



Dunchurch Boughton C of E Infant Academy and Nursery *Roots to grow. Wings to fly.*



Newsletter number: 14 Date: 13.12.24

The highlight of this week has been the Christmas plays performed by nursery, reception and year one. Mrs Owen and I thoroughly enjoyed watching them over the two performances of each play, and I am sure that you as parents did too. We are all very proud of the children for how they learnt their lines, learnt the songs and had the courage to go onto the stage. Well done everyone!

Continuing with the Christmas theme, the children have enjoyed a Christmas lunch and a craft day today, including a visit to see Santa. Thank you to the PTA for arranging the Santa visit and gifts for the children. We had two amazing elves supporting the process today and we couldn't have done it without them!

On Friday last week, the children took part in the annual welly walk. Due to the weather, Early Years carried this out on the school playground during the day, with Key Stage One walking around the field at the Juniors in the afternoon. We are astounded with the total amount raised of £2593.17. Thank you so much to the PTA for arranging the walk and helping on the day, and to the parents for helping the children gain sponsors. The PTA are such a hardworking group of volunteers and make a huge contribution towards the school. Thank you!

We are delighted to share with you that we have a new member of the Dunchurch family. Mrs Macauley had a beautiful baby boy over the weekend. Both mum and baby are doing well, and we all look forward to meeting the baby soon.

We are looking forward to more Christmassy events next week—a church service, a visit to the theatre, year two carol concerts, Christmas parties and a Christingle service!

Have a lovely weekend,

Suzanne Marson

Headteacher





PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS THIS WEEK

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

(these children will also sit on the Golden Table)

Little Owls: (Mrs Rawes & Miss Shrimpton)	Sophia	Barn Owls: (Miss Lodge)	Ralfs	Spectacled Owls: (Miss Cowlen)	Man Sing
Elf Owls: (Mrs Carrington)	Wren	Tawny Owls: (Miss Ansell)	Ada	Snowy Owls: (Mrs Menzies)	Jiyaana

LEARNING BEHAVIOUR OF THE WEEK (children will share a piece of work they are proud of)

Little Owls: (Mrs Rawes & Miss Shrimpton)	Dylan	Barn Owls: (Miss Lodge)	Dylan	Spectacled Owls: (Miss Cowlen)	Amelie
Elf Owls: (Mrs Carrington)	Harvey	Tawny Owls: (Miss Ansell)	Noah	Snowy Owls: (Mrs Menzies)	Wilf and Harley

Lunchtime Stars

Little Owls: (Mrs Rawes & Miss Shrimpton)	Sienna Rae	Barn Owls: (Miss Lodge)	Charvita	Spectacled Owls: (Miss Cowlen)	Ibtihaj
Elf Owls: (Mrs Carrington)	Greyson	Tawny Owls: (Miss Ansell)	George	Snowy Owls: (Mrs Menzies)	Flynn

Nursery Learner and Lunchtime Star of the Week

Owlets	Learner : Maahi Lunchtime: Orelwa	Spotty	Learner : William H Lunchtime: Heidi	Stripy	Learner: Mirabelle Lunchtime: Albert
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ACHIEVEMENT CHILDREN IN THE GOLD BOOK THIS WEEK (based on the half termly value):

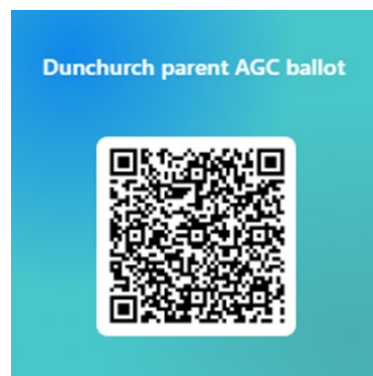
Reception: Iris **Year 2:** Madeleine , Allison, Shashana, Spencer, Darcy, Esme E, Milo and Harley & Iris.

Achievements from home: Year 1: Eliza, Finely & Sophia.

Year 2 : Tiara, Grace, Esme R, Dhyaan, Lawrence, Darcy and Stanley.

Parent AGC ballot

As you are aware, we are currently seeking a parental Academy Governance Committee member (parent governor). There are two people interested in the role, so the next step is to hold a ballot. As the governors represent the two Dunchurch schools, the ballot is open to all parents from both Dunchurch Boughton C of E Infant Academy and Nursery and Dunchurch Boughton C of E Junior Academy. The ballot will be open for a two week period, and votes can be made by following this link or by scanning the QR code. <https://forms.office.com/e/bVnnPGH24c> Please note that only one vote per person will be counted. The ballot will close at 12pm on Friday 20th December 2024.



To support you to make your decision, please find a pen portrait from each applicant below.

Emily Wheller

I am passionate about students having a positive educational experience to ensure they can thrive, reach their potential and develop a love and passion for education. I fundamentally believe that having a positive educational experience directly impacts on children's happiness. I would love the opportunity to support Dunchurch Infant School and the wider community as a parent governor so I can support more young child to thrive.

I am currently a Vice Principal at a secondary school in Coventry. I oversee "student care" including safeguarding, SEND, attendance, personal development, transition and behaviour. Previously I have worked for a Trust as a School Improvement Director to improve teaching and learning and curriculums across the Trust. I am a qualified SENDCo, DSL and have a Masters and Level 7 Apprenticeship in Leadership and Education. I feel like this experience and knowledge could help to support the school. I regularly attend and play an active role in governors' meetings at my current school. I also support wider schools in the Trust to carry out reviews, share best practice and advise on school improvement. Hopefully this experience and my role as a Mum will allow me to be successful in the role of parent governor if I am appointed.

Leah Adams

I would like to apply for the role of AGB Member because I would like to 'give back' to the staff, children and community of Dunchurch Boughton CoFE Infant Academy and Nursery. It would be a privilege to be able to be part of the next steps, and developments of the school and trust.

I have been a governor in maintained schools before but would relish the opportunity to be part of the governance structure within a MAT.

Since joining the school in Nursery, my daughter, has found it challenging to engage in many aspects of school life. All staff, from teaching, support, admin and leadership have helped to make managing some of the hurdles easier. The consideration, care and support offered us as a family is so gratefully received. Nothing is ever too much trouble.

Over the last 2.5 years, I have been able to support the PTA and join the school for events, parents' meetings, and performances. These opportunities are a delight and demonstrate the relational approach in school.

As a primary and secondary teacher for over 20 years, headteacher and executive headteacher for over a decade across 2 Local Authorities, I stopped working in schools in June 2023. Although my current role at Warwickshire County Council enables me to go into schools and work with them strategically, I truly miss having a close relationship with a school that I can champion and advocate for.

My passion aside for curriculum and pastoral care, is SEND & Inclusion. This has always been an area of specialism for me but made personal when my daughter came along with a bilateral cleft lip and palate. My SEND interest and knowledge/skills has led me to have that as a speciality in my work at Ofsted, and within Warwickshire's Education Senior Leadership Team. My last governance role was as Vice COG at a Special School in Rugby working alongside the HT at the time, now HMI. This was start of my extra enthusiasm for SEND, and for those children with SEND: something being a governor taught me to consider as 'dual exceptionalities'. As educators we have the role to both support our children with SEND but also to nurture their talents and interests to help them carve their way in the world.

I currently work in the Education Senior Leadership Team at Warwickshire County Council and have responsibility for School Effectiveness/Improvement, Governor Services, Early Years and The Virtual School. I also work as a team and lead Ofsted Inspector across the West Midlands Region. I would hope that this would be useful to the school and trust.

Spotlight on

Online Safety

At Dunchurch Boughton C of E Infant Academy and Nursery, we recognise the importance of teaching online safety within school. We have a named online safety lead who is Miss Shrimpton, supported by Mrs Marson who is the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). We intend to promote online safety using the new tag line of 'Be Safe' - we will launch this with the children early in the spring term.



Be-safety

- S - Speak to somebody if you need help
- A - Ask an adult before going online
- F - Friends are real people we know
- E - Enjoy, play, have fun and stay safe

E-safety messages are often promoted through stories, with examples of these available on our [school website](#).

Each half term, all year groups in school focus on an e-safety topic that is taught as part of the school curriculum. The areas cover topics such as different uses of technology, being as kind to someone online as you would be to their face, what personal data is (at an age appropriate level) and to keep this to yourself, and what to do if you see something that makes you uncomfortable.

We follow the trust wide [online safety policy](#), and have software in place that blocks any unsuitable websites from being accessed from all devices within school. Children are always supervised when accessing any online content within school.

More information about online safety can be found on our school website [here](#).



Any new dates will be added in red

Upcoming dates:

Next Week dates:

Monday 16th December	Visit to St Peter's Church All children from reception to year 2 will take part in a Christmas service at St Peter's church. If anyone is able to support walking the children to and from church, please let the school office know. Unfortunately, we are unable to invite other parents to attend due to space in the church. We will leave school at around 9:10 and arrive back in time for playtime. Nursery will take part in their own service from the school hall.
Monday 16th December	Passport to world views afternoon The children will be learning about the festival of Hannukah in school.
Tuesday 17th December	Warwick Arts Centre visit—The Smeds and the Smoos The whole school will visit the Warwick Arts Centre in the afternoon to see The Smeds and The Smoos as a theatre performance. Please see the letter sent home.
Wednesday 18th December	Year 2 carol concert Year 2 parents are invited to take part in a carol service performed by the year 2 children at either 9:15am or 2:30pm. Two tickets per child (across the two performances) can be booked via the information from the school office from Monday 25th November.
Thursday 19th December	Christmas party Thank you to the PTA for arranging a Christmas party for the children across nursery and school. Children are invited to wear party clothes to school on this day if they would like to.
Friday 20th December	Christingle Service The whole school will take part in a Christingle service in the school hall. Please be aware that your child will bring home a Christingle at the end of the school day.

spaces available, pay for remaining sessions only!

Musical Theatre

Friday

3:20 pm – 4:20 pm

funstar

Education Through Performing Arts

07971073530 / 07849168639

www.funstareducation.co.uk

Email us:

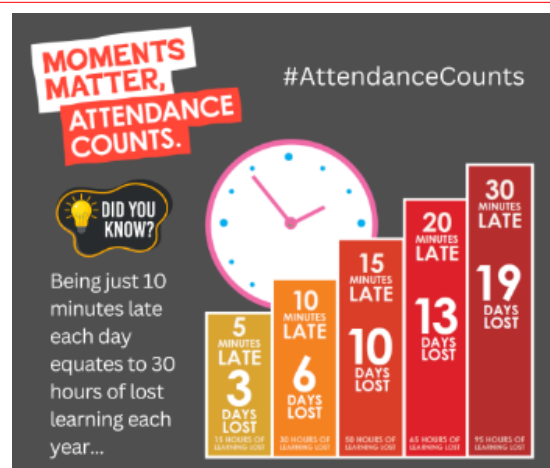
info@funstareducation.co.uk

subject line FREE TRIAL for a taster session

Attendance Weekly Summary

Whole school: 91.15% (Target 97%)

		
Little Owls	Elf Owls	Snowy Owls
91.55%	84.83%	94.33%
		
Barn Owls	Tawny Owls	Spectacled Owls
93%	92.33%	90.67%



PE Days

Children should wear their P.E. kits to school on the following days. On other days, normal uniform should be worn.



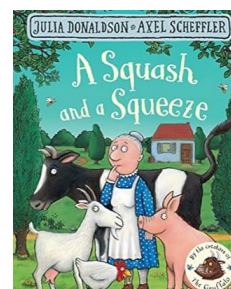
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Tawny Owls	Tawny Owls		Snowy Owls	Snowy Owls
Barn Owls	Barn Owls		Spectacled Owls	Spectacled Owls
Little Owls				
Elf Owls				

After School Clubs: Autumn Term 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Martial Arts Y1—Y2 3:20-4pm	Spanish Y1-Y2 3:20—4:20pm	Football Y1-Y2 3:20– 4:45pm	Football Y1-Y2 3:20-4:45pm	
	Bounce and Beat Rec—Y2 3:20-4:20pm	Musical Theatre Rec—Y2 3:20—4:20pm		

BOOK OF THE WEEK

Title: A Squash and A Squeeze
Author: Julia Donaldson
Recommended by: Ms Morgan



One of my favourite children's author is Julia Donaldson - there are so many brilliant books to choose from. I think my favourite is *A Squash and a Squeeze* - it reminds me of my house - it's about a little old lady who feels that her house is too small. However with the help of a wise old man she comes to realise that actually it's big enough for her! (I haven't found that in my house yet.) There is even a song that goes with the story. Ms Morgan.

TERM DATES 2024/2025

Autumn Term 2024

End of Term: 20th December

Spring Term 2025

Teacher Training Day Monday 6th January

Half Term: Monday 17th Feb to

Friday 21st Feb

**Teacher Training Day Monday 24th
February**

Term Starts Tuesday 25th Feb

Term Ends Thursday 10th April

Teacher Training Day Friday 11th April

Summer Term 2025

Term Starts Monday 28th April

Spring Bank Holiday: 5th May

Bank Holiday: 26th May

Half Term: Monday 26th May to

Friday 30th May

End of Term Friday 18th July

**Disaggregated Teacher Training Day
Monday 21st July**

CHRISTIAN VALUE THIS HALF TERM



LEARNING BEHAVIOUR THIS HALF TERM

*Concentrating
crocodile*



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

In collective worship this week, we have continued to reflect upon the Christmas story. We have considered the characters of Mary, Joseph and the Donkey, and thought about the long journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

We have also been rehearsing our songs ready for church.



MHST Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness Winter Wellness

Winter can be a challenging season for many things, but especially for our mental health.

You might have heard of the winter blues? It's true! The lack of sunlight impacts our vitamin D levels, which changes our mood and motivation levels. Therefore, it is important during the winter months that we take time to look after our bodies and minds and practise some self-care.

Our tips for winter wellness:

1. **Make the most of the natural sunlight** - why don't you play outside with your friends during break or lunch time, or practice some mindfulness outside?
2. **Keep moving** - exercise is important to help boost our 'happy chemicals'. You could join an after-school club, do a yoga tutorial on YouTube or have a competition with your friends to see who can do the most star jumps!
3. **Stay connected** - make sure you reach out to friends, family and your teachers for a daily chat.
4. **Practise self-care** - you might want to spend the evening wrapped up warm with a blanket and hot drink, or you could get cosy and read a new book!
5. **Try to learn a new skill or hobby** over the winter - what activities could you do inside when the weather is colder? Maybe you could learn to bake or help your family with the cooking! You could learn to play a new instrument, practise mindfulness, try a craft activity or learn a new language. Ask a friend or family member if they would like to join in too!
6. Scan the QR code for more activity ideas to help keep you well during the winter.



In Coventry and Warwickshire, for any urgent mental health concerns, contact the RISE Crisis Helpline available 24/7, by calling NHS 111. Alternatively, call 999 or visit A&E in an emergency, for example if medical attention is required.

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays.

Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.

E-SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK :



Talk with your child about responsible use of their phone

Discuss what is okay and not okay to use their phone for. Talk about time limits and expectations of where the device can and cannot be used, this could include things like the phone being charged outside their bedroom overnight.



Discuss what to do if something upsetting or worrying happens

Give them the strategies they need in case something concerning happens whilst they are using their device. This could be to lock the screen and tell an adult, to make a report to the platform they are using, or to block the user.



Explore parental controls

Take a look at the controls available both on the phone itself and on your home Wi-Fi. Talk these through with your child too. Parental controls are a helpful tool, but an open conversation with your child is the most important thing.



Click on [Family Information Service](https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/children-families) for a wide range of information to support families, or to request support.
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/children-families



Connect for Health

Find lots of useful links click [here](#).



Warwickshire Local Authority SEND news-letter can be found here. [Click link](#)



St. Peter's Church, Dunchurch

CRIB SERVICE

You are invited to join us for our
45 minute interactive
exploration of the Christmas Story
for all the family

Come dressed as a shepherd, angel or wise man to join in our retelling of the story



4pm

Christmas Eve

At St. Peter's Church

Week three

Warwickshire, Coventry: 9/9, 30/9, 21/10, 11/11, 2/12, 6/1/25, 27/1, 24/2, 17/3, 7/4
Oxfordshire: 9/9, 30/9, 21/10, 11/11, 2/12, 6/1/25, 27/1, 24/2, 17/3, 7/4

Choose a main meal...

Southern Style Chicken Strips in a Wrap
with Potato Wedges (G)

Vegetarian Only

(v) Jacket Potato with Cheese (D)

MONDAY

On the side...

Fresh Salad Bar
Vegetables of the Day

For dessert...

(v)(h) Chocolate Orange Cookie with
Orange Wedges (G)
or Fresh Fruit

Choose a main meal...

Beef Burger in a High Fibre Bun with Crispy
Diced Potatoes (G.SB.SU)

Vegetarian Only

(vg) Veggie Plant burger in a High Fibre
Bun with Crispy Diced Potatoes (G)

TUESDAY

On the side...

Fresh Salad Bar
Vegetables of the Day

For dessert...

(vg) (h) Shortbread (G)
or Fresh Fruit

Choose a main meal... **WEDNESDAY ROAST**

British Roast Chicken Fillet, Sage and
Onion Stuffing and Gravy (G)

Vegetarian Only

(vg) Quorn Roast with Gravy (G)
Crispy Roast Potatoes

WEDNESDAY

On the side...

Fresh Salad Bar
Vegetables of the Day

For dessert...

(v) Strawberry Swirl Mousse (D)
or Fresh Fruit

Choose a main meal...

(h) Mild and Creamy Chicken Korma with
Wholegrain rice (D)

Vegetarian Only

(vg) Quorn Dippers with Seasoned
Wedges (G)

THURSDAY

On the side...

Fresh Salad Bar
Vegetables of the Day

For dessert...

(v) Pancakes with Fruit (G D E)
or Fresh Fruit

Choose a main meal... **FISHY FRIDAY**

(msc) Fish Fillet Fingers (G.F)
with Chipped Potatoes

Vegetarian Only

(vg) Breaded Vegetable Fingers
with Chipped Potatoes (G)

FRIDAY

On the side...

Fresh Salad Bar
Peas or Baked Beans

For dessert...

(v)(h) 'School Favourite' Sprinkles
Sponge Cake (G.E)
or Fresh Fruit



Solstice Coffee Shop and Nursery have very kindly donated a Christmas tree to our school. We are very grateful to them for their generosity. As well as Christmas trees they sell Christmas wreaths, coffee and homemade cakes. You can find Solstice on Coventry Road, on the righthand side as you go out of Dunchurch.