

Dunchurch Schools' Federation News



With growing concern about the rise in coronavirus cases, it is a good time to explain how we will react if some children are not able to attend school. The government are keen for schools to remain open, so a repeat of the early part of the Summer term where the majority of pupils are at home is not very likely, but nothing can be ruled out. The most likely situation is an expansion of what we currently have; most children in school, but some isolating, either because of a case at home, a case at school or they are waiting for a test. Consequently, we have made plans for different eventualities:

Where small numbers of children are not in school: When most children are in and certain children are off because they are waiting for tests, or they are isolating, parents will be directed to the [Oak Academy](#) website. This is a resource, created by teachers in the last few months and funded by the government, which is a huge bank of online lessons. Parents would look at their child's year group and take part in whatever learning is set for that day. This is not a perfect solution, but this means that teachers aren't in the position where they are planning for a parallel curriculum for a few children alongside the normal curriculum for the majority in school.

If a whole bubble, or the whole school (barring vulnerable and key worker pupils) are off: If children are off en masse, class teachers will set work on Seesaw, as was the case in the Summer term. Teachers will interact with pupils through the platform and mark work.

I am well aware that some families have been finding it difficult to access the tests for coronavirus. While there is clearly work to be done by the government in increasing capacity (and I and other headteachers have lobbied through the local authority for improvements to be made in this area) a smaller contributing factor to the testing system grinding to a halt has been people accessing tests when they have not got the stated COVID symptoms. This "just in case" approach, whilst understandable and well meaning, does cause problems when those who do have coronavirus symptoms cannot get a test. The advice is to only get a test if you meet the specific COVID symptoms.

On the subject of symptoms, a parent has asked how we distinguish between a 'normal' cough and a cough which is a symptom of COVID. We are using the guidelines on the [NHS website](#) where "a new continuous cough" involves someone "coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours".

Last week I wrote about changes we had made to the schools' procedures in order to keep children and adults as safe as possible. This week there have been two minor changes, but these have not been ones that are directly related to the children, hence they are not on the newsletter. We are considering some other changes for next week which will be more noticeable to parents and children and I will write more about these next week.

Despite all of the above, both schools continue to function well as places of learning. Children are happy and enjoying their time in school or nursery. Staff are working hard to adapt what we do to make sure we can offer as broad an experience as we can. For instance, we have some of our extra-curricular clubs up and running and our first (largely outdoors) trip is arranged for year 6 pupils next week. One of the joys of working with children is their positivity - adults tend to be more cynical! While cynicism is a helpful characteristic when writing risk assessments, the smiling and laughing of the pupils has been a lovely antidote to the pandemic. I hope the continual updates about coronavirus does not paint the schools in the wrong light; as I type in the office at the Juniors, I can see and hear the infant children playing and having fun and we will continue to do everything we can to make sure school is a happy place for pupils, regardless of events in the wider world.

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Woody's Blog

Hello Everyone

I hope you have had a good week and enjoyed the warm weather and sunshine.

I've been busy helping a Year 3 child with their learning and because they had worked so hard they took me for a little walk around the school field.

Let's hope the lovely weather continues into the weekend so we can get lots of fresh air.

Love from Woody



Parking Around the School

Parents, when parking please leave your vehicle near the kerb and avoid blocking other vehicles in.



Dunchurch Infant School and Nursery News



Diary Dates

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	After next week
After School Clubs Yr2 French— 3.30pm to 4.30pm— collec- tion from play- ground		After School clubs Yr1&2 Football— 3.15pm to 4.45pm— collection from back of hall	After School Clubs Yr1&2 Football— 3.15pm to 4.45pm— collection from back of hall		

WEEKLY GREEN AWARD

Awarded to Barn Owls

Well done to children in Mrs Rawes & Mr Coppillie'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

Term Dates

Half term— 26th—30th October

Teacher Training day—Friday 27th November

Please do not park on the zigzags outside the front of the school between
the hours of:
7am – 6pm

NEW POST BOX

In response to parental feedback, we now have a post box on the outside wall near the Year 2 doors. Please use this if you have any correspondence for the office, PTA or clubs. The box is locked & will be emptied daily.

Dunchurch Infant School and Nursery News



Congratulations to:

PLEASE BRING IN ANY CERTIFICATES / ACHIEVEMENTS THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN AWARDED OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL TO SHARE ON OUR NEWSLETTER.

WELL DONE!

2020/21 PTA: Can you get involved?

The PTA committee welcomes new volunteers to get involved with running the PTA, helping with events and fundraisers and coming up with ideas for activities we can run. This year meetings will be held over Zoom so if you'd like to come along and find out more, please contact dunchurchinfantpta@gmail.com or [https://www.facebook.com/groups/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/DunchurchInfantandNurseryPTA)

We will be holding our AGM in October - date to be confirmed - over Zoom and all are welcome.

School Logo'd Uniform - the PTA second hand uniform 'shop' is up and running again and we would like your donations of outgrown logo'd uniform please. Please contact Anna Buckland or the PTA facebook page if you have any requirements.

Come and find us on Facebook at [https://www.facebook.com/groups/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/DunchurchInfantandNurseryPTA)
[DunchurchInfantandNurseryPTA](https://www.facebook.com/groups/DunchurchInfantandNurseryPTA) where we will share information about upcoming activities and

Over the summer, we suggested some children might like to do "Something Sponsored" to raise money to support the school. A huge thanks to the families that have donated their sponsorship money - at the time or writing £155 has been raised. The justgiving page is still live so to donate please visit <https://>

Dunchurch Boughton

C. of E. Junior School News



Diary Dates

Monday 21st	Tuesday 22nd	Wednesday 23rd	Thursday 24th	Friday 25th	After next week
After School Clubs Tri-Golf Year 3 3.30-4.30pm Dodgeball Year 5 3.30-4.30pm Mixed Football Year 6 3.30-4.30pm	Year 6 Visit to Blists Hill. Please bring a packed lunch. Leaving school at 8am After School Clubs French Year 3 3.30-4.30pm Art & Craft Year 4 3.30-4.30pm DM Football Year 5 3.30-4.45pm DM Football Year 6 3.30-4.45pm	After School Clubs Dodgeball Year 4 3.30-4.30pm Mixed Football Year 4 3.30-4.30pm Mixed Football Year 5 3.30-4.30pm Hot Shots Basket Ball Year 3 only 3.30-4.15pm Year 5 only 4.30-5.15pm	After School Clubs DM Football Year 3 3.30-4.45pm DM Football Year 4 3.30-4.45pm French Year 4 3.30-4.30pm Construction Year 5 3.30-4.30pm Dodgeball Year 6 3.30-4.30pm	After School Clubs Dodgeball Year 3 3.30-4.30pm	

****Date Change**** 6th October Individual photographs in school

Week beginning 12th: Parent Consultations

Half Term 26th – 30th October 2020

27th November Teacher Training Day

Attachments

Dinner Menu: Week beginning 21st September. Yellow.

Electronic Letters and Forms Home.

Hotshots After School Club.

Covid Test Results.

If you test positive for Covid 19/coronavirus, please contact the school immediately via email to the following address: ianewes@dunchurchfederation.co.uk

School Office

If it is essential to visit the school office then you will need to wear a mask. All paper correspondence (including after school forms etc) should be given to the class teachers.

We appreciate your extra care in the mornings in making sure your child has their lunch boxes, water bottles etc before they come into school, thus avoiding unnecessary visitors to the office with forgotten items. Thank you for helping us to keep our school a safer place.

Year 6 Trip to Blists Hill. Tuesday 22nd September 2020.

We will be leaving school at 8.00am and returning by approximately 5.30pm. School uniform must be worn but please ensure your child brings a warm, waterproof jacket.

Please bring a packed lunch.

Dunchurch Boughton

C. of E. Junior School News



Revised Lunch Menu From Educaterers

From Monday 21st September the children will be able to choose either a Jacket Potato option or pasta option from the school dinner menu. This is in addition to the deli bag menu currently available to the children. The jacket potato or pasta option will alternate between days of the week (both will not be available on the same day). Next week's menu is attached to the newsletter and the days that the options are available are listed under *In addition* on the menu. Next week jacket potatoes are available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and pasta on Tuesdays and Thursday.

Hot Shots After School Club.

Hot Shots after school club starts on Wednesday 23rd September for children in year 3 (3.30pm-4.15pm) and children in year 5 only (4.30pm-5.15pm) this half term. Children in year 4 and year 6 will have their turn after the October half term break.

Parents who have provided contact details on their consent form will be contacted directly by Hotshots, who will confirm whether their child has a place.

Children in year 5 will need to be collected at 3.30pm and brought back to school for the 4.30pm start (unless they are booked into Woosh or another after school club).

Instrument Lessons In School update.

There has been a change of date for proposed string and keyboard lessons in school, which is now from week beginning 28th September.

Ashlawn MFL aptitude test for 2021 entry.

The deadline for applications for the Ashlawn MFL aptitude test for 2021 entry has been extended until 30th September. All details and the application form can be found at:

<https://ashlawn.org.uk/mfl-aptitude-test/>

Allsorts Magazine - On-line

Allsorts magazine for parents and children celebrates its 11th birthday with the launch of its digital version of the magazine for you to enjoy safely. Amongst the usual what's on in the area, clubs, classes and learning services, craft and cookery ideas and general information for families with children aged 0-12, we have a couple of great competitions for you to win vouchers to spend with local businesses in the community.

You can visit Allsorts at www.allsortsmag.com

PTA News

You can now email the PTA at the following email address: PTA@dunchurchjuniorschool.org.uk

Star of the Week.

Well done to the following children who have achieved their 'Star of the Week' awards:

Ethan B, Isaac H, Amy K, Isaac F, Dylan T, Minnie S and Isobel B

