

Friday 1st April 2022

Dear Parents,

We have had another fantastic week at Dunsford with a wide range of learning happening across the whole school. Thank you so much for all your support with our fundraising events over the last few weeks. As you can see below, the children had a great time and we raised a lot of money through walking and running almost 500 miles! We raised £780.86 for our Ukraine Fundraiser! All the proceeds are going to the British Red Cross and our Just Giving page will be live until the end of next week for any last-minute donations. All the money will make a huge difference to a lot of people.



Drama Club

I am very pleased to let you know that the drama club will start on Tuesday 26th April. Please contact Ruth Gray for more information - ruth@partypiecesltd.co.uk. We have a list of children that have already expressed interest in joining the club but if your child would like to join, please contact Mrs Sinton. Mrs Gray can only accept up to 20 children and the places will be allocated on first come first served basis. The fee for the session is £5 and the club will run from 3:30 pm until 4:30pm. The club is for children in Y2 to Y6.

Multi-skills Club

After Easter, Mr Kirk will offer the Tuesdays Multi-skills club to the children in Reception and KS1. This will give an opportunity to the younger pupils to participate. You will be able to book the club via School Money from next week and there will be a £1 fee. The places are limited to 15 children and places will be offered on first come first served basis.



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FLOURISHING FUTURES

Football Match

On Monday 4th April, some of our children will play in a football match against Christow Primary School. The children will not only showcase their football skills but also our shiny new football kits that our lovely PTFA have kindly contributed to – thank you! There will be two matches played on our field after school. The parents of the children participating are welcome to stay and watch and the parents from Christow will be joining us too. Go Dunsford!



Teign Valley Larder

We have been contacted by Ms Barradale from Teign Valley Larder offering some support to our families who might struggle throughout the valley. She has sent us a number of electronic vouchers for groceries at Tesco that we would like to share with any households that might need them. Please contact Mrs Sinton if you think you or anyone else might need them.

Easter celebrations

I would like to remind you that next week we will be celebrating Easter at the School. We will start by having Easter assemblies across the school on Monday 4th April. Children have been practising their songs really hard and we are all looking forward to listening to their singing! Reverend Ruth and Reverend Eleanor will be leading the assemblies.

Our Easter celebrations will continue on Thursday 7th April when we will be holding a short show on the school playground to which you are all invited. Children will perform the songs that they have been practising with Mr Blurton and then parade around the playground where you can see all their Easter bonnets. I cannot wait to see their creations that they made at home! The show will start at 9:15am and should only last for approximately half an hour so please feel free to wait in the playground after dropping off your children whilst the teachers complete the morning registers.

Absences

We have seen a massive rise in unauthorised absences in the last few months and I would like to remind you of the importance of attendance. At Dunsford we expect the highest standards of attendance and punctuality for each child. Attendance is crucial for children to maximise their achievements as I am sure you will agree. It is clearly stated in our Attendance policy that: *'Parents/Carers should not take their child on holiday in term time and are to be made aware of the potential consequences of a Penalty Notice being issued or subsequent prosecution of doing so without the Academy's prior written permission'*.

It is also stated in our policy that if the absence is unauthorised and still taken, we may request the Local Authority to consider issuing a £60 Penalty Notice per child, per parent to the parents for the unauthorised absence. I do hope that we can work together at increasing the attendance at Dunsford and I thank you in advance for your continuing support.

Have a lovely weekend and hopefully the sun will continue to shine!

Yours sincerely



Mrs Stephens

Executive Head of Newton and Teign Hub