

Dunchurch CofE Infant School and Nursery

Forgiveness ... Honesty ... Kindness ... Patience ... Respect



Friday, 21 April 2023

A message from Mr Andrews

Dear Families,

Welcome back to all pupils and families. It has been a really positive first week back across the Federation, helped significantly by the lovely weather we have had (apart from today!)

It has been lovely to hear about the children's Easter breaks. Whether they have gone away or spent time with family, it is always nice to see children coming back happy and ready to return.

This term looks to be just as action-packed as others, with many new clubs starting, and some favourites continuing. We have many activities, experiences, trips and some residential planned for the different age ranges.

We also have the small matter of the national assessments taking place this term. All children, whether doing phonics in Year 1, end of KS1 SATs in Year 2 or end of KS2 SATs in Year 6, have been working hard to prepare for them, and approach them with a can-do attitude, to try their best.

Many nursery and Year 2 children will have received their school offers too this week. An initial transition meeting took place between school leaders to prepare key dates and opportunities for children to experience the new school and families to meet with the new staff. Dates will be shared over the coming weeks, and all transition activities will take place from the end of June through to 25th July.

As you will have read in my letter sent in the middle of the week, this term will be my last with the Federation. I have enjoyed my time here and am looking forward to working with you all over the coming 13-14 weeks, to continue to develop each aspect of the Infants and Juniors, and prepare the children for their next stage.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend,

**Best wishes,
Mr Andrews**

Collective Worship

In collective worship this week we have launched our new P.S.H.E. theme of 'relationships' This half term, children will be learning about different relationships, including how to treat others with kindness and respect. We have also considered our value of generosity, finding out how to be kind and generous friends.

School and Nursery Library

This week we have been organising the books in the school library. Thank you to the parents who came into school to support with sorting out the non-fiction books prior to the Easter break and to those parents who returned their child's library book this week. All the books that are in the library are now sorted into clear categories, making it easier for the children to access the books that they would like to. We will now be purchasing a large amount of books for the school library, including books that have been chosen by the children.

Thank you to the PTA for supporting this project. The children have not brought home a library book this week whilst we have been organising the books, but will return to bringing one home from next week.

Stars of the Week

Rainbow Room

Lunchtime

Callie S

Red Room

Lunchtime

Christian A

Blue Room

Lunchtime

Henry EM

Elf Owls

Lunchtime

Darcy H

Learning Behaviour of
the week

Spencer G

Little Owls

Lunchtime

Matilda A

Learning Behaviour of
the week

Grace A

Barn Owls

Lunchtime

Ema K

Learning Behaviour of
the week

Kate J

Snowy Owls

Lunchtime

Luke H

Learning Behaviour of
the week

Hudson R

Spectacled Owls

Lunchtime

Ava McD

Learning Behaviour of
the week

Glennisha P

Tawny Owls

Lunchtime

Luke T

Learning Behaviour of
the week

Luke T

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NURSERY

In Pre-School, children have been learning about being healthy and living healthy lifestyles. They have discussed what they need to do to be healthy, made a chart of their favourite healthy foods, and had a go at cleaning our giant teeth! Children have also taken turns and listened to each other whilst playing the Hungry Gorilla game. The children have also been practising their skills of representing numbers and amounts. They have used marks, natural resources outside, and small fruits. Some children then wrote a numeral to represent the amount.

In Rising 3's, children have been busy welcoming our new children into the room. They have shown lots of kindness and support as new friends are getting used to the environment and being dropped off by their parents. During group times, they have taken time to learn each other's names and initiate conversations. The children have also been practising their cutting skills by using the training scissors to make snips in paper independently.



RECEPTION

The children have certainly brought some lovely spring sunshine back to school this week! This has helped with our discussions about spring based around the book 'That's My Flower'. We all enjoyed the story and recognised the characters of Squirrel and Bird from 'The Leaf Thief' which we read in autumn. We have looked carefully at spring flowers, daffodils, and either painted or used crayons to produce some amazing artwork (or 'masterpieces' as one boy called his work!). The children have helped to spring clean the role play area with brushes, sponges, dusters and hoovers.

In maths we have started to look at numbers to 15. This has been exciting as we need 2 tens frames to make the numbers. We have also made the numbers with numicon. In phonics we have started Phase 4. Phase 4 has no new graphemes but the words contain adjacent consonants which can sometimes be difficult to hear in words. We have also started to learn new Tricky Words – said, so, have and like.

Please can you make sure that you send back in your child's PE kits.



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YEAR 1

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed your break. The children have come back well rested, full of exciting news and eager to get on with new learning!

As mathematicians this week, we have explored measure, in particular weight/mass and capacity. We have been exploring and problem solving using language associated with these and using non-standard units of measure.

In English, we have been playing lots of fun partner and team games to support our grammar, punctuation and spelling.

As Scientists and Geographers, we have been out searching for signs of spring. Making comparisons to the environment and nature around us to our previous autumn learning. With St George's day fast approaching, we have also been learning about St George, the patron Saint of England.

In ICT, we have begun a new unit called 'Lego Builders'. We discussed the meaning of the word 'Algorithm' and how it is a precise, step-by-step set of instructions used to solve a problem or achieve an objective. We began by doing this verbally with a partner. Using an image and some lego children sat back to back to guide each other in creating a model. Children realised that to achieve the effect they want when building something, they needed to give and follow accurate instructions to get the correct result.

It has been lovely to have you back Year One!



YEAR 2

It has been wonderful welcoming all of the children back after the Easter break. We cannot believe that it is the Summer term already- where has the time gone?!

The children have settled back into the school routine well this week and have enjoyed starting our new topic all about 'Transport'. Tuesday was especially exciting as the children learned about who the Wright brothers were and then created their own paper aeroplanes by following a set of instructions. We couldn't just let them make a paper aeroplane without flying them, so we had a competition to see whose flew the furthest! It was great to see the children apply their maths skills when measuring the distance each paper aeroplane had travelled in cm.

In our English lessons, we have started reading 'Grandad's Island' and the children have recognised the love that the main characters in the story (Sid and Grandad) have for one another. It inspired them to think about someone in their own lives who they love very much and write a character description all about them- you will have to ask your child who they chose!

Next week, we are really looking forward to visiting the Leamington Gurdwara on Wednesday 26th April. Please remember that the children need to cover up their hair when they are inside the Gurdwara.

We hope that everyone has a fantastic weekend and we will see you all on Monday.



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School and Nursery

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DIARY DATES

Monday 24th

Tuesday 25th

Wednesday 26th

Thursday 27th

Friday 28th

Yr2 Gurdwara trip –AM

Martial Arts

Spanish Club

Performing Arts

Football

Collection from the back
of the Hall

Collection from the back
of the Hall

Collection from Yr1 doors

Collection from the back
of the Hall

Football

Collection from the back
of the Hall

VACANCIES

DUNCHURCH INFANT SCHOOL AND NURSERY

PLAYWORKER Infant School- Monday - Friday 3.15pm - 4.45pm, term time £10.98 - £11.18 per hour, plus holiday pay (7.5 hours per week)

LUNCHTIME SUPERVISORS

We are looking for Middyay Supervisors to join our hard working lunchtime teams.

Hourly rate £10.60 - £10.79, plus holiday pay, plus Local Government Pension Scheme

Hours - Infant School -11.50am - 1.10pm Monday to Friday, term time only

Hours - Nursery -11.30am - 12.30 pm Monday to Friday, term time only

Start date - ASAP

If you are interested, please email office@dunchurchinfants.co.uk or pop into the school office for an application pack.

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 26th April

Yr2 Gurdwara trip (rearranged)

Monday 1st May

May Bank Holiday (school & nursery closed)

Friday 5th May

King's Coronation day

Month of May

Year 2 SATs

Monday 8th May

King Charles III Coronation Bank Holiday (school & nursery closed)

W/C: 12th June

Year 1 Phonics

Wednesday 21st June

Class photos

Monday 26th June

Teacher Training day

Wednesday 5th July

Warwickshire schools Induction day

Tuesday 25th July

School and Nursery finish for Summer

Friday 1st & Monday 4th September

Teacher Training days

Tuesday 5th September

School & Nursery opens