1), Mini Duke Gold (YR2) Junior Duke Bronze (YR3) Junior Silver Duke (YR4) Junior Duke Gold (YR5) and Junior Duke Platinum (YR6).

Each of these levels has ten activities and, in order to complete a level, the children need to finish seven of the ten activities successfully. These include skills such as First Aid, ICT, Languages, Art, Drama, Music, Sport and other life skills such as cookery and puncture repair. These activities will require time and effort outside of school.

The activities within the award have specified assessment criteria. Some activities require a signature and comment from a teacher, some from a parent and some from an external assessor such as a swimming instructor. The Duke leaders will then check everything is in order with the seven challenges prior to awarding the badge and certificate.

The Duke leader for years 1-3 is Miss McGonigle.

The Duke leader for years 4-6 is Mr Crawford.

On completion of an activity, a house point will be awarded and on completion of all seven of the activities, children will earn five house points, a certificate and a badge at celebration assembly. All pupils who complete their Duke Award will attend a special ceremony near the end of the academic year with the Duke Leaders.

If a level remains incomplete by the end of the school year, children may carry it on into the next year, except for Year 6 pupils who will be moving onto a new school. Pupils who started the Duke award last year but are yet to finish it should be encouraged to complete them before moving on this year's level. This is not compulsory but they will otherwise miss out on potential house points and the certificate and badge for the award level they began last year.

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The cost of the resources (booklet, certificate and badge) for each of the awards is £10.00

This is set up as a trip on Arbor to enable payment to be made and requires you to consent and pay online. However, please ignore any dates, times, sessions as this is not relevant as The Duke Award scheme runs for the entire academic year.

Please pay one of the three costs listed below by adding the amount you wish to contribute. Please note that the price per session will show as £15.00, however, you can choose to pay a variable amount of this cost from £5.00 upwards as per the details below.

For children who would like to take part in the award, we do not want cost to be a barrier to children, therefore, when paying for the award on Arbor, the options are:

- £5 for a contribution to the cost of the award.
- £10 for the cost of the award.
- £15 for the cost of the award and a contribution to another child's award.

Once you have signed up and paid, we will issue children with their booklets to start the scheme. This will be done once a week so please allow for this before your child will bring the booklet home.

Please speak with a member of the school team that you feel comfortable approaching if your child would like to participate but the price options are not viable for you.

Please note in order that you may proceed with the Award, when signing up to the scheme, you are hereby giving consent for your child to take part and acknowledge that the Junior Duke takes no responsibility for injury or accident sustained throughout the Award (e.g. burns when cooking, injury through sport etc.)

Please also note that John Ball School takes no responsibility for any of these activities undertaken whilst outside of school.

During the process, if there are any great photo opportunities, if you use Twitter, please would you send them to @JBPrimary #TeamJB. We would love to display them on our Duke Award display.

Thank you,

Mr Crawford & Miss McGonigle - Duke Award Leaders