



# 'Nurturing brilliance to catch our dreams.'



10/01/25

Dear Families,

Happy New Year, and welcome back to the term. The Dunsford Team hopes that you had a wonderful break. It has been lovely welcoming the children back and seeing their happy faces. Despite the weather, it has been a busy week with lots of learning taking place.

We have a few updates to share in this newsletter.

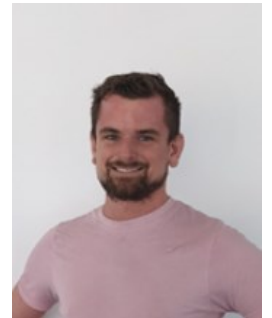
As we enter 2025, we wanted to let you know that this will be Mr. Grimley's final year. Yes, if you can believe it, he has reached a point in life where he is able to retire. At the end of the summer, Mr. Grimley will be retiring.

We will be telling the children on Monday, but Mr. Grimley wanted to let you know first, as some of you would prefer to tell the children yourselves. We are also telling you so soon because we are a small and well-connected community, and Mr. Grimley did not want anyone to find out third hand.

We are sure that you all have lots of questions. As soon as we have updates to share, we will. We have both happy and sad faces as Mr. Grimley has helped us all achieve wonderful things, and when the time comes, we will miss him. However, we are happy for him and his new adventures too.

You may have noticed that Mr. Grimley was not in school this week. He has been unwell and is convalescing, so he will be absent from school for a while.

Excitingly, Mr. Waters will be joining the Dunsford family in the short term. Mr. Waters is coming over from Dartington to help us until Mr. Grimley has recovered. He will be out and about at the gate, getting to know the children. We already know Mr. Waters as he is part of our Hub of schools where we collaborate with Dartington, Bovey Tracey, and St. Michael's.



Some other useful things to note: Mrs. Sinton has rearranged her working hours. She will now be working her hours over four days rather than five. This means that she will be here over lunchtime until 1:30 pm each day. However, Friday will not be her working day. She has asked that families be mindful that the office will not be manned on Fridays. So please get in touch and ask her any questions before Fridays. This will begin the week beginning 20th January, and Mr. Waters and Mrs. Sinton will be creating a one-page guide to support you to find all the information you need for when she is not in on Fridays.

Have a good weekend!

The Dunsford Team

Event	Class/Year	Date
Big School Bird Watch	All	Tuesday 7th January -Friday 14th February
Census Day	All	Thursday 16th January
Dog Trust Visit	Y1– Y6	Friday 21st March



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**Robins**



STAR of the WEEK



**Beatrix**

Happy New Year! What a snowy start to 2025! This half-term, our topic is "People Who Help Us." We would love to invite parents, grandparents, or community members who work in roles such as doctor, nurse, paramedic, firefighter, police officer, carer, RNLI member, scientist, vet, farmer, dentist, librarian, mountain rescue, mechanic, etc., to talk about how they help others. If you know someone who can contribute, please contact the school office. If they're unable to visit in person, you can upload a photo to Seesaw so we can include it in our class display.

**Mondays & Wednesdays:** PE kits should be in school during the week and not worn to school on any day.  
**Fridays:** Forest school. Please bring the following to change in to: wellies, waterproof coat & trousers.





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## Kingfishers



STAR of the WEEK



Flora N

Welcome back Kingfishers and welcome to 2025!

It's been a special week for Kingfishers! We have had two new visitors this week. Our first visitor decided to come and watch us play and learn at Forest School. Can you spot the robin in our picture? We liked our robin friend so much that we put out some seeds. We have also now met Mr. Waters! With Mrs. Boatman, we have been super helpers, showing Mr. Waters our classroom and teaching him our names.

In Maths, we have been learning about addition and subtraction, exploring how we can use what we know from one calculation to help us with another.

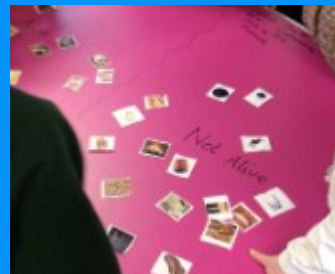
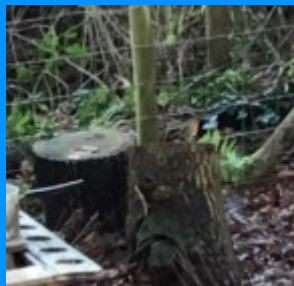
This week, Kingfishers have read Puffin Peter, Angela Sprocket's Pockets, and The Gruffalo. We have been learning about adjectives and how we can use them in our writing to help the reader picture what we are talking about. Can you spot any adjectives in anything you are reading at home? What can you describe around you?

Our RHE lesson was adapted this week because it is the first week of a New Year. We considered how we can make a positive difference to others around us and wrote our resolutions on stars. Kingfishers are so thoughtful!

In Science, we worked in groups, discussed, and categorised picture cards. We considered whether something is a living creature or not and are just starting to explore how we know. SPOILER ALERT...We will be looking at what MRS NERG means next week!

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**Forest School is on Tuesdays**—Please bring the following to change in to: wellies, water-proof coat & trousers.

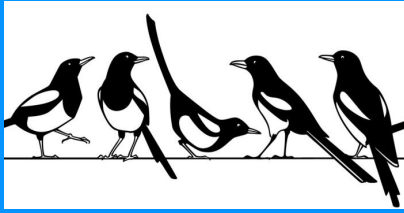




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## Magpies



Olive



STAR of the WEEK



SPORTS STARS:  
Ida & Archie

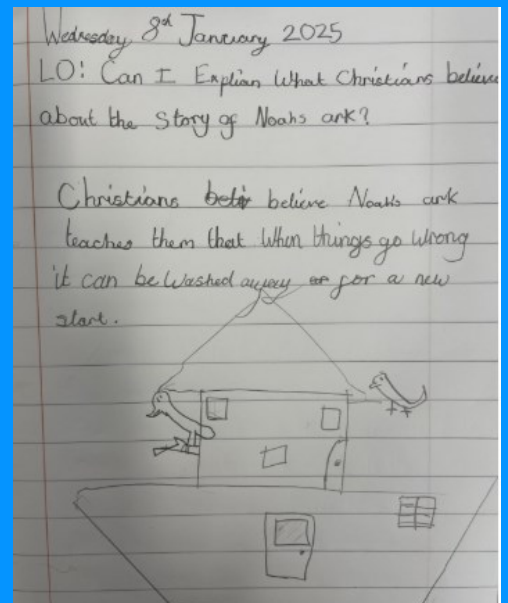
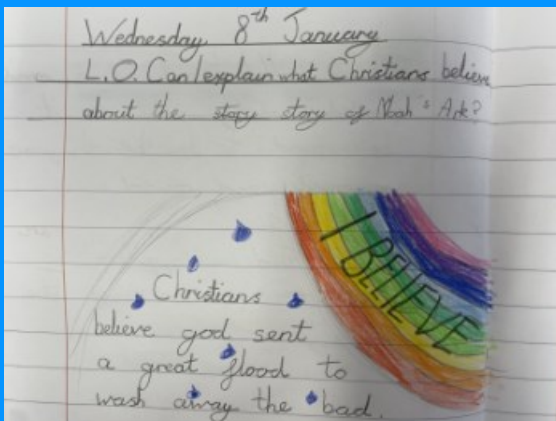
Welcome back—what an exciting start to the spring term it has been!

Magpies have enjoyed reading a story called “The Gardener” by Sarah Stewart and will be learning about the features of letter writing over the coming weeks.

In maths, we are continuing our multiplication and division learning, with a focus this week on exploring factors of different numbers.

In RE, we explored the Christian story of Noah’s Ark and thought about what the story means to Christians.

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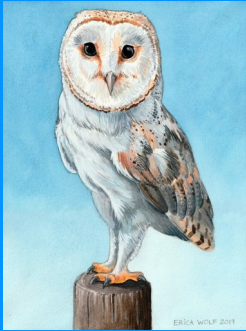




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## Barn Owls



**Penelope**



STAR of the WEEK



SPORTS STARS:  
**Bryn & Thomas**

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

Barn Owls have been predicting what will happen in our new whole-class reading book, *Where the River Takes Us* by Lesley Parr. We discovered that the story is set in the Welsh valleys, and the characters are on the hunt for a wild cat. We have met the characters and created profiles for each one based on how they act or what they say within the first chapter of the story.

We concluded our Science unit from the Autumn term about space by looking at craters and how they are formed. We performed an investigation to find out whether large meteorites create bigger craters than small meteorites or if the height from which they are dropped affects the size of the crater. The children worked really well in teams to conduct their investigations and recorded their results to show their findings.

In Art, we have started to look at Pablo Picasso. We explored different styles of art, including cubism and figurative art. We examined the features of each style and compared them to see how they are similar and different.

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