

# Dunchurch Infant School

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



Friday, 08 April 2022

## A message from Mr Andrews

Dear Families,

We made it...just! What a term it has been across both schools and the nursery.

Despite staff and pupil absence and illness, and other complications along the way, I have been truly inspired by the levels of resilience and compassion shown to one another. It is often said that when faced with challenge, people come together and that has been the case within our own community.

The past week has lived up to the comments I made last week in being a highlight of the term. The three church services undertaken at St. Peter's were just brilliant, bringing together children of different faiths and backgrounds in the spirit of reflection and thankfulness. The events also highlighted what talented individuals we have across the schools, with many leading readings, completing artwork for display, playing instruments and signing in the choir. There was no better way to finish the term.

Equally lovely was the opportunity (finally) to invite parents in to share in the work of their children in Year 2 this morning. We thank everyone for their attendance and look forward to holding events for other year groups throughout the summer term.

Looking further ahead, there is much taking place over the short first half term of the summer. SATs return at both schools, along with a number of additional trips and projects starting up/continuing. We will also have our after school opportunities in place for children to engage with once again. The half term will likely be culminating in Jubilee celebrations (more details to follow).

For now, I would like to express my gratitude to your children for their commitment, to you for your continued support and to the staff for their incredible effort in keeping us going against all odds!

Wishing everyone a lovely Easter break – here's to an excellent summer term!

Best wishes,  
Mr Andrews

## Assemblies and Collective Worship

### Church Visit

Mrs Miller was very proud of the whole school on Wednesday. We had a wonderful church service to celebrate Easter. Our Year 2 readers read with great confidence and the whole school sang with great gusto. Our youngest children from the nursery were super too. Thank you to all the parents who accompanied us. A special mention to Mr. Freeman and Mr. Mills who were on traffic duty and made sure we were all very safe.



## Stars of the Week

### Rainbow Room

Lunchtime

All Children

### Red Room

Lunchtime

All Children

### Blue Room

Lunchtime

All Children

### Elf Owls

Lunchtime

All Children

Learning Behaviour of  
the week

Ema K

### Little Owls

Lunchtime

All Children

Learning Behaviour of  
the week

Ella P

### Barn Owls

Lunchtime

All Children

Learning Behaviour of  
the week

Jahnavi P

### Snowy Owls

Lunchtime

All Children

Learning Behaviour of  
the week

Matilda C

### Spectacled Owls

Lunchtime

All Children

Learning Behaviour of  
the week

Nathan RC

### Tawny Owls

Lunchtime

All Children

Learning Behaviour of  
the week

George C

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## NURSERY

The children in Nursery have had a great Spring 2 half term, with sunshine and snow! They have loved learning about dinosaurs in Red Room, demonstrating their knowledge, and remembering lots of interesting facts. They also loved dressing up as Superheroes for Comic Relief and made patterned superhero masks! All the Pre-School children have really enjoyed having Woody around lots, playing with him in the garden, but also grooming him in the Blue Room Vets check-up room, and learning about how to keep him healthy! Also in Pre-School, the children have been comparing amounts, making marks to represent numbers and ordering numbers. The children loved measuring each other with the large foam bricks!

In Rainbow Room, the children have loved acting out going on holiday in the role play area, using the suitcases, dressing up clothes, and mark-making resources to help them to discuss their own experiences of holidays. They also made some lovely Easter nests, mixing the ingredients together, and taking them home to enjoy. Sticking with the Easter theme, the children used their fine motor skills to dig potatoes and carrots from a tray of soil, using one-handed tools, then bury them again for their friends to find, seeing how many they could find. We wish all of our Nursery families a lovely Easter break, and look forward to seeing you for the Summer Term!



## RECEPTION

In maths we have investigated the properties of 3D shapes. We have also continued to work on the composition of numbers to 10 and we are currently learning number bonds so we can automatically recall the different ways to make 10. We are looking forward to working with numbers to 20 and beyond over next term.

The children have enjoyed learning with our new Little Wandle phonics scheme. Shuffle Time has been fun (ask your child about it!) and spelling is a popular activity. We like the captions and pictures to go with the graphemes. Next term we will be recapping Phase 3 and reading and spelling longer words. The children have read with different adults in the Reading Practice groups and have spent time choosing their own books in the library.

The children have worked hard to form their letters correctly, although 'b's and 'd's need a little more work. We are pleased that the children are growing in confidence to have a go at writing a simple sentence independently. They are thinking hard about selecting the correct graphemes and including lots of Tricky Words.

The creative areas continue to be popular. The children have used lots of different materials to create collages. In PE we have enjoyed playing team games, relay races and ball skills. We are hoping to be go outside for PE as the weather improves.

Naughty Bus has been in school this week. Red paint has been spread around the classroom and Mrs Nicholls' office has been ransacked. Mrs Miller has taken Naughty Bus to talk about the school Behaviour Ladder and making good choices. Fingers crossed that Naughty Bus listens and follows the school rules.





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## YEAR 1

This half term saw us complete our topic of 'Dungeons and Dragons' which the children have thoroughly enjoyed. How exciting was it when we discovered the egg left in the school playground!

There were so many ideas about who it could be from, where has it come from and why it is here – they wanted to know everything about it. After writing some instructions about how to care for the egg, it hatched within the classroom before we safely placed the newborn dragon outside in the playground ready for its parents to come to pick up. We supported some of our Literacy work with the text 'The dragon machine' which allowed the children's imaginations and ideas about our dragon to extend further.

In Topic we discussed Pancake Day and why it's celebrated as well as marking St David's day too. We looked at the different body parts we all have before focusing in on the 5 senses and which body parts we would use to experience these. As a 'fabulous finish' to 'Dungeons and Dragons' the children took part in a 'Dragons and Castles' workshop, hosted by Miss Chloe (the bouncing beats teacher) – this was such a hit. The children absolutely loved it. We explored the material of clay to create our Easter eggs, the children really persevered when using the tools, moulding their shapes and adding detail/paint. We think you'll agree they've done a brilliant job.

We completed our unit of 'Maze explorers' in Computing and we are pleased to say how independent the children are now becoming during these lessons. It has been clear to see an increase in confidence and ability! Next term see's Computing go on to the unit of 'Coding'.

In Maths, we have looked at Place value and measurements – both capacity and length/height. The children have worked so well to tackle their independent work and attempt challenges which require careful thinking and giving more in depth reasons behind their answers. We hope to see much more of this in Summer term.

Reading practise has already become second nature to us, with the children understanding the structure of these sessions and offering the most fantastic answers during the comprehension sessions. We have already seen an increase in fluency and prosody when reading independently.

Finally, Year 1 enjoyed planting many seeds with the help of Mrs Lewis in preparation for developing our Year 1 garden. This feeds beautifully into our 'I am alive' topic which we start after Easter.

We wish you all an enjoyable Easter break.



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## YEAR 2

What a busy half term this has been! We have thoroughly enjoyed reading the 'Lighthouse Keeper's Stories' in Literacy. From learning how to infer and retrieve answers from the texts, to writing a retell and then creating our own 'Lighthouse Keeper's Rescue' story. In Maths we have learnt how to find halves, quarters and thirds of shapes and numbers to more recently learning to recognise and sort 2D shapes. In the afternoons we have been extremely busy from creating our own maps of Dunchurch and using keys to then, learning to sew heart cushions. This took a lot of resilience when persevering to thread needles and complete a running stitch! Finally, we learnt how to cook homemade cheese scones. To top off this half term, having grown-ups in to share our cheese scones and our story writing has been the 'icing on the cake'. Thank you for all your hard work this half term! We hope you enjoy your Easter holidays and a well-deserved rest.



Happy Easter





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## DIARY DATES

Monday 25th	Tuesday 26th	Wednesday 27th	Thursday 28th	Friday 29th
<b>Martial Arts</b>	<b>Spanish Club</b>	<b>Performing Arts</b>	<b>Violin lessons</b>	<b>Performing Arts</b>
Collection from the back of the Hall	Collection from the back of the Hall	Collection from School office	9.25am - 11.25am <b>Football</b>	Collection from the back of the Hall
		<b>Football</b> Collection from the back of the Hall	Collection from the back of the Hall	

## FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 25th April	<b>SCHOOL &amp; NURSERY</b> —reopen from holidays
Thursday 28th April	<b>Spectacled Owls ONLY</b> —NFER English test
Monday 2nd May	<b>Bank Holiday</b>
9th May to 20th May	Yr2 SATs
30th May to 3rd June	<b>SCHOOL &amp; NURSERY—MAY HALF TERM</b>
Friday 17th June	<b>Non-uniform day for Dunchurch Festival Tombola (sweets as a donation)</b>
Monday 27th June	<b>Teacher Training Day</b> —LAST ONE THIS YEAR
Wednesday 6th July	Warwickshire Induction Day
Monday 18th July	Open Evening for all parents and carers
Thursday 21st July	<b>SCHOOL &amp; NURSERY</b> —finish for Summer Holidays

## **OWLS CLUB EASTER COMPETITION**



The children enjoyed our competition of 'Guess the number of eggs' on the board. Two winners from each year group were chosen for guessing nearest the number of eggs on the board. The winners are below:

Nursery - Rory W and Amelia A

Reception - Delilah J and Kaira MB

Year 1 - Elizabeth R and Amelia H

Year 2 - Laura K and Rory N

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## School Information

**PLEASE REMEMBER WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL AND NURSERY AND THIS INCLUDES PEANUT BUTTER SANDWICHES! THANK YOU**

**SCHOOL BOOK BAGS** - Please can your child's book bag be brought into school everyday containing their library and reading books, thank you.

**WARWICKSHIRE SCHOOL OFFERS FOR RECEPTION AND YEAR 3 2022/23**

**Offer Day—Tuesday 19th April**

**Deadline for accepting / declining offer—Tuesday 3rd May**

## Walkies in the sunshine



Visit to the jungle vet



Time to celebrate



PIC•COLLAGE