



Dunsford Community Academy

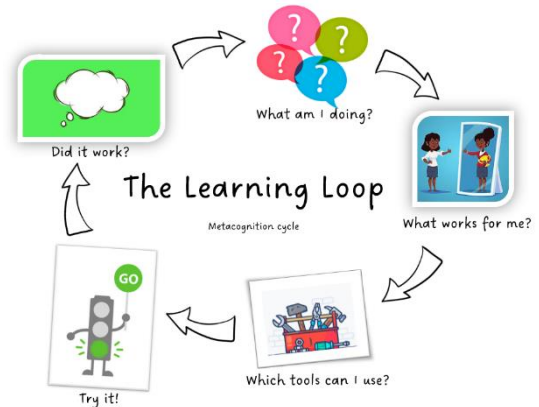
Nurturing brilliance to catch our dreams

Thursday 20th March 2025

Happy Thursday!

Loopy about the Learning Loop

This week we have been introducing metacognition and the importance of knowing how we learn. We have introduced The Learning Loop, a useful tool to help our children become self-regulated learners. In order to get to grips with using the loop, we have been drawing our class birds. We considered what the task was, what we could do to be successful, then had a go. In partners we supported a reflective process before trying again. We will share these when finished, as the children's progress was incredible, with everyone recognising the benefits of the learning loop.



Breakfast Club

Some of you will have caught sight that Dunsford was selected as one of the early adopter schools for the free breakfast club offer. This will begin after Easter, and I shall be sending out a letter tomorrow with details about how it will work as there will be some changes from our current provision.

Dunsford's Journey

I know we're getting close to Easter, so I just wanted to check in about Mr Grimley. He is continuing to recuperate, and we wish him all the best and hope to see him soon. While we are unable to inform you of a return date, please be reassured that I will continue to lead the school for as long as necessary.

I first came to this school two years ago and was struck then by its strong sense of community. Our children are making great progress in their learning, but, more importantly, they are safe and happy. Our colleagues throughout the LAP have been supporting us during this time. It is in moments like these that being part of a trust is crucial.

School Council continues, Eco Squad continues, visitors and trips continue, and new initiatives continue. I couldn't be prouder of our children, our staff, and our wider community. Thank you for your continued support. We understand that moments like these can be difficult, so if you ever want to talk, you know where I am—I will make time for you.

Mr Waters

Robins

This week, we've begun exploring the fascinating topic of *Growing and Changing*. Over the coming week, the children will be planting a variety of colourful flowers and tasty vegetables in our garden. We've been learning about how plants grow and the care they need, and we're excited to see our garden come to life!

In phonics, the reception children will soon be assessed to review their progress, giving us an opportunity to celebrate their achievements. In maths, we've been focusing on the number 10,



PE is on Mondays & Wednesdays.

Forest School is on Tuesdays.

exploring its composition through engaging, hands-on activities. It's been a fantastic week of learning and discovery!

If anyone has a large herb bush and wouldn't mind bringing in a generous bunch, it would be greatly appreciated! Ideal herbs include lavender, thyme, chives, basil, mint, rosemary, and lemon balm.

Kingfishers

This week, we've been busy with a variety of engaging activities! In English, the children have been writing the start of a character description about a very angry dragon, using lots of adjectives, similes, and adverbs to bring their stories to life. It's been wonderful to see their creativity and language skills flourish as they describe the dragon's fiery temper and vivid appearance. In Maths, we've been exploring 2D and 3D shapes, counting faces, edges, and vertices. The students have enjoyed hands-on activities that help them understand the properties of different shapes.

In Computing, the children have been correcting algorithms with robots, learning the importance of precise instructions and problem-solving. Our DT sessions have been deliciously fun as the children tasted various fruits and vegetables with the aim of making a healthy breakfast. This activity has sparked interesting discussions about nutrition and healthy eating habits. In RE, we've explored the significance of the Torah and drawn links to other holy texts, fostering a deeper understanding of different cultures and religions.



PE is on Mondays & Thursdays.

Magpies

Here's a snapshot of this week's learning and activities:

In English, we have been creatively writing our own versions of the fable The Fox and The Crow. This has helped us to explore narrative ideas and develop our storytelling skills.

During Whole Class Reading, we have been diving into Harry Potter and the Cursed Child. We have thoroughly enjoyed the magical world and engaging in discussions about the characters and plot.

Our spelling focus has been on suffixes such as -ment, -ful, -less, and -ness. We have explored how these suffixes change the meaning of root words and enhance our developing vocabulary.

In Maths, we have been exploring capacity and volume. We are learning to measure and compare different quantities, using the units of millilitres and litres.

Geography: The class has been fascinated by the processes of volcanic eruptions and earthquakes. They are learning about the causes and effects of these natural phenomena and how they impact the environment.



PE is on Mondays & Wednesdays.

<p>DT (Design Technology): The students are designing illuminated signs. This project is allowing them to combine creativity with practical skills, as they learn about circuits and design principles.</p>	
<p>Barn Owls</p>	
<p>This week in English, Barn Owl class we have been diving into the fascinating world of an Anglo-Saxon speech. We have been writing a battle speech in the perspective of King Harold. We have been thinking about what we can say to make our men want to continue the relentless fight. In Maths, we've been tackling angles within triangles, quadrilaterals, and polygons. The class has been working hard to identify different types of angles and understand their properties, using protractors to measure and draw angles accurately.</p> <p>In PE, handball has been the sport of the week. We have been developing their teamwork and coordination skills, learning the rules and strategies of the game. Science lessons have been equally exciting, as we've been investigating air resistance by designing parachutes to safely land an egg. We have shown great creativity and problem-solving skills in this project.</p> <p>For Whole Class Reading, we've been captivated by "The Last Wild," discussing its themes and characters, and making predictions about the story's progression. It's been a week full of learning and fun!</p>	<div data-bbox="1038 427 1198 640" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>PE is on Wednesdays & Fridays.</p> <p>Forest School is on Tuesdays.</p>

Dates for your diary:

- Dog Trust Visit – 21st March
- Wear Red for Red Nose Day – 21st March (you can donate for Comic Relief here: [Comic Relief Donation Page](#))
- Parents Evenings – 25th & 26th March (book via MCAS)
- Last Day of Term – 4th April