



'Together we learn, Together we grow, Together we bloom.'

Dear Parents

We have had another lovely week here at Dunsford and we have many opportunities and events coming up to look forward to!

We are continuing to work together to explore our vision of learning, growing and blooming together and to think about how our values of **Respect, Responsibility** and **Resilience** underpin this. Our Ethos Group had a very dynamic meeting with Mrs Twelvetrees this week and it was wonderful to hear them discussing our value of **responsibility** in helping to protect our world and the ideas that they had to develop our local environment. I am very excited to see these plans put into action!

Children in Need

On Friday 19th November we will be supporting Children in Need. On this day, please can the children dress in 'fun and funky' clothes and support with a donation (suggested £1). During this day there will be opportunities for the children to be physically active and also join with children virtually across our trust family for a special Children in Need assembly; staff will also be joining in with this too!

After school, we would like to hold a book sale. Please could you let Mrs Sinton know if you are able to come to school at 3pm to help to set up the tables with the books and then to run the stalls after school on the playground. Children will remain with their class teachers until collected and then they can access the book stall with you. Please can I ask that if you have any books that have been loved but are now ready for a new home and you would like to donate, that they are brought into school on the morning of Friday 19th November and left at the school office. Thank you in advance.

If you are willing to support with the setting up and running of stalls please contact Mrs Sinton in the office so that further information can be shared with you.

Mystery Reader

We would like to begin having a 'Mystery Reader' in our classes! We are looking for any parents or grandparents who would like to come in at the end of a school day and read a story to children in our classes. The children in the class would not know who was visiting and this would be the 'mystery' element! If you are interested, please let me know. This would not be a daily or weekly commitment and could be as frequent as you like! It would be lovely to excite the children about reading in yet another way! We have taken this idea from our sister schools in the South Hams and I would like to thank them for their inspiration; what a difference it makes to work as part of a family of schools.



Dunsford Community Academy
Dunsford, Exeter
Devon, EX6 7DD
T: 01626 572971 **E:** dunsford@lapsw.org
W: dunsford-lap.co.uk



TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE

Musical Extravaganza!

Please note the message from last week's newsletter regarding the Musical Afternoon on 25th November and, for those who it is applicable, please hold the date:

"On the afternoon of Thursday 25th November we will be holding a musical extravaganza in the village hall. This will be an opportunity for the children who currently take part in music lessons with both Mrs Todd and Mr Blurton to share their learning by putting on a special performance. We would like to invite the parents of the children who work with Mrs Todd and Mr Blurton to join us for this event which will begin at 2pm. It promises to be a wonderful afternoon of beautiful music and we are very much looking forward to this."

Musical Success

As you are aware, we have recently been celebrating the success of Betty, Cami and Isla as they performed in the Torbay and South Devon Music Festival. We have shared their success in the local area and you can find a full press release celebrating their achievements

here: <https://www.inyourarea.co.uk/news/dunsford-community-academys-success-at-torbay-and-south-west-of-england-music-festival/>

Visit from Miss Cleverly

This week it was wonderful to be able to welcome our trust CEO Miss Tracey Cleverly to Dunsford. She spent time talking with our Year 6 children about their ideas for the Civic Award and what they hoped to achieve. It was brilliant to hear them all talking with such passion and enthusiasm and I can't wait to see what they all achieve.



Attendance and Lates

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all for your efforts in attendance and punctuality at Dunsford. As we all know, when children attend school they both learn and grow! We continue to place a high importance on attendance here at Dunsford and we continue to value the part that you as parents play in this.

Did you know?

- An average attendance of 80% or less across a child's school career adds up to missing a whole 2 years from school
- Being late for school reduces learning time
- If your child is 5 minutes late every day they will miss three days of learning each year
- If your child is 15 minutes late every day they will miss 2 weeks of learning each year
- Attending school everyday = 100% attendance
- Attending 4 1/2 days a week = 90% attendance equating to 4 weeks missed per year
- Attending 4 days a week = 80% attendance equating to more than half a term missed per year
- Attending 3 1/2 days a week = 70% attendance equating to more than a quarter of the school year missed

Every Minute Counts!



Face Coverings

Please can I ask for your continued support by wearing face coverings when you enter the school site. We have got many different opportunities planned (such as the Christmas Service, musical afternoon, open afternoons etc) and they will only be able to happen if we are all continuing to support to keep each other safe. Thank you for your understanding- it is greatly appreciated by all of us at Dunsford. I wish you all a lovely, relaxing weekend and I look forward to seeing you next week.

Stay safe and enjoy your time together.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Guntrip

Mrs Guntrip
Head of Academy