



Dunsford Community Academy Newsletter 03.04.25

Stronger Together: Newsletter update

Many thanks for the feedback over the past couple of days. We have heard that communication is paramount and have adjusted accordingly. The board at the front of the school will soon be updated with all our upcoming events, though you will also find these at the bottom of the newsletter. We recognise that Dunsford is a Community school and would like to involve you as parents in school life, so those highlighted blue are inclusive for parents and families.

Sense of Belonging: Staffing Updates



It is Mrs Baker's final week before she starts her maternity leave and we wish her all the best for the next couple of months. This is an exciting time for Mrs Baker and we hope she manages to stockpile some sleep and clam in the coming days. What an adventure awaits!

We look forward to welcoming Mrs Brooks and Mrs Major, two experienced EYFS teachers who will join us until the end of the year. Mrs Brooks is a highly experienced teacher with over 15 years in education, specialising in EYFS provision. Mrs Major is an experienced and energetic teacher with a proven track record of excellence in early years. She also comes with plenty of experience working across the Learning Academy Partnership.

We are also happy to inform you that we will soon be joined by Mrs Thorpe a new LSA for the school who will also be based in EYFS. Mrs Thorpe brings a wealth of experience in primary schools and is excited to join the team.

Realise the Possible: Hardworking Y6s

Our fantastic Year 6s have been working so hard towards their SATs. You can hear their brains buzzing down the corridors and every time I pop into Barn Owls, I am greeted by happy, smiling faces eager to learn. We wish for them to have a great Easter break, relaxing and doing things they enjoy. Read a fun book, get lost in nature and spend time with family.



Removing Barriers: 100% Attendance

Congratulations to Years 1, 2 and 6 who had 100% attendance this week! Kingfishers as a class have enjoyed 100% attendance which explains the progress we are seeing in their work. It is so pleasing to see Y6 again at the top of the charts and they continue the charge to secondary school.



Sense of Belonging: Swimming at Dunsford

We have secured Mr Embleton all day on Mondays and can open swimming to children from Reception to Year 6. We know everyone is eager to get in the pool and this is truly a core part of what makes Dunsford unique. Please help by ensuring your child has their swimming equipment including a swim hat for hair below the ears, a wearable towel and some flip-flops or crocs. From now on, Mondays mean swimming!



Sense of Belonging: House Teams

Our school council have been busily working away on ideas and Harvey and Margot have this message for the school community:

"Next term, we would like to introduce houses for the school. We would like to change Dojos to Dunsford specific Houses with house points. These teams will work together in sports day, have experiences and assemblies together in class and support each other in school. This will create a school where we are all a team, where we can support and encourage each other. We would like these team names to be special to Dunsford and need your help! Over the half term, please think about what these names could be. What famous people are special to Dunsford? What

places are special nearby? What plants are native to Dunsford? After we have collected ideas, teams will vote on their name. Thank you for supporting the School council." Harvey and Margot on behalf of the School Council

Realise the Possible: Forest School

Next term, Magpies and Kingfishers will be enjoying forest school on Tuesdays. We ask that Barn Owls and Robins keep some wellies and spare clothes in school as we will be making the most of our outdoor classroom through the summer term.

Sense of Belonging: Robins and Little Robins Class News

As we come to the end of the Spring term, Robins have had a fantastic term filled with exciting learning experiences. From exploring nature and seasonal changes to engaging in creative art projects, the children have shown curiosity and enthusiasm every step of the way. Watching their friendships grow and their confidence bloom has been truly heartwarming. We are so proud of everything they have achieved this term!

Wishing everyone a safe and wonderful Easter holiday filled with joy, rest, and happy moments with loved ones. I can't wait to hear all about your adventures when I return from my maternity leave. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to





seeing you all soon!

Sense of Belonging: Kingfishers Class News

This week in Kingfisher class, we've had a fantastic time exploring various subjects and engaging in creative activities! In English, the children have been writing instructions on how to make a healthy fruit salad, inspired by our Design and Technology lessons. They learned about the importance of a healthy balance of fruits and vegetables, and enjoyed testing different foods, planning their salads, and adding a creative twist – each fruit salad had to be made into an animal face! It was wonderful to see their creativity shine through in their tasty and artistic creations.



We've been reading "The Colour Monster" and discussing our emotions. The children have been very thoughtful about their feelings, and we've had some great conversations about how to understand and express them. Additionally, we investigated the learning loop by drawing kingfishers. The children drew a kingfisher, discussed what they liked about their picture, and identified their next steps for improvement before trying again. It's been amazing to see the reflective artists in Dunsford grow and develop

their skills. Overall, it's been a week full of learning, creativity, and self-expression!

Sense of Belonging: Magpies Class News

What a wonderfully, busy last week of the spring term!

In English, we have been busy planning and writing our own sequels to the story The Blue Umbrella. We are using our creativity to develop new adventures for the characters.

Our focus in spelling has been on homophones. We have learnt to distinguish between words that sound the same but have different meanings and spellings and demonstrating our understanding by using them in context writing sentences.

In Maths, we have been working on subtracting unit fractions from an amount. We are developing our skills in handling fractions and applying them to solve problems.

In DT, the children have been testing their illuminated signs and evaluating their effectiveness. We have been practising for the Easter Service Celebration in church – we look forward to seeing you all there! Finally, I would like to wish you all a wonderful Easter break with your families and will look forward to welcoming the children back to an exciting summer term!

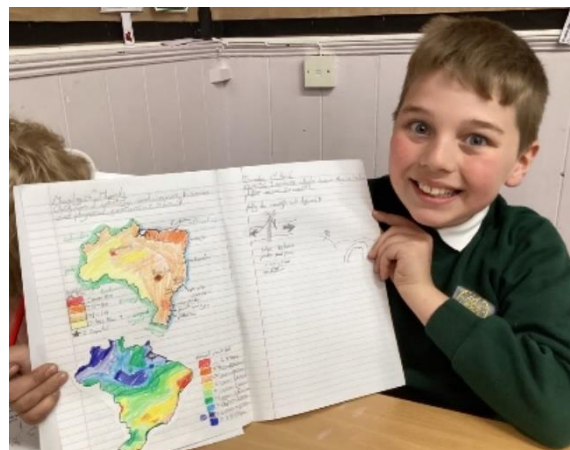




Sense of Belonging: Barn Owls Class News

As we approach the Easter break, Barn Owl class has been buzzing with activity and learning! In writing, students have been diligently working on publishing our persuasive speeches. They have crafted compelling arguments on various topics, honing their skills in persuasion and public speaking. It's been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they present their speeches on Seesaw, using powerful language and persuasive techniques to make their points. I am incredibly proud of their hard work and creativity!

In Maths, we've been diving into the world of statistics, focusing on bar and line charts. We have been learning how to collect, analyse, and present data in these formats, gaining valuable skills in interpreting information. Additionally, we've explored measurements, where we have been practicing measuring length, weight, and volume with precision. Our whole class reading sessions have been filled with excitement as we journey through "The Hobbit." The adventures of Bilbo Baggins have captivated everyone, sparking lively discussions and deepening their understanding of the text. We wish everyone a restful and enjoyable Easter break!



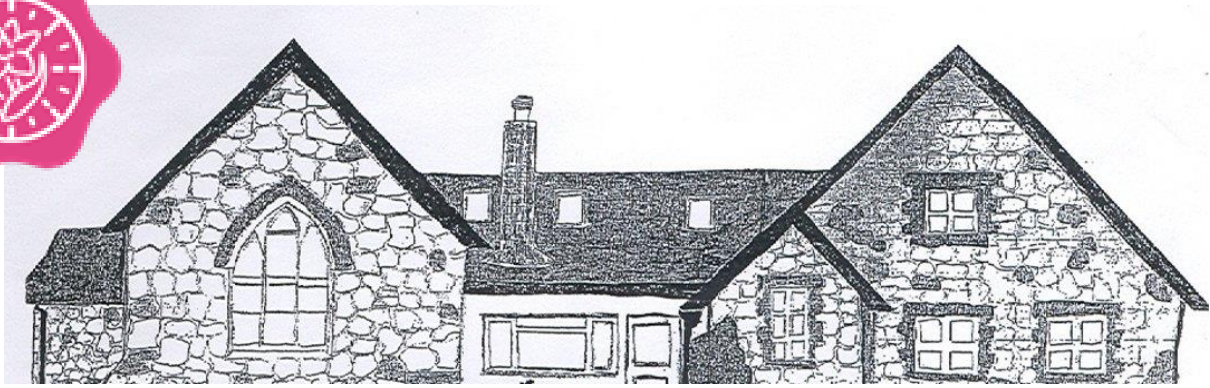
Stronger Together: Office Communication Times

Mrs Sinton is in our admin office from Monday to Thursday to answer any questions. Our office communication times are detailed below:

Monday	08:30 – 12:30
Tuesday	08:30 – 12:30
Wednesday	08:30 – 12:30
Thursday	08:30 – 12:30

At all other times, we ask that you use the bells posted in the school reception, email or speak with the class teacher or school leader on the gate. There is a wealth of information for parents on our website too [Parents - Dunsford Community Academy](#)

To help find information in a quickly, we will be launching a 'Virtual Admin' system on our website after Easter. Please keep an eye out for updates on when this goes live on our brand-new websites!



Dates for your Diary

Families are welcome to highlighted dates.

April 2025

Friday 4th April - 2.30pm - Easter Service

Wednesday 23rd April – 3.30pm - Barn Owls Residential meeting

Thursday 24th April – London Marathon

Monday 28th April - 3.30pm - Y6 SATs Parents Meeting

Tuesday 29th April – 3:30pm - Y1 Phonics Screening Check Parents Meeting

Tuesday 29th and 30th April – Barn Owls Parents Evenings

Wednesday 30th April – 3:30pm - Y4 Multiplication Check Parents Meeting

May 2025

May 2nd - Science Workshops

May 6th – Y4 Forest and Beach Residential Parents Meeting

May 6th - 8th Bikeability

May 12th to 15th – KS2 SATs

May 20th – Football home match in schooltime

May 22nd– Football tournament after school

May 22nd – Writing Showcase for families at 3pm

June 2025

June 2nd - 3rd - Y4 Residential

June 3rd – Owl Trust visit

June 6th - Y3/4 Art Workshop

June 9th – Art Exhibit for families at 3pm

June 13th – Class Photos



June 20th - MED Theatre Workshops

June 30th - July 2nd - Y5/6 residential

June 26th - Transition afternoon for children

June 26th - New Reception Stay and Play

June 26th - Meet the Teacher Meetings at 3:15 for families

July 2025

July 10th - Whiddon Autumn Festival Workshop for current Y4/5

July 14th - Sports Day: Families welcome from 13:15

July 16th – Kingfishers visit to Drakes farm

July 17th - Lego Workshop

July 18th – Y6 Performance

September 2025

Wednesday 3rd September – First Day of Term

September 15th - Whiddon Autumn Festival Workshop for next years' Y5/6

September 18th – All day Multi-School hosted by Moretonhampstead School **with Informal Showcase**

Concert for parents from 13:30