

# Dunchurch Infant School and Nursery



## Spring Term Issue 3

25 January 2019

### Headteacher's Message

Continuing on from previous weeks, I am sharing what parents said when we consulted them on the curriculum across our Federation. The fourth question asked was about whether we should focus on teaching knowledge or skills. This is a debate which has raged for years in the educational world, with most people understanding the need for both. It might surprise some that, traditionally, many teachers, and those who train teachers, have been adverse to a focus on knowledge, with such practice being considered old-fashioned. More recently the emergence of the internet has led some to ask why learn something if you can Google it? Instead of knowledge, we should teach the skills needed to search for knowledge. However, in the last few years, this view has been consistently challenged by findings in cognitive science which has stressed the importance of committing learning to long-term memory. Parents on the whole were quite neutral on this subject, although some very much favoured a knowledge approach. As a school we are going to give some time to considering how we can embed children's knowledge that will give the foundation from which to develop children's skills. For example, children need to commit their multiplication tables to their long-term memory and apply this knowledge in their maths problem solving skills.

In Assembly this week we have been talking about people who help us. On Wednesday I showed the children these figures. Why not ask your child if they know how many there are, who they represent and how these people help?



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### EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES


<b>MONDAY</b>	12.40 – 1.10pm Monday French Club (Barn Owls) 3.15 – 4pm Martial Arts
<b>TUESDAY</b>	12 – 1pm Singing Club 3.15 – 4.15pm Year 2 After School Sports Club
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	3.15 – 4pm Spanish Club 3.15 – 4.45pm DM Football
<b>THURSDAY</b>	3.15 – 4.45pm DM Football
<b>FRIDAY</b>	12.10 – 1.10pm Friday French Club (Snowy Owls/Year 2) 1 – 3pm Violin/Cello Lessons 3.15 – 4.15pm Year 1 After School Sports Club

## NEXT WEEK

### REMINDERS/CHANGES FOR 28 JANUARY – 1 FEBRUARY

<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>Thursday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>3.15pm PTA Hot Chocolate &amp; Second Hand Uniform Sale</b>

# PUPIL AWARDS

<b>ATTENDANCE AWARD</b> <b>For the week ending 18 January 2019</b>				
	Attendance %	No. of Late Arrivals	Overall Score	Trophy Awarded to
Little Owls	96.7	2	94.7	
Elf Owls	96.3	1	95.3	
Barn Owls	97.7	0	97.7	
Snowy Owls	98.4	1	97.4	
Spectacled Owls	100.0	2	98.0	
Tawny Owls	98.7	2	96.7	

## WEEKLY GREEN AWARD Awarded to Barn Owls

Well done to the children in Miss Randle'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	Ella H
Blue Room	Armaie B-P
Red Room	William P
Little Owls	Theodore P
Elf Owls	Alfie D
Barn Owls	Moon Y
Snowy Owls	Noah W
Spectacled Owls	Olivia R
Tawny Owls	Teddy C

# YEAR GROUP INFORMATION

<p><b>RAINBOW ROOM</b></p>	<p><b>NURSERY</b></p> <p>The children have been busy learning about different types of homes, prompted by their story of the week, 'Owl Babies'. Many discussions have been had around where different animals live and what their own homes look like. They have loved going on an animal walk in the garden and have created lovely owls using a range of creative resources.</p>	
<p><b>BLUE ROOM &amp; RED ROOM</b></p>	<p>We had a visit from Vets4Pets this week, learning about how to care for animals, stroking their baby guinea pigs &amp; listening to heartbeats. In Red Room, they followed their interest of construction workers through dressing up, creating plans of buildings and using shaving foam &amp; blocks to build structures! In Blue Room, the children have been thrilled with their doctor's surgery role play area, taking care of each other, as well as developing their knowledge of rhyming, through games &amp; listening activities. <i>Please can Blue Room children bring a toilet/kitchen roll inner with them next week; thank you!</i></p>	
<p><b>LITTLE OWLS</b></p> 	<p><b>RECEPTION</b></p> <p>We have been looking at the story of 'Percy the Park Keeper – One Snowy Night'. The children used their phonics brilliantly to write about the animals in the story and all thought carefully, applying Phase 3 knowledge by using digraphs. In Maths we started learning about early addition; starting with finding the total of two groups (how many are there altogether). We plan to extend our addition learning when we move on to our pizza topic next week. We have sent home 'number formation' homework this week as we will be moving towards recording our own calculations in the near future. Please practise the numbers, not only in the books but anywhere you like!</p>	<p><b>ELF OWLS</b></p> 
<p><b>BARN OWLS</b></p> 	<p><b>YEAR ONE</b></p> <p>This week we have been learning about exclamation marks in English. We read the book 'Where the Wild Things Are' and discussed the punctuation. In Maths we have been counting forwards and backwards in 2's (to 20), 5's (to 50) and 10's (to 100). We learned about the 1966 World Cup Final in History and have created our own patterns in the style of Bridget Riley in Art.</p> <p><i>Homework: Please practise counting in 2's, 5's and 10's with your child, forwards and backwards, as many of the children found this tricky; thank you!</i></p>	<p><b>SNOWY OWLS</b></p> 
<p><b>SPECTACLED OWLS</b></p> 	<p><b>YEAR TWO</b></p> <p>In English the children retold the story of 'Lost and Found' and worked on including language from the text, expanded noun phrases and different sentence types. Today the children have re-read their work, edited it and made improvements. In Maths they have been solving problems which involve multiplication, using a number line to do so. In Topic we continued our work on Antarctica and looked at making comparisons to the UK and closer to home, Dunchurch. In SPaG we have studied homophones and near homophones, identifying them in texts. We are hoping to see these spelt correctly in their writing. <i>Please continue to practise the features of non-fiction text as well as your weekly homework!</i></p>	<p><b>TAWNY OWLS</b></p> 

# NEWS, REQUESTS & REMINDERS

## CONGRATULATIONS

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

**Oscar H** for achieving both his 25m and Level 3 swimming awards

**Florence O** for receiving her Pre-Primary ballet award

**Laycie L** for being 'Star of the Week' at her ballet and tap class

**Eliza T** for receiving a ballet medal for great dancing

**Well done everyone!**



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

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***



Dunchurch Methodist Church  
Cawston Lane

**Saturday 9 February**  
**10.30-12.30**

**Crafts Lunch Celebration**  
**for all the family**

**£1 per person**  
(payable on the day)

Book your place asap:

[messychurch@dunchurchbaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:messychurch@dunchurchbaptistchurch.org.uk)

 Dunchurch Baptist Church Messy Church  
or at Noah's Ark

[www.dunchurchbaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.dunchurchbaptistchurch.org.uk)





## WOODY'S BLOG

Hello everyone!

I've been in the Nursery this week, following their visit from Vets4Pets. I told the children about my trips to the vets and how important it is to care for their pets, keeping them healthy and happy. We talked about food and treats, exercise, lots of love and kindness and finally, my favourite bit ..... sleep!

The children asked Mrs Beech a few questions about me and then they told me lots of interesting things about their own pets. I finished off with some of my tricks and the children stroked me to see how soft my fur was. I had a lovely time, so thank you to the children and staff.

Woof, woof from  
Woody xx

## PARENTS' MEETINGS

**Tuesday 12 February - 3:30 - 7pm**  
**Wednesday 13 February - 3:30 - 6pm**

Parents of school children, from Reception to Year 2, will be able to book a slot with their child's teacher to discuss progress, to date.

### PLEASE NOTE:

**Each appointment is 10 minutes long.**

**Please be considerate to the appointments after you, by not over running your allocated time, as it has a knock-on overall affect on the evening; thank you.**

To book your time slot, visit our online booking system:

[www.dunchurchinfants.parentseveningsystem.co.uk](http://www.dunchurchinfants.parentseveningsystem.co.uk)  
(hover over this link, then press control & click to open it)

This will be available until 8pm on Tuesday 5 February

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Parents of nursery children will be able to book their time slots via the notice board in their child's cloak room until  
**Tuesday 5 February**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

### February

- 1 PTA Hot Chocolate & 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Uniform Sale
- 5 PTA Movie Night
- 15 PTA Valentine's Cake Sale

### March

- 5 Reception NHS Heights & Weights Check
- 29 Year 2 Gurdwara Trip

### April

- 5 PTA Quiz Night
- 16 National Offer Day for September '19 places

### May

- 4 Save the date!  
(details to follow)

## MEDICAL ABSENCES

We thought it beneficial to remind parents of the School/Nursery's requirements with regards to their child's medical absences, which are as follows:

- ✓ If your child is ill, please ensure that you inform the School Office **BEFORE** 9am on the first morning, either by answer phone or email
- ✓ When doing so, please give details of your child's illness, do not just state that they are 'unwell/poorly/ill/not coming in'. We need to know what is wrong so that we can see if we have an illness that is spreading across the School or Nursery. The School Office holds HSC guidance on infection control, should you be unsure as to whether your child can attend
- ✓ If your child is suffering from sickness and/or diarrhoea they **MUST** stay off school for 48 hours **AFTER** their last bout. If you return them any sooner, we will ring and ask you to collect him/her
- ✓ If your child needs to attend a medical/hospital/dental appointment, please inform the School Office/Nursery Manager **IN ADVANCE** of the appointment (unless booked as an emergency) and show a copy of the letter/appointment card, so that a photocopy can be placed on file and the absence diary completed

**Thanking you in advance of your co-operation**



## LATE ARRIVAL/EARLY DEPARTURE OF PUPILS

When arriving late, or picking your School/Nursery child up early, you must arrive/depart via the School Office.

There is a form that needs completing by parents before departing the school and we have noticed recently that parents do not put the reason why their child is arriving late, or leaving early.

As stated on that form, if the reason is not given, the child's absence will be marked as unauthorised. Therefore, can we please request that this information is detailed at all times.

**Thank you for your co-operation**

## FORTHCOMING PTA EVENTS

**Friday 1 February**

**3.15pm onwards**

Hot Chocolate &  
Second Hand Uniform Sale

**Tuesday 5 February**

**3.15 - 5pm**

PTA Movie Night  
(movie to be confirmed)

**Friday 15 February**

**3.15pm onwards**

Valentine's Cake Sale  
(donations welcome that morning)

**Friday 5 April**

***Save the date!***

PTA Quiz Night  
(more details to follow)

**PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE ZIG ZAG LINES AROUND THE SCHOOL –  
THEY ARE THERE FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY, NOT FOR PARKING ON!**