

# Dunchurch CofE Infant School and Nursery

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



Friday, 09 June 2023

## **Federation Update**

Dear families,

Another busy week finished off with a non-uniform day in support of preparations for the Dunchurch fête stall – a big thank you to everyone who has contributed.

It has been fantastic to see the children return for the final half term with the same positivity and enthusiasm. Some fantastic news to share is that Kate Johnson, in Year 1, who has won the national Young Writers' poetry competition with her fantastic poem, **Cats**. A big congratulations to Kate and a thank you to everyone else who took part also.

The half term ahead is an important one. We are busily preparing for all the transition activities for Year 2 moving to their new schools, and for each of the other year groups moving up internally, including nursery moving up to reception. The national transition day is the 5<sup>th</sup> July, and I am sure the children will be looking forward to meeting their new teachers. These will be shared on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June in preparation for this. Reception classes may be earlier due to the new to reception evening on 21<sup>st</sup> June.

## **Staff Update**

Staff wise there are some changes ahead for next year, some temporary and some permanent. Miss Shrimpton and Mrs Macaulay will both be returning from their maternity leave before the end of term, and we look forward to welcoming them back. This will coincide with Mrs Illingworth's departure at the end of this month, having secured a permanent role at another school locally. We are very grateful to Mrs Illingworth for her hard work and commitment to the children and the school during her year with us and would like to wish her all the best for her new role. I will share further details with Year 1 directly.

Elsewhere, Mrs Herbert, our nursery manager of 11 years, is leaving at the end of term to pursue inspecting settings full-time. This is something that she has been undertaking in a dual capacity over the past year, and will become her permanent role. We would like to thank Mrs Herbert for her leadership and support of her fantastic nursery team and all of our youngest Dunchurch members, of which there have been many in that time. I'm sure you would like to join me in sharing our appreciation for the work she has done and the fantastic start your children have received as a result.

Further updates around staffing, including my successor, will be shared as soon as we are able, as we continue to build towards a positive end of year and start to September.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend, Mr Andrews.

## **Stars of the Week**

### **Rainbow Room**

Lunchtime

Layla F

### **Red Room**

Lunchtime

George

### **Blue Room**

Lunchtime

Satvika

### **Elf Owls**

Lunchtime

Flynn P

Learning Behaviour of  
the week

Dhyaan

### **Little Owls**

Lunchtime

Larshen

Learning Behaviour of  
the week

William B

### **Barn Owls**

Lunchtime

Arlo

Learning Behaviour of  
the week

Arlo

### **Snowy Owls**

Lunchtime

Jayden

Learning Behaviour of  
the week

Alfie B

### **Spectacled Owls**

Lunchtime

Olivia H

Learning Behaviour of  
the week

Matilda C

### **Tawny Owls**

Lunchtime

Johanna

Learning Behaviour of  
the week

Johanna

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## NURSERY

All 3 classrooms have let their butterflies go this week! They were in their cocoons over the half-term break and emerged as beautiful butterflies at the beginning of this week, the children were fascinated and loved letting them go.

This week in Pre-School, children have been exploring and talking about the differences between materials that sink or float. They have made predictions of what they think would happen, and then carried out the experiments to find out, noting any changes or surprises! The children have also been developing more complex stories using their imaginative skills. They used small-world characters and whole-group discussions to share their ideas. In Maths, children have been comparing sunflowers, deciding which are taller, smaller etc. And there have been some fabulous sunflowers that have been painted, drawn, created, and made from playdough!



In Rising 3's this week, children have loved engaging in ice cream shop role play! They discussed favourite flavours, used their skills to scoop the ice cream (shaving foam!), and took turns. Some children have been consolidating their knowledge of colour names, by using different coloured collage materials and building with colourful blocks. During group times, children have been developing their conversational skills, jumping from topic to topic whilst remaining focused.



Have a lovely sunny weekend!



## RECEPTION

We are going to be looking at Traditional Tales over the next few weeks. This week we have read the story of the Gingerbread Man which was familiar to most children. They enjoyed joining in with the repeated language as well as retelling the story on the carpet and in the small world area. The role play area has been turned into an old-fashioned kitchen – no fridge, no microwave, no computer! The children have enjoyed 'making' gingerbread men and cooking them on a stove 'heated' by 'fire'. We have talked about some of the differences. The children have been challenged to make an apron to wear in the kitchen. They have measured ribbon, used wavy scissors and made sure that their apron fits, some children have even added pockets to their aprons! We have finished our work on floating and sinking.



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The children were challenged to use plasticine to make a boat for the gingerbread man to cross the river so that he wouldn't be eaten by the fox. They persevered to manipulate the plasticine until they had made a boat shape. They tested their boats in water and made any necessary modifications. In maths we have worked on rotating and manipulating shapes to make new shapes eg using 2 small triangles to make a large triangle and making a rectangle from squares. In phonics we have continued with Phase 4 and reading words with long vowel sounds. There was great excitement when CCTV footage showed what happened when the Gingerbread Man came into school and shocked the staff! 😊



## YEAR 1

It is lovely to have you back and well-rested Year One!

As mathematicians, we have been focussing on position and direction. We have been playing games to get to grips with our lefts and rights as well as quarter, half, three quarter and full turns.

As Historians, we have been using non-fiction texts to research the events of The Great Fire of London. We used a painting of the fire to create a senses poem using adjectives to make our writing more interesting to read.

Summer is finally upon us! We have been discussing the season of Summer and making comparisons to the other seasons in a year.

During ICT we have been coding programmes and even 'de-bugging' codes to ensure a programme runs correctly.

Please could we ask families to save and bring into school cardboard boxes (roughly cereal box size) for an upcoming Design and Technology project, thank you!

Have a lovely weekend all, we hope the sun has got his hat on!





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## YEAR 2

A very sunny welcome back to school! We cannot believe that we are already on the final half term of the year. This half term is jam-packed full of exciting activities for the children including; sports day, school leavers play, maypole dancing performance, transition days and a school trip to Twycross Zoo and the Alive festival! We are exhausted just thinking about it all but what a special way to make memories before the children leave us here at the Infant school. So much to look forward to!

This week, as mathematicians, the children have been comparing the weight of different objects and have used key mathematical vocabulary such as 'mass', 'heaviest' and 'lightest' when making their comparisons. As writers, we have started to read the story; 'Meerkat Mail' and have been looking at the different features of a postcard. Next week we will be writing our own.

Our new topic this half term is 'Wild Africa' and so the children have been using atlases to locate African countries on the map. Some children have family or have visited Africa themselves so it has been fascinating hearing all about Africa from them.

We hope that everyone enjoys what is looking to be a gloriously hot weekend! See you all on Monday!



## Notices

### **Sports Morning**

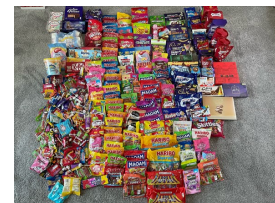
Tuesday 27th June is our sports morning at 9.15am. Letters have gone home today (9th June) with your child's sports morning team colours on (either red, blue, green or yellow).

### **Year 3 New Starter Paperwork**

The deadline to return new year 3 starter paperwork to Dunchurch Boughton Junior School is Monday 19th June. Please return directly to the main Junior School office.

### **Thank you**

A big thank you to everyone for your kind donations received today for the school PTA tombola stall at the Dunchurch Fête.



### **Dunchurch Fête**

We are looking forward to supporting the Dunchurch Fête on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June. The theme this year is *What I want to be when I grow up*. Children are encouraged to dress up and take part in the walking float. Please meet Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Marson opposite the Dun Cow at 11.45 am if you want to join the parade. Children should be accompanied by an adult please.

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## DIARY DATES

Monday 12th

Tuesday 13th

Wednesday 14th

Thursday 15th

Friday 16th

**Alive Celebration**

**Year 2 Stoneleigh**

**PTA Sock Shop**

**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

## FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 21st June	New to Reception meeting 5-6pm
Wednesday 21st June	Class photos
Monday 26th June	Teacher Training day: school closed
Tuesday 27th June	Sports morning 09:15-11:15am
Wednesday 5th July	Warwickshire schools Induction Day
Wednesday 12th July	Year 2 Twycross Zoo—Details to follow
Tuesday 18th July	Year 2 Leavers' Plays: AM or PM available
Thursday 20th July	Maypole Leavers' Celebration—Details to follow
Tuesday 25th July	School and Nursery finish for summer

### **Local News**

#### **Thurlaston Fête 2023**

Thurlaston is looking forward to welcoming visitors to its traditional village fête on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 from 2pm-4pm. The fete will be celebrating Country Village Crafts, with scarecrows in keeping with the theme or dressed up in honour of the Coronation of King Charles III.

In addition to craft stalls, the fête will include gifts and garden plants, bric-a-brac, books and bottles, cakes and pre-loved fashion, plus children's games and variety of refreshments in the village hall and outside the church, where there will also be music. The fête raises vital funds for the village hall and St Edmund's Church.

Entry is free.