



# Dunsford Community Academy

Nurturing brilliance to catch our dreams

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Another exciting week goes by. This week's highlight has to be World Book Day which saw a multitude of characters and sleepy lions descend on the school. We had a fun day featuring lots of reading, sharing of books, discussions around which books we recommend to others and another of Mr Waters' interactive 'forest school' story assemblies. Book vouchers have been handed out. If you don't use these, do hang onto them. They will still be valid when the book fair returns to Dunsford.

Tuesday saw Rev. Ruth come in to talk about Shrove Tuesday and the meanings behind the celebration, showing how we are stronger together. Our children then enjoyed pancakes for lunch... and no doubt for tea too! Our football team then went on to compete at Doddi where we scored a well-earned goal, skilfully chested in from a corner. Hearing the children talk about how much they enjoyed this was heartwarming to say the least.

You will have noticed a new doorbell by the front. This is primarily for Friday mornings when Mrs Sinton is not here (and for external premises teams) as it rings through to the Head of Academy's office.

In order to further safeguard the school and our children we ask that late children be let in and parents say goodbye at the gate. If you need to speak to Mrs Sinton or myself to drop medicine off etc, please let us know over the intercom then you can come straight to the office.

I'm getting to grips with social media now, so there should be more things coming through in the coming weeks. However, we do have some exciting dates for your diary:

**Dog Trust Visit – 21<sup>st</sup> March**

**Wear Read for Red Nose Day – 21<sup>st</sup> March**

**Parents Evenings – 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Many thanks for your continued support,

**Mr Waters**

## **Robins**

This week in Robins, we've been delving into the fascinating world of changes. The children have been learning about the seasons and days of the week. We've had lively discussions about their likes and dislikes, ranging from favourite colours and foods to preferred animals. These conversations have helped the children understand that everyone has unique opinions and preferences, fostering a sense of individuality and respect for others' choices.



**PE is on Mondays & Wednesdays.**

**Forest School is on Tuesdays.**

It has been wonderful to hear so many reception children reading their phonics books at home. Regularly changing phonics books is an essential part of our learning process, and we encourage you to read each book three times with your child. This practice helps reinforce their understanding of sounds and red words, supporting their reading development.

### Kingfishers

This week, the children have been captivated by the story of the Rainbow Crow. They've been practicing their writing skills by using adjectives and verbs to describe the beautiful crow and its journey. In Maths, we've been comparing measurements and using the terms "longer" and "shorter." The students have enjoyed hands-on activities where they compared the lengths of different objects around the classroom.

In RE (Religious Education), we've started gathering knowledge about Judaism. The children are excited to learn about Jewish festivals in the coming weeks. In Computing, we've been focusing on writing instructions and debugging algorithms. The students have been working on simple coding tasks and learning how to fix any mistakes they encounter. It's been a week full of discovery and learning, and we can't wait to continue our adventures next week!



**PE is on Mondays & Thursdays.**

### Magpies

In English, we've been exploring the enchanting story "Journey" by Aaron Becker. It's about a little girl who uses a magical crayon to embark on a fantastic adventure. In Whole Class Reading, we've enjoyed reading the poem "The Spider and the Fly," discussing its themes and language.

Our focus in maths has been on mixed numbers and improper fractions. We're learning how to convert between them and solve related problems.

During Geography, we've delved into tectonic plates, developing our understanding of what they are and what causes them to move.

Our science topic for this half term is light. We have defined darkness and looked at different light sources and how they behave with different materials and objects such as mirrors.

In PE, we've been practicing our tennis skills, working on our serves, volleys, and overall game play.

Keep up the great work, Magpies!



**PE is on Mondays & Wednesdays.**

## Barn Owls

This week in Writing, our Barn Owl class wrapped up their sentence stacking lessons on diary entries. The children have shown incredible creativity and attention to detail in their writing. Now, we are moving on to the planning phase, where they will outline their own diary entries. It's exciting to see their ideas come to life as they plan their narratives!

In Maths, we continued our exploration of ratios, focusing specifically on scale factors. The children have been working hard to understand how to apply scale factors in various contexts, and their progress has been impressive.

In PE, we had a blast playing tag rugby, with everyone showing great teamwork and sportsmanship.

In Computing, we continued to hone our skills in formatting spreadsheets, which will be invaluable for organizing data in future projects.

Lastly, our Whole Class Reading sessions have been filled with wonder as we delve into "The Lost Words," a beautiful book that has sparked our imaginations and deepened our appreciation for nature.

Well done to the Dunsford football team at the match against Doddi this week! It was lovely to see everyone working together and respectful to the other team.



**PE is on Wednesdays & Fridays.**

**Forest School is on Tuesdays.**