

Dunchurch Schools' Federation News



I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a Happy New Year and thank them for their support during this very busy week. We had no idea that whilst teachers were completing training on Monday, the Government were planning to close schools again from Tuesday.

Thank you to parents who have sent messages to me about remote learning. I appreciate how challenging this is for parents, who are trying to work from home and help their children. During this Lockdown, we have more children working in school. This means that staffing and trying to keep children in reasonable size groupings to be safe is an ongoing challenge. It is also a challenging time for teachers, who are trying to manage learning for pupils in school and pupils at home.

I am in discussions with staff this week to try and give children who are at home at the junior school some online live teaching and possible contact with their teacher and classmates. We are setting up individual pupil emails, so this can start as soon as possible. Please can you complete the consent form sent out this week as quickly as possible. I have spoken to Mr. Dewes and Mrs Read, who both have children who are experiencing some virtual teaching. Similar to Seesaw there are advantages and disadvantages to live teaching. For example, if you have more than one child at home and the timetable for a live lesson clashes with another child, it is difficult if you have only one device to access this. It is also difficult from the point of view of lots of people in the house trying to use the broadband at the same time, or to support children simultaneously. One of the benefits of Seesaw, is that your child can access the work at any time in the day.

At the infant school, we have set up some face to face teaching for small groups of children who we have identified. All teachers are trying to include more video content on Seesaw, so that children can see and hear their teacher or T.A. We are also planning to set up a live session with their teacher during the week.

Both schools are making use of White Rose maths videos and Oak academy lessons, which are classed as "live" teaching and are recommended by the Government.

Children in School

As you know, this week we sent a letter in response to the government's decision to open schools only for children classed as vulnerable and those whose parents are critical workers. As we expected, the demand was high. Lots of pupils have parents who wish them to attend school during this current national lockdown. We really want to support those of you who are having to leave home to go to work in critical roles each day or are vulnerable in need of our support, however if we have too many pupils in it becomes harder for us to keep children and staff safe. An additional complication is that at the same time as us catering for pupils in school, we have to commit considerable staffing resources to those learning at home.

The government released new guidance yesterday which states that if you are working at home, have another adult at home and/or can manage to keep your child at home, then you should do so. Please support us in supporting those who really need to attend school; keep your child at home if you can. It may be your child attends only on some days of the week. If you would like to change the times your child attends, please contact us via the school office emails.

Thank you for your understanding at this difficult time and please do get in touch if you need any support. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Tracy Miller

Interim Executive Headteacher of Dunchurch Infant School and Dunchurch Boughton C. of E. (V.A.) Junior School.

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Consultation

The three consultations we began before Christmas are ongoing. Before Christmas we issued an updated consultation document with embedded notes from the meeting for parents and the wider community. Some people couldn't open the PDF file, so we have sent this as separate files and both are attached to this newsletter. Previously we have offered paper copies of the consultation document. With the COVID restrictions in place, if you would like us to post the document to you, please let either of the school offices know.



Mrs Miller hopes that you may be able to go out over the weekend and get some fresh air. If the weekend is the same as the Junior school playground today, then wrap up warm too children!

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Woody's Blog

Hello Everyone

What a cold week this had been with a few flurries of snow.

I was hoping to see you all back in school, but to keep each other safe, unfortunately that is not possible at the moment. I know for certain that those of you learning at home will be working hard and rest assured, the children in school are working hard too.

As a key worker with a very important job in the office, I am helping the staff and doing my best to keep a smile on their face.

Please remember to keep washing your hands, stay safe and be kind.

Take good care.

Love from Woody



Dunchurch Schools' Federation Stars of the Week



Reception	Mrs. Carrington: Sam W	Miss Lodge: Joshua C
Year 1	Miss Shrimpton: Mila-Teresa K	Mrs. Rawes & Mr. Coppillie: Keira S
Year 2	Miss Guy: Henry F	Mrs. Macauley: Esme B
Year 3	<p>Star of the Week</p> <p>will start w/c: 11 January</p> <p>Miss Roberts:</p> <p>Mrs. Tildesley & Mrs. Jenks:</p> <p>Mr. Beasley:</p> <p>Mr. Rattue:</p> <p>Mrs. Keffler:</p> <p>Mrs. Broderick & Mrs. Hayward:</p> <p>Mrs. Cooper:</p> <p>Mrs. Andrews:</p>	
Year 4		
Year 5		
Year 6		

