

# Dunchurch Infant School and Nursery



## Autumn Term Issue 12

**30 November 2018**

### Headteacher's Message

An important part of what any school does, but perhaps even more so for schools educating younger children, is to develop pupils' vocabulary. During the Summer, colleagues read a book called Closing the Vocabulary Gap

<https://www.theconfidentteacher.com/category/closing-the-gap/> and from this we have discussed ways of improving our work in this area. In support of this, we have a display in our hall which has thirty hidden words. These are the words which are the thirty most commonly used words in the English language and the children are guessing them one-by-one. Through this we are able to promote discussion about the words we use. For example, today I told the children that one of the words is to/two/too. Some of the children were quick to realise that there is the number two as well as 'to' and with some prompting they soon remembered 'too' as well. Only one of these three words is in the top thirty list, which one does your child think is most commonly used?

Thank you to the parents who attended the Parents' Forum on Wednesday evening. I am grateful for their time and their contributions and also to the parents who emailed or spoke to me before the meeting to share their views. I am compiling the responses from parents who couldn't make the meeting and adding them to those who were there. I will send these to the parents who attended. All of this will feed into our discussions on how to develop the curriculum at our school.

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### Extra-curricular Activities 3 – 7 December 2018

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Monday<br/>3rd</b>    | 12.40-1.10pm Monday French Club<br>(Barn Owls)<br>3.15 – 4pm Martial Arts  |
| <b>Tuesday<br/>4th</b>   | 12-1pm Singing Club  |
| <b>Wednesday<br/>5th</b> | 3.15 – 4pm Spanish Club<br>3.15 – 4.45pm DM Football   |
| <b>Thursday<br/>6th</b>  | 3.15 – 4.45pm DM Football  |
| <b>Friday<br/>7th</b>    | 12-1pm Friday French Club<br>(Snowy Owls/Year 2)<br>1-3pm Violin/Cello Lessons<br>3.15 – 4.15pm Year 1 Sports Club |


## CALENDAR

### Reminders for 3 – 7 December 2018

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Monday<br/>3rd</b>    | <b>Booking Line open at 8pm for<br/>Christmas Performances</b>                                     |
| <b>Tuesday<br/>4th</b>   | <b>No Year 2 After School Sports<br/>Club</b>  |
| <b>Wednesday<br/>5th</b> |  |
| <b>Thursday<br/>6th</b>  | <b>Year 2 Trip to Coventry<br/>Cathedral</b>   |
| <b>Friday<br/>7th</b>    | <b>PTA Christmas Parties<br/>5 – 6pm Nursery &amp; Reception<br/>6.30 – 7.30pm Years 1 &amp; 2</b> |

# PUPIL AWARDS

## ATTENDANCE AWARD For the week ending 22 November 2018

|                 | Attendance % | No. of Late Arrivals | Overall Score | Trophy Awarded to   |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------|---|
| Little Owls     | 100.0        | 4                    | 96.0          |  |
| Elf Owls        | 92.9         | 1                    | 91.9          |   |
| Barn Owls       | 94.2         | 0                    | 94.2          |   |
| Snowy Owls      | 96.0         | 3                    | 93.0          |   |
| Spectacled Owls | 98.8         | 3                    | 95.8          |   |
| Tawny Owls      | 99.2         | 1                    | 98.2          |   |

## WEEKLY GREEN AWARD Awarded to Elf Owls

Well done to the children in Mrs Carrington's class, for keeping their classroom and working environment the cleanest and tidiest throughout this week!

*Awarded by our caretaker, Mr Haggan, and his assistant, Mrs Turtle*

## LUNCHTIME GOOD BEHAVIOUR AWARDS Awarded by Mrs Burdett and her lunchtime staff

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Rainbow Room    | Abhinand L     |
| Blue Room       | Amrin T        |
| Red Room        | Edith N        |
| Little Owls     | David B        |
| Elf Owls        | Tommee-Quinn M |
| Barn Owls       | Sophie T       |
| Snowy Owls      | Oscar B        |
| Spectacled Owls | Emily B        |
| Tawny Owls      | Lyra H         |

# YEAR GROUP - CLASS INFORMATION

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>RAINBOW ROOM</b></p>  | <p><b>NURSERY</b></p> <p>The children have loved engaging in imaginative play in the Post Office this week, writing letters, using money to pay for shopping, stamping &amp; posting; they have been really busy! There has also been some great fine motor skills being used to cut &amp; stick pictures to create their letter to Father Christmas; then they went to Dunchurch Post Office to post them!</p>   |                             |
| <p><b>BLUE ROOM &amp; RED ROOM</b></p>  | <p>Blue Room have loved learning about the 'Gingerbread Man' story, acting out the story, creating painted gingerbread men &amp; even baking their very own! They have also enjoyed using the Duplo to build structures, then using the mark-making resources to draw it or write a label for it. In Red Room the children have loved creating more pictures by painting on tin foil, as well as treating each other in their Doctor's Surgery role play area!</p>  |                             |
| <p><b>LITTLE OWLS</b></p>       | <p><b>RECEPTION</b></p> <p>The children have enjoyed the role play area this week as we created an opticians for them, knowing that we had eye vision screening on Wednesday. We talked to the ladies that came to do the screening and they have given us more ideas for next week. Rehearsals for our Christmas play have started so we are busy with that but we have also managed to do some work about rhyme, using the book 'Oi Frog'. We looked at 2D flat shapes and started to use mathematical words to describe them - curved, straight, sides and corners.</p>  | <p><b>ELF OWLS</b></p>     |
| <p><b>BARN OWLS</b></p>        | <p><b>YEAR ONE</b></p> <p>In English this week, we have been learning to punctuate questions with question marks. In Maths we have been learning to subtract by counting back. The children have found this tricky this week so please can you practise this at home. We have been learning about Scotland and St Andrew's Day and have been practising our Christmas play.</p> <p><i>Year 1 need large pine cones for their Christmas Fun Day on Friday 14 December. If anyone has/can get hold of some please could they be donated to us; thank you.</i></p>   | <p><b>SNOWY OWLS</b></p>  |
| <p><b>SPECTACLED OWLS</b></p>  | <p><b>YEAR TWO</b></p> <p>This week, Year 2 have written and finished a character profile of Audrey, a character from 'Audrey The Amazing Inventor'. They used expanded noun phrases and conjunctions in their writing too! In Maths, Year 2 have completed more work, yet again, on number lines and are starting to implement this into solving word problems. In Topic, the children have finished their non-chronological reports on their inventor and were able to design their own interesting fact box as well. Also, the children have ventured out to the MAD Museum today (Friday) to inspire our next topic work!</p> | <p><b>TAWNY OWLS</b></p>  |

# NEWS, REQUESTS & REMINDERS

## CONGRATULATIONS

This week, our congratulations  
go to.....

**Caitlin-Rose S** for passing her ballet exam  
with Merit

**Ellen H** for being awarded her Stage 1  
swimming award

**Lily P** for making her Rainbow Guide  
Promise

**Well done girls!**



## LIGHTING OF THE VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE AND NATIVITY

**St Peter's Church**  
**Sunday 2 December at 4pm**

Please meet Mr Dewes and Mrs Barnes outside  
the gates of St Peter's Church by 3.45pm.  
Children should dress warmly and wear festive  
hats or tinsel. Children in the nativity will be  
given a costume to wear over their clothes.

The service should be finished by 5pm.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS

To make life easier for the Year 2 pupils that  
will be emptying the post box and sorting and  
delivering the pupils' Christmas cards, could  
you please ensure that the envelopes have the  
class name on the front, together with the  
child's full name, if you know it, or at least  
their first name.

*Many thanks for your co-operation*

Find 'Dunchurch Infant & Nursery  
School PTA' on Facebook or e-mail  
[dunchurchinfantpta@gmail.com](mailto:dunchurchinfantpta@gmail.com)  
if you would like to find out more

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Minutes of all PTA Meetings are now  
available on the school website  
[www.dunchurchinfants.co.uk](http://www.dunchurchinfants.co.uk)  
under 'Parent Zone'

## TERM DATES 2019

### Spring Term 2019

*Teacher Training Day*

*Monday 7 January*

Term Starts

Tuesday 8 January

Half Term

Monday 18 – Friday 22 February

Term Ends

Friday 12 April

### Summer Term 2019

Term Starts

Monday 29 April

*Bank Holiday*

*Monday 6 May*

Half Term

Monday 27 – Friday 31 May

*Teacher Training Day*

*Friday 21 June*

Term Ends

Friday 19 July

*Teacher Training Day*

*Monday 22 July*

### Autumn Term 2019

*Teacher Training Day*

*Monday 2 September*

Term Starts

Tuesday 3 September

Half Term

Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

*Teacher Training Day*

*Friday 22 November*

Term Ends

Friday 20 December

**FAMILY HOLIDAYS MUST ONLY BE BOOKED  
DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PERIOD**



## WOODY'S BLOG

Hello everyone

I thought I would tell you a little bit about my PAT (Pets as Therapy) work. I have been visiting a nursing home and interacting with some of the elderly residents, who think I'm really cute. I always put a smile on their faces and they like to give me lots of treats.

I will also be visiting another school soon under the Read2Dogs scheme. Of course, I have to fit this around my busy job as a school dog and this week I've been into registration, had fun in Woody's Buddies Club and had a lovely walk to the Post Office with the children from Rainbow Room.

Have a good weekend

Woof, woof from

*Woody xx*



## PARENT HELPERS - WE NEED YOU!

**Friday 21 December  
9 – 10.30am**

We intend to walk all the School and Nursery children up to St Peter's Church in the village centre on the last day of term, for a Christingle Service.

To enable us to do this safely, we would need a good number of volunteer parents to help us, please.

If you are available that morning and willing to help, please let the School Office know at your earliest convenience; much appreciated.

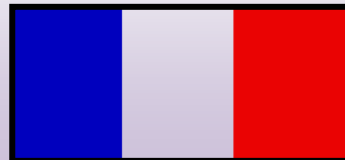
**Many thanks!**



## FRIDAY FRENCH CLUB

**Please note the following change:**

14 December moving to Wednesday 12 December



## PTA EVENTS

### Christmas Parties

Friday 7 December

5 – 6pm Nursery & Reception

6.30 – 7.30pm Years 1 & 2



### Hot Chocolate Friday's 2019

Friday 11 January

Friday 1 February

Friday 1 March



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES 2018/19

### December

- 6 Year 2 Trip to Coventry Cathedral
- 7 PTA Christmas Parties
- 11 Rotary Club of Rugby – Dunsmore  
Christmas Carol Concert
- 14 Christmas Jumper/Fun Day  
**Christmas Performances:**
- 17 **Dress Rehearsals:**  
9.15am – Year 2  
10am – Year 1  
10.45am – Red Room & Elf Owls  
1.30pm – Blue Room & Little Owls
- 18 **First Performances:**  
9.15am – Red Room & Elf Owls  
10am – Blue Room & Little Owls  
10.45am – Year 1  
1.30pm – Year 2
- 19 **Second Performances:**  
9.15am – Year 2  
10am – Year 1  
10.45am – Red Room & Elf Owls  
1.30pm – Blue Room & Little Owls
- 20 School & Nursery Christmas Lunch
- 21 Whole School Christingle Service  
at St Peter's Church  
2pm Finish

## SCHOOL APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

If you are applying for Reception or Junior School places for September 2019, the national deadline is:

**15 January 2019**

Apply online at:  
**warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions**

**There are still 31 nursery pupils that have yet to apply for their Reception place in September 2019**

## CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES TICKET BOOKINGS

The online booking facility will be available from 8pm on Monday 3 December until 8pm on Monday 10 December.

Only 2 tickets per child will be available but they can be booked across any of the three performances that your child will be in.

We will produce a list of attendees for each performance so that we can tick you off as you arrive.

### PLEASE NOTE:

Siblings may **ONLY** attend the Dress Rehearsal performances on 17 December. Please do not bring young siblings or babies to the First and Second Performances, as we will not be able to accommodate them. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation, as this will enable all the children to enjoy more fully their performance for you.

If this causes a problem, please speak to Mr Dewes, or leave a message for him at the School Office.

The booking link is:

[www.dunchurchinfants.parentseveningsystem.co.uk](http://www.dunchurchinfants.parentseveningsystem.co.uk)

After the booking line has closed, if there are still available seats for any of the nine performances, we will open them up for a 3<sup>rd</sup> ticket, per child. Please register your interest in a further ticket via the School Office, who will collate a first come, first served, waiting list.

Please note that all performances will be recorded on Tuesday 18 December and a DVD available to order - more details to follow.



## MIDDAY SUPERVISOR VACANCIES

We are looking to recruit two Midday Supervisors in January. If you, a friend or family member would be interested, please follow this link to view the advert on WMJobs.

<https://www.wmjobs.co.uk/job/45312/midday-supervisors/>

ST PETER'S CHURCH INVITES YOU  
FOR

## TEA WITH FATHER CHRISTMAS

SATURDAY 15 DECEMBER  
3.30-5.30PM

AFTERNOON TEA | CRAFTS | RAFFLE  
£2 PER CHILD, INCLUDES A PRESENT FROM  
FATHER CHRISTMAS | BOOK VIA  
[WWW.STPETERS-DUNCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.STPETERS-DUNCHURCH.ORG)

## SCHOOL & NURSERY PUPILS

Please start making your hats for the Christmas Lunch on Thursday 20 December or, if you would prefer, you can bring in a paper hat instead.



Formed by likeminded residents who love Dunchurch and its heritage and wish to protect and enhance its environment in order to make the village a better place to live in, work in and visit.

FRIENDS OF  
DUNCHURCH  
SOCIETY

Come and join us

## Christmas SOCIAL EVENING WITH FRIENDS OF DUNCHURCH

ENJOY  
A BAR CHRISTMAS MUSIC  
SKITTLES DARTS BAR -  
BILLIARDS PLUS RAFFLE  
DUNCHURCH SOCIAL CLUB  
THURSDAY 20TH DECEMBER, 8PM



GRAND RAFFLE  
DRAW AT 9PM

MANY PRIZES  
INCLUDING A M&S  
LUXURY CHRISTMAS  
HAMPER

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE RAFFLE  
GO TO FRIENDS OF DUNCHURCH

## CHRISTMAS FUN DAY and CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Friday 14 December

All Nursery and School children can wear non-uniform on the above day, preferably including a Christmas jumper, for a suggested donation of £1, which will go to 'Save the Children'.

Also, Father Christmas will be visiting us this day. A letter has been sent home in book bags for you to sign to say you are happy for your child to see him and receive a small gift. We will also require a £1 donation for this, too, please.





## CHRISTMAS PLAY COSTUMES

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils are busy rehearsing their Christmas performances. Your child should have already brought home details of the role that they have in their particular play. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any problems obtaining a costume, as we do have some spare within school. Alternatively, please contact Mrs Nic McNally, who has a selection of nativity costumes available for hire, for a small donation towards PTA funds. Her mobile number is **07792 588996**, if you would like to discuss your requirements.



### SCHOOL & NURSERY PARENTS PLEASE NOTE

Due to the GDPR regulations that were brought in on 25 May 2018, we can no longer supply class/nursery room lists to parents for Christmas cards or birthday party invitations.

If you would like to know who your child's friends are, TA's or key workers will be able to give you first names, but not full names.

Thank you for your understanding



### MESSAGE FROM EDUCATION SCHOOL TRANSPORT Home to School Transport

A reminder that all pupils should have their bus pass with them and show it to the driver when they get on the bus, so that they can travel.

If they do not have their bus pass with them then they will not be able to travel.

*Thank you for your co-operation.*