



Downs View

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7th February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Unfortunately, I am writing to you with some difficult news. Very sadly I need to share with you that one of our pupils, Iris has died.

Iris Lucas Dunn was a student in Rabbits class. Iris was a joy to have at Downs View, she will be missed by all staff and students.

We have not shared the news with the pupils today. We will make time tomorrow so that the staff can talk to the children about Iris' death. We will continue to talk to them and support them in order to help their understanding of this sad event.

It is important for the children in school who knew Iris that we help them to understand death, the fact that we will never see her again and that we will all miss her. When talking to the students we ensure that we use appropriate and clear vocabulary. All staff will cover the same issues with their class groups to avoid any misunderstandings. If you would like to know in greater detail what we have talked about with your child please contact me or your class teacher. We have written a social story to support pupils. We recognise that this will affect everyone in different ways.

We will hold a special assembly after half term to remember Iris and celebrate her life.

Her death was very sudden and was a shock to us all. I am sure you will join me in sending our condolences and love to her family.

Best Wishes,

Vanessa Hickey
Executive Headteacher

Respect Aspiration Resilience

An **aspirational** learning environment with dignity and **respect** at its core, where everyone reaches their potential through effective communication, building **resilience** and having fun.
