

Monday 14th February 2022

Dear Parents,

We have had another busy week here in Dunsford. I would like to thank you all for being patient with us during the last few weeks whilst we continue to navigate through the challenges of staff absences. I would also like to thank the staff for all their efforts in keeping the disruption to the children's learning and wellbeing to a minimum. We strive to ensure that we always put the children first and the staff have done just that! I am sure you'll join me in saying how amazing, committed and dedicated the staff at Dunsford have been.

I of course can't forget the children in this too, they have been nothing but patient and resilient through this period!

After school provision

Thanks to all of you that took the time in completing the 'After School Childcare / Extra Curriculum Clubs' survey. We received responses from 24 families with 23 requesting extra curriculum after school club. You told us that Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays are the days you would be most interested in. With this in mind, I have been in contact with STEMKids, which is an organisation that runs engineering clubs for children from Y1 to Y6. In order to move forward with this we will need to know if there would be enough demand as they require a minimum of 12 children for the club to be viable. For more information on what STEMKids offers, please see [Comb A Video \(canva.com\)](#). There will be a fee of £7.50 per child per session for this and we are hoping to run the club on Mondays. Can you please let the office know if this is something you might be interested in. I would appreciate if you could do this by 4th March, so I can see if this club would be viable.

I would like to remind you that we have been offering Multi-skills club for KS2 children since September. Unfortunately, only a small number of children are attending. Mr Kirk, who runs the club is hoping that we can encourage more pupils to sign up by introducing the club as 'Invasion Sports', which includes football, rugby and basketball amongst others. This will allow us to cater for the varied sports that pupils are interested in as well as allow them to experience new ones. This will also mean we can use different spaces, such as the playground, field or village hall and still do games that are 'invasion'. For those of you who don't know who Mr Kirk is, he is an experienced PE teacher from The Spires College and comes in each week to deliver PE to each class and supports the teachers develop in their delivery of the PE curriculum. I would like to thank Mr Kirk for his expertise and for enriching our school life. Please talk to Mrs Sinton if your child is interested in joining the club.



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FLOURISHING FUTURES

As well as that, we offer two lunch time clubs delivered by Premier Education. These are very popular, and I am hopeful that Premier Education will be able to offer an additional sports club one afternoon a week and it would be for KS1 children after Easter. Once again, I will inform you when I have more information.

I am also in talks with Mrs Ruth Gray regarding drama club. Ruth is a skilled drama provider with years of experience with working with children of various ages. For more information on what Ruth can offer, please email her directly on ruth@partypiecesltd.co.uk . Please note that we will only be able to offer the club if there are 18 or more children interested. Please let Mrs Sinton know if this is something your child would like to do. The club would run every Tuesday between 3:30 – 4:30pm and it would cost £5 per child per session. We are currently in the process of DBS checks and I am hopeful that we will be able to offer the club soon. This club would be for children in Y2 to Y6, but Mrs Gray is happy to review this and might be able to accept children in Y1 too.

Please don't forget that we also offer Find Your Wild club every Wednesday afternoon, which is run by Mrs Twelvetrees who is looking into offering an additional afternoon. For more information, please contact Mrs Twelvetrees directly on 07837988619.

Please see the breakdown below of all the extra curriculum clubs currently offered by the school.

Tuesday – 3:30 – 4:30pm	Invasion Sports – KS2
Wednesday – 3:30 – 5:30pm	Find Your Wild
Friday - Lunchtime	Multi -skills club (KS1) & Netball (KS2)

Please see the breakdown below of the extra-curriculum clubs we are hoping to offer after Easter.

Monday – 3:30 – 4:30pm	STEMkids engineering club (12 children minimum, £7.50 per session per child)
Tuesday – 3:30 – 4:30pm	Drama club (18 children minimum, £5 per session per child)
Wednesday – 3:30 – 4:30pm	Sports club for KS1 and Reception children

We hope to be able to expand our extra-curricular club offer in the future.

Staff News

Mrs Gray has taken the decision to retire and will be leaving the school at Easter. Mrs Gray has been a valued member of the Learning Academy Partnership for many years and has been a massive part of our Dunsford Community Academy family for the last two years. Her care and support of the children will be greatly missed, and I am sure you will join me in wishing Mrs Gray the very best for the future.



Mrs Gray writes:

Dear Parents,

*it's been such a pleasure and privilege to work at this wonderful school, with your amazing children for the last 2 years. I've been very fortunate, in my working life having worked as a TA for nearly 20 years and joining the LAP in 2006. I've worked with many fantastic children and adults but it's now time to spend more time with my family and to travel hopefully, COVID allowing!
I'll no doubt be popping back to see everyone from time to time and look forward to seeing the children grow and flourish as I know that they will.*

I would like to remind you that the last day of term is Thursday 17th February, and I wish you a safe and happy half term and we are looking forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 28th February.

Kind regards

Mrs Stephens

Executive Head of Newton and Teign Hub