Doncaster School for Deaf Children

Headteacher's Update

28th September 2026

Meet Anne Austwick, our School Teacher

- I have been a teacher for 20 years in a mainstream school. I have taught right the way from foundation stage to Year 6. I started at Doncaster School for Deaf Children after Christmas as I was ready for a change of school, and I am so glad I made the move. I am enjoying learning sign language and getting to know all the children throughout the school.
- I am mum to two girls who are 9 and 12. They keep me busy and are a lot of fun and provide a lot of laughter. My 9 year old is learning to sign alongside me and recently practised when she met a deaf child on holiday.
- I love to play tennis and I am starting to play more competitively. I also sing in a choir called The Rainbow Connection Singers, we perform throughout the year but next year is probably our biggest performance to date – at Disneyland Paris – I am super excited!
- I am happiest when with my family and outdoors – our favourite places to visit are North Berwick in Scotland and the Peak District.

Achievements

Huge congratulations to three of our pupils, Harmony, Hayden and James, on successfully passing their Signature BSL Level 2 qualification! This is a fantastic achievement that reflects all their hard work and we look forward to seeing them continue their BSL journey.

Events

This term, our Primary 2 pupils have been exploring their exciting topic, 'Enchanted Woodland', learning about mythical woodland creatures known as tree boggarts. Inspired by their discoveries, pupils enjoyed creating their very own boggarts using clay and natural materials collected from the woodland. The pupils worked really hard, using a variety of tools and materials to bring their ideas to life. The finished boggarts look fantastic!

We were delighted to welcome Tim Pinto from the E-Safety Office to our school for an engaging and informative day focused on staying safe in the digital world. Tim worked with our Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils, exploring important topics such as age ratings, gaming and interactions with strangers online. Our Key Stage 3 and 4 pupils took part in sessions looking at social media and becoming Digital Detectives, helping them to think critically about the information and people they encounter online. Tim also delivered an informative staff training session after school, providing valuable guidance and advice to support staff in keeping our pupils safe online. We were particularly pleased to hear Tim praise our pupils for their excellent behaviour and enthusiastic participation throughout the sessions. It was fantastic to see everyone engaging so positively and thinking carefully about how they can stay safe and responsible when using technology. A big thank you to Tim for a valuable and engaging day!