



# Dunsford Community Academy

Nurturing brilliance to catch our dreams.

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, we have been emphasising the importance of being safe and ready, which was perfectly timed with the arrival of our very icy Thursday! In class and around school, it's been wonderful to see how our students have embraced this message and applied it in their daily activities.

This week, we've witnessed incredible teamwork in Forest School, innovative problem-solving in Computing, and students challenging themselves in Maths. It's truly inspiring to see such dedication and enthusiasm in every corner of our school.

Our KS2 students have been particularly engaged in their reading lessons. The buzz of deep discussions about texts is a joy to hear. With such enjoyment in school, I can't help but wonder what books everyone is enjoying at home. It would be lovely to hear about your children's favourite reads so we will be exploring this more in the weeks to come.

On a logistical note, please ensure that lunches are ordered at least 24 hours in advance. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate school lunch orders placed in the mornings.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Mr Waters

## Robins

This week in Robins, we've been diving into the theme of 'People Who Help Us'. The highlight was an inspiring visit from Dr Bradley, who captivated the children with her fascinating medical equipment. The children were thrilled to learn how to use a stethoscope and even got a hands-on lesson in proper hand-washing techniques, emphasising the importance of hygiene. Dr Bradley's visit has certainly sparked an interest in healthcare among our young learners!

Our phonics sessions have been buzzing with activity, as many children enthusiastically read their phonics books. We kindly request parents to record their children's reading sessions to track their progress effectively. This collaboration between home and school ensures that we can continue to support your child's reading journey and celebrate their achievements together. Thank you for your ongoing support and involvement!



**PE is on Mondays & Wednesdays.**

**Forest School is on Fridays.**

## Kingfishers

Kingfishers have been hard at work this week in math, practising both addition and subtraction, and using number bonds to help us.

We have continued our RWInc lessons and worked on The Gruffalo-inspired adjectives in Sentence Builders.

In art, we experimented with watercolour techniques to mimic the gradients used in Andy Goldsworthy's work.

In PE, we have been busy dancing and developing our throwing and catching skills!

In RHE, we discussed bedtime routines and the importance of a good night's sleep.

At Forest School, we made bird feeders



**PE is on Mondays & Thursdays.**

**Forest School is on Tuesdays.**

## Magpies

Magpies have been diving into explanation texts In English, learning how to clearly explain processes and ideas – our elicitation task was to explain how caterpillars become butterflies. In Whole Class Reading

we've been reading the story of Frankenstein, discovering the adventures and challenges faced by the characters. In Maths our focus has been on measuring length in millimetres (mm), centimetres (cm), and metres (m). We're becoming experts at using rulers accurately!

In science, we've explored the lifecycle of a sunflower and the fascinating process of pollination. We've learned how sunflowers grow from seeds to beautiful flowers and how pollination helps plants reproduce. In Spanish we've been practicing how to say "I like" - now we can express our fruit preferences in another language! The children have been given a log-in to access the Language Angel games to practise at home.

Keep up the great work, Magpies!



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## Barn Owls

This week in our Barn Owl class, we've been busy with a variety of exciting activities! In Writing, we embarked on our independent writing project where everyone crafted their own biography. It was fascinating to see everyone delve into a famous person's history and share unique stories. In Maths, we wrapped up our unit on decimals and are now diving into the world of length, perimeter and area. The transition has been smooth, and everyone is already showing great understanding of the new concepts. Our history lessons have taken us back to World War II, focusing on the evacuations. The discussions



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have been insightful, and students are developing a deeper understanding of this significant period.

In PE, we've been having a blast learning dance routine, especially the Macarena! It's been a fun way to stay active and learn some new moves. Our Computing lessons have introduced us to programming in Scratch, with a focus on understanding variables. The students are becoming quite the coders! In Art, we channelled our inner Picasso and recreated some of his famous artworks, resulting in some truly impressive pieces. Finally, our Whole Class Reading sessions have been centred around the book "City of Horses," which has captivated everyone's imagination. It's been a fantastic week of learning and creativity!