



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



Newsletter number: 13 Date: 6.12.24

It has been a busy week in school, with rehearsing for Christmas plays mixed in with classroom learning. The children across the year groups sound amazing when they are rehearsing. I'm sure that you will all be very proud of your children when you come to see the performances. When attending the performances, please enter and exit via the main office door.

This week, year two visited St John's Museum as part of their learning about the Victorians. They experienced a Victorian classroom, used some artefacts within the context that they would have been used and made a Christmas pudding. The Christmas pudding was brought back to school and eaten the following day, with most children declaring that it was delicious! The trip was a huge success and the children reported that it was the best trip ever! Thank you to the staff involved for providing this experience for the children.

Thank you to everyone that was able to attend the church service at St Peter's on Sunday. I am told that the children sang beautifully and Mrs Owen and Mrs Menzies were very proud of you all.

At the time of writing, the children in Key Stage One have gone to the Juniors to complete their welly walk—photos to follow next week!

Have a lovely weekend, we look forward to seeing many of you in school next week!

Suzanne Marson



PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS THIS WEEK

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

(these children will also sit on the Golden Table)

Little Owls: (Mrs Rawes & Miss Shrimpton)	Kit	Barn Owls: (Miss Lodge)	Grace	Spectacled Owls: (Miss Cowlen)	Grace
Elf Owls: (Mrs Carrington)	Siddu	Tawny Owls: (Miss Ansell)	George	Snowy Owls: (Mrs Menzies)	Joshua

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

Little Owls: (Mrs Rawes & Miss Shrimpton)	Darnika	Barn Owls: (Miss Lodge)	Liberty	Spectacled Owls: (Miss Cowlen)	Henrich
Elf Owls: (Mrs Carrington)	Matty	Tawny Owls: (Miss Ansell)	Florence	Snowy Owls: (Mrs Menzies)	Rowan

Lunchtime Stars

Little Owls: (Mrs Rawes & Miss Shrimpton)	Darnika	Barn Owls: (Miss Lodge)	Zara	Spectacled Owls: (Miss Cowlen)	Toby
Elf Owls: (Mrs Carrington)	Dorothea Rose	Tawny Owls: (Miss Ansell)	Karam	Snowy Owls: (Mrs Menzies)	Lawrence

Nursery Learner and Lunchtime Star of the Week

Owlets	Learner : Cian Lunchtime: Cian	Spotty	Learner : Sephy Lunchtime: Michael	Stripy	Learner: Nova Lunchtime: Zeena
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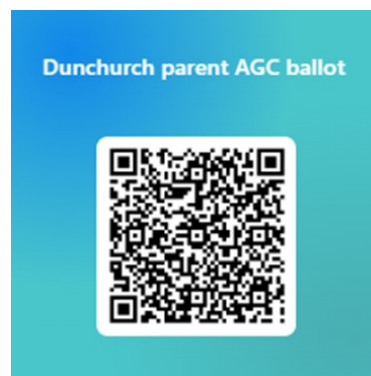
ACHIEVEMENT CHILDREN IN THE GOLD BOOK THIS WEEK (based on the half termly value):

Year 2: Warren, Matilda & Darcy. Everyone who sang at church on Sunday

Achievements from home: Reception : Piper Year 1: Charlotte H, Erin & Florence
Year 2 : Riley, Rowan and Darcy H

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.

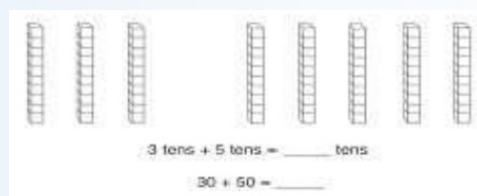
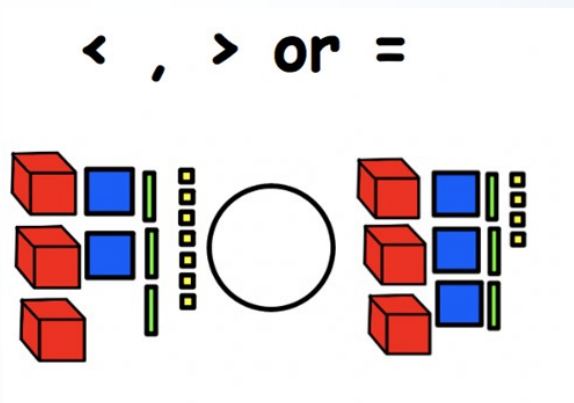
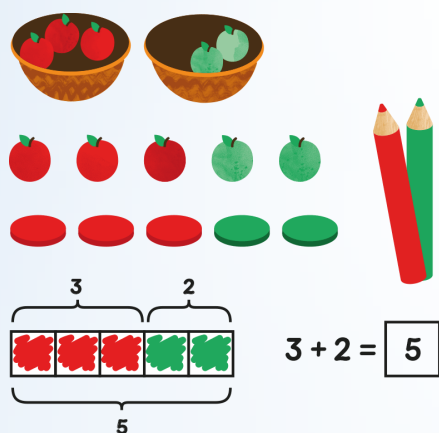
I currently work in the Education Senior Leadership Team at Warwickshire County Council and have responsibility for School Effectiveness/Improvement, Governor Services, Early Years and The Virtual School. I also work as a team and lead Ofsted Inspector across the West Midlands Region. I would hope that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

Spotlight on

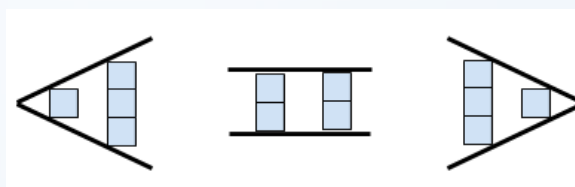
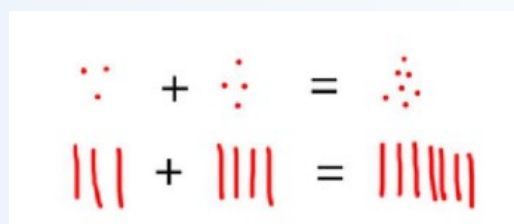
Maths – pictorial representations

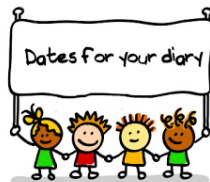
At Dunchurch Boughton C of E Infant Academy and Nursery, we use the maths mastery approach to teach maths. As part of our maths teaching, we ensure that there are concrete objects (actual objects) available for children to use throughout their learning. These range from the actual objects, for example if children are solving a problem about apples they may use apples to solve the problem, to mathematical equipment (manipulatives).

Following on from using equipment, we may use pictorial representations to support children within maths. Children will recognise and use pictures of objects, mathematical equipment and representations, as well as creating their own pictorial representations. As a bridge, children may manipulate actual resources alongside the pictorial representation. Once the children are secure, there may be lessons where children are no longer manipulating the physical resources but will benefit from the support that the pictorial representations provide. Some examples of pictorial representations that may be used throughout the school can be seen below.



Array	Columns	Rows	Adding
	<u>3</u> columns	<u>6</u> rows	$6 + 6 + 6 = 18$
	<u>6</u> balls in each column	<u>3</u> balls in each row	$3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 = 18$

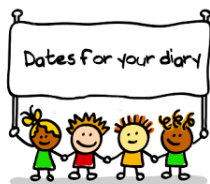




Any new dates will be added in red

Upcoming dates:

Wednesday 11th December	Christmas plays Parents are invited to see their child perform their Christmas play in the school hall. Two tickets per child (across the two performances) can be booked via the information from the school office from Monday 25th November. Reception at 9:30am Nursery at 10:30am Year 1 at 2:30pm
Thursday 12th December	Christmas plays Parents are invited to see their child perform their Christmas play in the school hall. Two tickets per child (across the two performances) can be booked via the information from the school office from Monday 25th November. Nursery at 9:30am Year 1 at 10:30am Reception at 2:30pm
Friday 13th December	Christmas jumper day / Christmas craft day / Christmas dinner day / Christmas lunch Children are welcome to come into school wearing non-uniform, including a Christmas jumper, for Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day. Any voluntary donations are welcome. Children will take part in a Christmas craft day on this day. (Please note that this is on Friday not Thursday)
Future dates:	
Monday 16th December	Visit to St Peter's Church All children in school will take part in a Christmas service at St Peter's church. If any-one 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. Exact time to be confirmed once final details are arranged with the church.
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.

Thank you!

Thank you for your continued support of our fundraising efforts which take part in school.



Children in Need £154.85



Christmas Plays and Concerts Open for Bookings on Monday 25th November

We are very excited to invite you to this year's Christmas performances.

Each family can book two tickets in total across the two performances for your year group, and we ask that all visitors enter and exit through the school reception so that you can be signed in and out.

To book, please follow this link: <https://dunchurchinfants.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

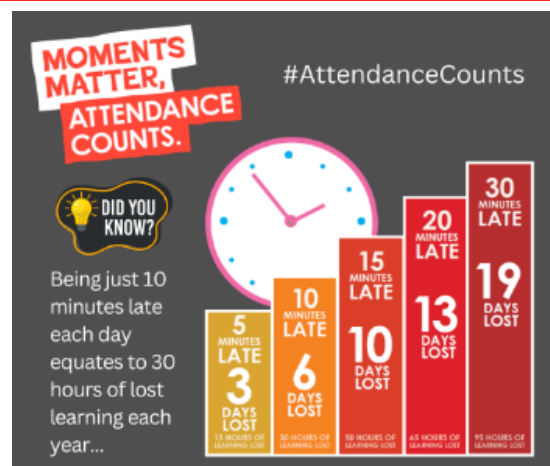
The booking system is the same as that used for our parents' evening system. To log in you will need your first and surname, plus your child's date of birth. Please contact the school office if you experience any difficulties with the booking system, which will "go live" on **Monday 25th November**. You can test your log in details before this time if you wish to.

We look forward to welcoming you to our performances!

Attendance Weekly Summary

Whole school: 92.71% (Target 97%)

		
Little Owls	Elf Owls	Snowy Owls
94.74%	85.61%	93%
		
Barn Owls	Tawny Owls	Spectacled Owls
90.33%	98.33%	94%



PE Days

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



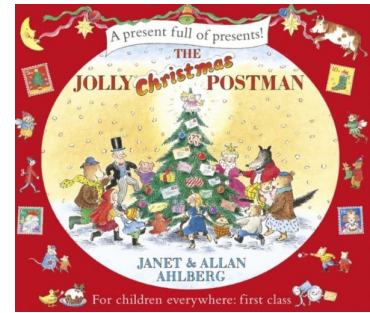
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Tawny Owls Barn Owls Little Owls Elf Owls	Tawny Owls Barn Owls		Snowy Owls Spectacled Owls	Snowy Owls Spectacled Owls

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 Until January 2025		Musical Theatre From January 2025

BOOK OF THE WEEK

Title: The Jolly Christmas Postman
Author: Janet & Allan Ahlberg
Recommended by: School Office



The Jolly Christmas Postman is a delightful picture book that captures the essence of Christmas through illustrated storytelling and interactive elements too. As the beloved Jolly Postman rides his bike, he embarks on a journey delivering festive greetings to a variety of fairy-tale characters. This book is a timeless classic that both adults and children can enjoy sharing together.

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 considered our learning behaviour 'concentrating crocodile' and thought about the skills that this helps us to develop.

We have also started to consider why Christmas is important to Christians. We have learnt about the season of Advent and considered the start of the Christmas story, where Mary was told by angels that she was going to have a special baby. We thought about how that would feel.



MHST Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness Digital Detox

The use of technology in our day to day lives has become a normal part of today's society and has many benefits, including staying connected with friends and family, accessing information and providing support for learning. However, research suggests that the prolonged use of technology can increase stress levels and have a negative impact on our mental health.

A digital detox is a time when a person does not use devices such as smartphones, televisions, computers, tablets, and social media sites. "Detoxing" from digital devices is often seen as a way to focus on real-life social interactions without distractions.

Some of the benefits include reducing stress, improving sleep patterns, encouraging more face-to-face social interactions, reducing 'fear of missing out' (FOMO), improving attention span, freeing up time for other/new interests and activities, creating a better work-life balance, and encouraging physical exercise.

Our tips for having a digital detox:

1. Set a realistic time limit for your daily screen time/device usage.
2. Participate in other activities instead of screen time (e.g., go for a walk with a friend/join a new club).
3. Create routines for 'device-free times' (e.g., at mealtimes or 30 minutes before bed).
4. Agree to leave your phone downstairs overnight to reduce temptation to scroll in bed!
5. Let your friends and family know you are on a digital detox so they can support you.
6. Delete social media apps on your phone to remove temptation and easy access.
7. Create a list of activities you can do when you have an urge to use a digital device. Make sure you include a balance of quick activities you can do in the moment, as well as activities that may take more time and planning.



Scan for information on social media and mental health – Young Minds

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 your smart speaker

Discuss what is okay and not okay to use their smart speaker for. Talk about time limits and expectations of where the device can and cannot be used, this could include things like the speaker helping with homework or not adding items to shopping lists using the speaker.



Discuss what to do if something upsetting or worrying happens.

This could be to stop talking to it, leave the room and tell an adult.



Explore parental controls

Take a look at the controls available both on the speaker 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](#)

Week one	
Warwickshire, Coventry: 16/9, 7/10, 18/11, 9/12, 13/1/25, 3/2, 3/3, 24/3 Oxfordshire: 16/9, 7/10, 18/11, 9/12, 13/1/25, 3/2, 3/3, 24/3	
Choose a main meal...	MONDAY
Pork Meatballs with Pasta (G.E)	On the side... Fresh Salad Bar Vegetables of the Day
<u>Vegetarian Only</u> (vg) Plantballs with Pasta	For dessert... (v) Cheese Crackers and Apple Wedge (G.D) or Fresh Fruit
Choose a main meal...	TUESDAY
(v) Cheese & Tomato Pizza Wedge with Potato Wedges (G.D)	On the side... Fresh Salad Bar Vegetables of the Day
<u>Vegetarian Only</u> (v) Jacket Potato with Cheese (D)	For dessert... (v) (h) Chocolate Cracknel (G) or Fresh Fruit
Choose a main meal...	THURSDAY
(vg) Veggie Nuggets with Pasta (G)	On the side... Fresh Salad Bar Vegetables of the Day
Jacket Potato – (v) Cheese (D), Tuna (F.E) or (v) Baked Beans	For dessert... (v) Toffee Apple Donut (G.D.E.SB) or Fresh Fruit
Choose a main meal... FISHY FRIDAY (msc) Battered Fish Fillet (G.F) with Chipped Potatoes	FRIDAY
<u>Vegetarian Only</u> (vg) Breaded Vegetable Fingers with Chipped Potatoes (G)	On the side... Fresh Salad Bar Peas or Baked Beans
	For dessert... (vg) Jelly with Fruit or Fresh Fruit

Christmas Lunch

Roast Turkey
Cocktail Sausage, Stuffing Ball with Gravy (G.SU)
or
(vg) Roast Quorn Fillet, Veggie Sausage, Stuffing Ball with Gravy (G)
Served with Crispy Roast Potatoes, Garden Peas, and Sliced Carrots

(vg.h) Christmas Cracknel (G.SU)
or
(vg.h) Christmas Shortbread (G)

Seasons Greetings from The Nutrigang & everyone at Educaterers

Allergen Key
V - Vegetarian
VG - Vegan
D - Dairy
G - Gluten
SB - Soya
SU - Sulphites
H - Homemade

Christmas dinner will be served on Friday 13th December . Please see the above menu. To balance the dinner choices over the coming week, the kitchen will serve the week 1 Friday menu on Wednesday 11th



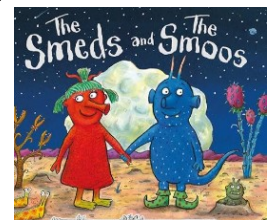
Solstice Coffee Shop and Nursery have very kindly donated a Christmas tree to our school. We are very grateful to them for their generosity. As well as Christmas trees they sell Christmas wreaths, coffee and home-made cakes. You can find Solstice on Coventry Road, on the righthand side as you go out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

**Whole School Visit to Warwick Arts
Centre, University of
Warwick,
Coventry Tuesday 17th December
2024**

The Smeds and The Smoos

We are all very exciting about our upcoming visits to watch The Smeds and The Smoos on 17th December at Warwick Arts Centre.

Payment and parental consent should be made via ParentPay. [Click here](#) for the ParentPay website link.



**Thurlaston Meadows Care Home
&
1st Dunchurch Scout Group
CHRISTMAS MARKET AND GROTTO
Saturday 7th December 2pm-6pm**

Come and join us for an afternoon of festive fun.

Stalls including:

- Tombola
- Craft stalls
- Mulled Wine and Mince Pies
- Rugby Gling Library
- S'mores and More!

Meet and greet with Father Christmas!*
With a present for every child. £10 per child

*GEN Slots available 5.30pm-6pm

Book your slot with the QR Code or at TMCH Reception.

SCAN ME

TMCH Contact:
Main St, Thurlaston
Rugby CV23 9JG
01788 522405

Thurlaston Meadows Care Home

1st Dunchurch Scout Group



We are looking for adults and children to perform at the VE Day celebrations in Dunchurch on **Saturday 10th May 2025**.

Dancing and musical theatre experience desirable, but not essential.

First rehearsal to take place on **Sunday 8th December 2024** at 11.00am at Dunchurch Social Club.

To register or for further information, please email vedaydancers@outlook.com



HAF

funstar
Education Through Performing Arts

Free holiday activity & food places

£25 per day

Winter camp
PLAY THROUGH PERFORMING ARTS

Singing, dancing, acting, games, arts & crafts, snake handling, den making, bouncy inflatable, face painting, glitter tattoos & more.....

Aladdin

8.45am - 3.30pm
Ages 5-11

30/12/24
31/12/24
02/01/25 &
03/01/25

Dunchurch Baptist Church Rugby CV226RF

SUPPORTED BY
Warwickshire County Council

WWW.FUNSTAREDUCTION.CO.UK
INFO@FUNSTAREDUCTION.CO.UK

Department for Education