

Dunchurch Infant School and Nursery



Spring Term Issue 7

2 March 2018

Headteacher's Message

As you know, school is closed today. We have had issues with our text messaging service *Teachers2Parents* which slowed us down putting the message out, and I apologise for this delay. Closing the school is rare and will usually be the reason that we have today; not enough staff are able to get into school.

I would appreciate feedback from parents about how we approach such situations. In broad terms, there are two contrasting approaches. The first is we make a decision as early as possible, meaning parents have more notice. The downside is that if I had taken the decision to close the school yesterday, we might have closed the school unnecessarily. By leaving it later, there is still a chance that the school could be kept open but if it does close, parents will have less notice. Up until now, I have used the second method but it appears that more schools are closing earlier in such circumstances.

I expect this is a topic that will divide opinion among parents. Some will see a Snow Day as a fun opportunity, other parents face losing a day's pay. Nevertheless, I would appreciate it if you could take the time to share your thoughts via my email address below. That way, I hope we can make sure that our approach suits the majority.

Ian Dewes

head@dunchurchinfants.co.uk

Telephone: 01788 810292

E-mail: office@dunchurchinfants.co.uk

Twitter: @dunchurchinfant

Extra-curricular Activities 5 – 9 March 2018


Monday 5th	12.00 – 1.00pm Singing Club 3.15 – 4.00pm Martial Arts 3.15 – 4.00pm Spanish Club
Tuesday 6th	3.15 – 4.45pm FDS Ball Skills
Wednesday 7th	3.15 – 4.15pm Yr 2 Sports Club
Thursday 8th	3.15 – 4.45pm FDS Ball Skills
Friday 9th	12.00 – 12.30pm Yr 1 French Club 12.30 – 1.00pm Yr 2 French Club 1.30 – 3.00pm Violin/Cello Lessons 3.15 – 4.15pm Yr 1 Sports Club

CALENDAR

Reminders for 5 – 9 March 2018

Monday 5th	
Tuesday 6th	
Wednesday 7th	12.30pm Year 2 Mother's Day Lunch
Thursday 8th	
Friday 9th	PTA Mother's Day Gift Shop

WEEKLY PUPIL AWARDS

ATTENDANCE AWARD For the week ending 16 February 2018				
	Attendance %	No. of Late Arrivals	Overall Score	Trophy Awarded to
Little Owls	83.6	7	76.6	
Elf Owls	96.0	1	95.0	
Barn Owls	96.0	1	95.0	
Snowy Owls	94.7	4	90.7	
Spectacled Owls	95.3	1	94.3	
Tawny Owls	99.0	2	97.0	

WEEKLY GREEN AWARD Awarded to Snowy Owls

Well done to the children from Miss Clarke's class for keeping their classroom and working environment clean and tidy throughout the whole 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	Not awarded
Blue Room	Not awarded
Red Room	Not awarded
Little Owls	Not awarded
Elf Owls	Not awarded
Barn Owls	Not awarded
Snowy Owls	Not awarded
Spectacled Owls	Not awarded
Tawny Owls	Not awarded

YEAR GROUP - CLASS INFORMATION

RAINBOW ROOM	<p style="text-align: center;">NURSERY</p> <p>The children have loved learning about the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk', using their memory to recall some of the story/characters, and drawing their own story map. They have been measuring themselves outside against the wall, using the language of size to describe each other. As well as exploring the snow outside, they brought lots of snow inside and built snowmen in the tray!</p>	
BLUE ROOM & RED ROOM	<p>The children have enjoyed exploring the 'Cloud Dough', mixing the ingredients together, and using their manipulating skills. They have been matching amounts to numerals and discussing when a group has more or less or the same amount of items. The children have, of course, loved exploring the snow!! They have been mark-making in the it, using sticks to draw and write, as well as discussing the natural environment and staying safe and warm.</p>	
<p>LITTLE OWLS</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">RECEPTION</p> <p>This week's learning has been all about pizza! We have read 'The Little Red Hen Makes a Pizza' and the children have enjoyed cooking and selling pizzas in our pizzeria role play. We have re-told the story of 'The Little Red Hen' and tried to write Phase 2 and Phase 3 tricky words. In maths, we have added toppings to a pizza and tried to work out how many altogether, by counting on. Phonics – 'oi' and 'ow', re-capping 'oo', 'ar' and 'or'. The children have been happy to go outside in the cold weather, so it is important that they have warm clothes and wellies for the snow, please. We are planning to make pizzas soon - please speak to the Reception class staff about any allergies.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ELF OWLS</p> 
<p>BARN OWLS</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">YEAR ONE</p> <p>In Maths this week we have been learning to mentally recall our number bonds to 10 and 20. We have also solved maths problems to apply this knowledge.</p> <p>In English we have been learning about the different features of non-fiction texts. We have also been making inferences about an unusual object that has appeared in our classrooms.</p> <p>In topic we have been learning how to read simple maps with a key.</p> <p>In phonics we have been learning about the graphemes 'tch' and 'ch'.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SNOWY OWLS</p> 
<p>SPECTACLED OWLS</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">YEAR TWO</p> <p>In maths we have been sorting and classifying 3D shapes according to given criteria and then choosing their own. In English we have been focusing on the suffixes 'er' and 'est' through the book 'Edwardo'. This has allowed us to understand the spelling rules and begin to use them in our own writing. In topic we have been making comparisons in art work and beginning our secret project ready for Mother's Day. You will have to wait and see what it is.</p> <p>Please can all children practice their Common Exception words for next week and if you have any buttons, beads or anything that can be attached or sewn onto fabric, we would be very grateful to receive them, thank you ☺</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TAWNY OWLS</p> 

NEWS, REQUESTS & REMINDERS

E-SAFETY

When children are searching the internet, use child-friendly internet search engines such as <https://swiggle.org.uk/> or <https://www.kidzsearch.com/> to help protect them against accessing inappropriate content.



PTA MOVIE NIGHT Wednesday 14 March 3.15 – 5pm in the School Hall

The PTA Movie Night returns for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils. The film will be **'The Secret Life of Pets'** and has a film rating of Universal.

The cost is £3.00 per child and there will be an interval where refreshments of popcorn and a bottle of squash or water will be served.

A letter explaining all of the above went home in book bags at the beginning of the week and should be completed and returned to the School Office, no later than

Friday 9 March.

Book early to avoid disappointment!

Children attending will need to be collected at 5pm from outside the red hall door, just by the Year 1 classrooms.

Thank you for your continued support

Find 'Dunchurch Infant & Nursery School PTA' on Facebook or e-mail

dunchurchinfantpta@gmail.com

if you would like to find out more

Minutes of all PTA Meetings are now available on the school website

www.dunchurchinfants.co.uk
under 'Parent Zone'

TERM DATES 2018

Spring Term 2018

Term Ends
Thursday 29 March

Summer Term 2018

Term Starts
Monday 16 April
Bank Holiday
Monday 7 May
Half Term
Monday 28 May – 1 June
Teacher Training Day
Friday 22 June
Term Ends
Friday 20 July

Autumn Term 2018

Teacher Training Day
Monday 3 September
Term Starts
Tuesday 4 September
Half Term
Monday 29 October – Friday 2 November
Teacher Training Day
Friday 23 November
Term Ends
Friday 21 December

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

WOODY'S BLOG

Hello everyone

Well, what do you think of this weather? I absolutely love the snow and I am so pleased it's a Snow Day today so that I can have a lovely play in the garden! I am sure that you will all have fun on your extra day off school, too, but please stay safe and warm. As you can see, I have been very cosy in the office this week!

We had a special visitor in our garden at home yesterday – a Fieldfare. A Fieldfare is a lovely bird that migrates from Northern Europe/Asia each year and he was eating all our berries! Why don't you as an adult to Google the name and you will be able to see what a lovely bird it is, too.

Woof, woof from:

Woody xx



RUGBY IN BLOOM 2018

CALLING ALL KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS!

Would you like to help our Gardening Club create a stunning display for Rugby in Bloom 2018?

If so, to achieve our master plan we will need hundreds of knitted and crocheted poppies. As poppies grow in many colours, any shade of colour would be very welcome, and different sizes, too. Please tell your family and friends what we are trying to do and encourage them to dust off their crocheting hooks and knitting needles and dig out their oddments of wool. ***If you need a simple pattern, please contact the School Office, as they have some that you can have.***

Your school needs you! Thank you ☺



St Peter's and St Edmund's Churches invite you to their EASTER ACTIVITY MORNING

EASTER GARDEN DECORATING * EASTER EGG HUNT * ACTIVITIES * LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

An activity event for children with their families or carers at
St Peter's Church, Dunchurch on
Saturday 31 March between 10 - 12pm
£2 per child

Booking is essential and places are limited, please book at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/st-peters-and-st-edmunds-easter-activity-morning-tickets-42941909407>

and include name, age of child(ren) and dietary requirements

DUNCHURCH FESTIVAL GROUP
PRESENTS

THE BIG QUIZ

FRIDAY 9TH MARCH
AT 7 FOR 7.30 PM
DUNCHURCH VILLAGE HALL
LICENSED BAR & PRIZES

ENTRY FEE £20 PER TEAM (UP TO 6 PEOPLE)
CONTACT HELEN ON 01788 810212 FOR MORE DETAILS
OR DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FORM
FROM WWW.DUNCHURCHEVENTS.ORG

Year 2 Mother's Day Lunch



Wednesday 7 March

Roast Beef

Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy

Roast Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables

(v) Quorn Fillet

Homemade Blueberry Muffin



REPORTING PUPIL ABSENCES

When ringing the School Office voicemail facility to inform us of your child's absence through illness, can you please ensure that you tell us what your child is ill with, so that we can be aware of any potential problem illnesses/diseases within school.

Also, please ring the School Office by **9am at the latest** and ring in each day that your child is going to be absent.

Thank you for your co-operation ☺

FORTHCOMING PTA EVENTS SPRING TERM 2018

Wednesday 14 March
3.15-5pm Movie Night for Reception,
Year 1 & Year 2 Pupils

Thursday 29 March
Easter Egg Hunt

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES 2018

March

- 7 12.30pm Yr 2 Mother's Day Lunch
- 9 PTA Mother's Day Gift Shop
- 14 3.15pm PTA Movie Night
- 26 7-8pm Parents Forum Meeting
- 29 PTA Easter Egg Hunt
- 29 3.15pm End of Spring Term

April

- 16 8.45am Start of Summer Term
- 16 National Offer Day for Reception & Junior School places

May

- 18 PTA Quiz Night

June

- 15 12.30pm Yr 2 Father's Day Lunch (TBC)

July

- 14 PTA Summer Party
- 20 2pm End of Summer Term

EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB

Tuesday 3 – Friday 6 April
Monday 9 – Friday 13 April

Full Day
8am – 5pm
£29 *

Half Day
8am – 12.30pm
or
12.30pm – 5pm
£14.50 *



* Early-Bird Rate. Bookings made after Friday 2 March will be charged at £32 for a full day or £16 for a half day. A 50% non-refundable deposit is required when returning the completed Booking Form.

Booking Forms are available from the School Office now

SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB

Monday 23 – Friday 27 July
Monday 30 July – Friday 3 August
Monday 6 – Friday 10 August
Monday 13 – Friday 17 August

Full Day
8am – 5pm
£29 *

Half Day
8am – 12.30pm
or
12.30pm – 5pm
£14.50 *



* Early-Bird Rate. Bookings made after Friday 15 June will be charged at £32 for a full day or £16 for a half day. A 50% non-refundable deposit is required when returning the completed Booking Form.

Booking Forms are available from the School Office now

CAN YOU HELP YEAR 1 WITH A CLASS PROJECT?

Year 1 pupils are in need of some artificial flowers, for a class project. If you have some at home that you are happy to donate, please either hand them to one of the Year 1 teachers, or to the School Office staff; thank you ☺

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN OUR POOL OF LUNCHTIME SUPPLY STAFF?

Would you be interested in helping us out in our 'hour of need', particularly during our lunchtime sessions?

If so, please ring the School Office and leave your name and contact details with a member of staff so that we may get in touch in the future.

Many thanks

A MESSAGE FOR BOTH SCHOOL AND NURSERY PARENTS

We will shortly be completing our end of year financial procedures. We would appreciate all Nursery and Owls invoices being paid at your earliest convenience.

Many thanks ☺

The facts

- Across Warwickshire ££££s of money is currently unclaimed
- Schools are missing out and in turn pupils will miss out, on extra equipment and resources, schools trips and visits, and extra learning and development support.
- Children who eat well during the day concentrate better in lessons.
- Evidence also suggests that families who are not claiming their FSM entitlement are also likely to be missing out on other benefits.



Please see the
Warwickshire County Council
website for further information

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/
freeschoolmeals](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

Email:
freemeals@warwickshire.gov.uk

Telephone: 01926 359189



Warwickshire
County Council

Community Safety and Locality Working

Could you help your school claim all the money it's entitled to?

Warwickshire schools miss out
on ££££s of unclaimed benefits



Warwickshire
County Council

Community Safety and Locality Working

What is Pupil Premium?



Pupil premium is a
sum of money that
schools get for any pupil in
receipt of free school meals.

Currently figures stand at:

- £1,320 per pupil, primary schools
- £935 per pupil, secondary schools
- £1,900 for any child that:
 - has been looked after for one day or more
 - is adopted or living in care
 - has special guardianship, a residence order or a child arrangement order

Schools choose how they use their pupil premium money, to offer the best support to vulnerable pupils.

This may be through employing more support staff, subsidising school trips to make them more accessible, purchasing specialist equipment and so much more.

How can you help?

In order for schools to access the money available to them families must firstly apply for free school meals, this doesn't mean that the meal has to be taken **HOWEVER AN APPLICATION MUST BE MADE!**

Apply
Online

If you are on benefits such as JSA, ESA, the guarantee element of state pension credit, Universal Credit or Child Tax Credit, and have an annual income not in excess of £16,190, you may be entitled to free school meals.

Universal free school meals

Universal free school meals was brought in by the government to allow any child aged 4-7 years old, access to a hot school meal. However, due to this schools are missing out.

As every child is now entitled to a meal, those who would otherwise get a 'free school meal' don't make the claim, which means the schools aren't receiving the pupil premium money.

Myth Buster



My child only eats sandwiches...

That's not a problem. Sandwiches are available as part of free school meals. Please check with your school.

We both work, this doesn't apply to me...
Not necessarily, it is still worth applying.

Once registered my child has to always eat at the school...

No, once your child is FSM registered the school will receive the money even if you choose to opt out for certain days in the week or all days.

I don't want my child 'labelled'...

No, schools now operate systems that minimise or remove the distinction between those on free school meals and those who pay.

My benefits will be reduced or stopped by applying for FSM...

No, claiming FSM will not affect any existing benefit entitlement.



Please see the Warwickshire County Council website for further information:
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals