

Dunsford Community Academy Newsletter 27.06.25

Realise the Possible: Woodwind lessons for September (Guest presenter: Mrs Todd)

Dear Parents,

My name is Jo Todd, I am the visiting woodwind teacher at Dunsford School. In the concert yesterday the children heard woodwind instruments being played. I am offering a free no obligation taster session in a couple of weeks to any children who might be interested in learning in September. If your child is interested, please click the link below to find out more about having lessons and also how to register your child for a free taster session. Please sign up online using the link below, thank you. Please note this is the only time during the school year that I recruit students so you will need to sign up for lessons before the summer holidays if you would like your child to learn next year, thank you.

I'm interested, what's the next step?

If you are interested, I invite you to book a free no-obligation taster session for your child with me in school. I will assess your child's suitability for the instrument(s) they are interested in and give feedback to you with options available if you wish to proceed with signing up for lessons.

To register online for a taster, please follow this link:

<https://forms.gle/TJwY7YJpijLwJgoGA>

Removing Barriers: Y5/6 email

Please ensure you have seen the Y5/6 email. If you do not get emails please contact us to update your details with the school.

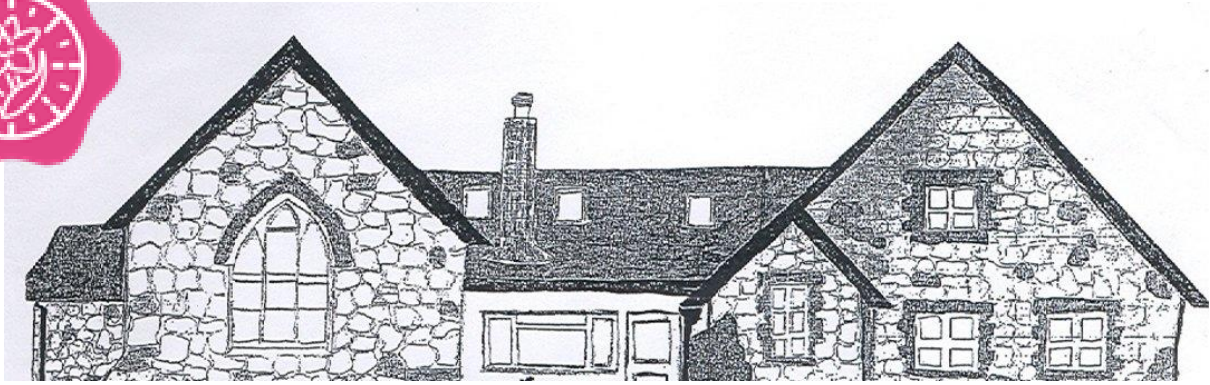
Removing : Head lice

We'd like to remind all families to regularly check their child's hair for head lice. These tiny insects are common in school-aged children and can spread easily through close contact. While they're not a sign of poor hygiene and don't carry disease, they can be uncomfortable and itchy. Please take a few minutes each week to check your child's hair and treat promptly if needed. Treatments are available from pharmacies, and regular combing with a fine-toothed nit comb can help prevent re-infestation. Thank you for helping us keep our school community healthy and itch-free!

Sense of Belonging: Time Capsule

We're thrilled to announce that we are finally going to bury our time capsule! (Hopefully, on sports day... though that is not 100% yet). To make it a more recent and meaningful memory for the children, we'll be re-submitting items and creating new contributions. Pupils will be writing poems inspired by either Dunsford or the concept of time; some of which will be placed inside the capsule, while others will be displayed around the school.

We'll also be writing letters and creating artwork based on our local area or our iconic daffodil, with selected pieces going into the capsule and others brightening our school walls. This is a truly exciting project, and while most of the work will be done in school, we warmly welcome entries from home too. We're also collecting



photos to include (we're aiming to fill it to the brim!), so if you have any old photos - past Year 6 classes, copies of school photos - please email them to the school admin with the subject line: Time Capsule. Thank you for your continued support in making this a memorable moment for our school community!

Removing Barriers: Tics and Forest School clothing

As the warmer months arrive, it's important to remain thoughtful and safe when spending time outdoors. Tics are small parasites that can latch onto skin, particularly in grassy or wooded areas. To help prevent bites, we encourage children to wear long sleeves and trousers, use insect repellent, and check for tics after outdoor activities. Prompt removal is essential, so if your child does get a tic, please seek appropriate guidance.

Outdoor adventures are at their best when children are safe and comfortable! For Forest School, please ensure that your child wears long sleeves and trousers to protect against scrapes, insect bites, and sun exposure. On warmer days, opt for loose-fitting clothing to keep them cool while maintaining essential coverage.

Removing Barriers: PE and Forest School

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Barn Owls	Swimming	Forest School, Maypole		PE	
Magpies	Swimming		PE	Maypole	
Kingfishers	Swimming	Maypole	PE		
Robins	Swimming, PE	Forest School	PE		

Sense of Belonging: Barn Owls

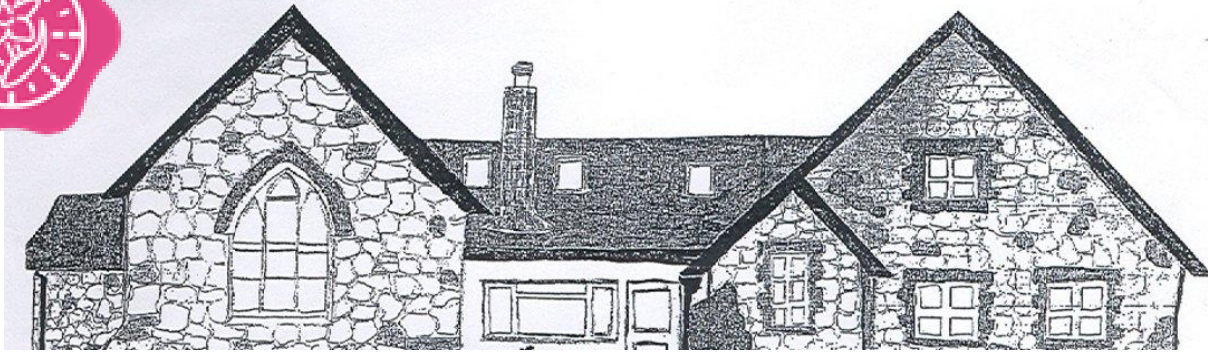
In Barn Owls, excitement is building as we prepare for our end-of-year performance! The classroom is buzzing with energy as children learn their lines, practise movements, and bring the show to life. Our prop department is working at full speed, creating all the backstage magic we need. (Tickets will be available at the end of next week... watch this space!)

Alongside the performance preparations, we've been revisiting line graphs in Maths and diving into Ancient Greek history, exploring the fascinating contrasts between democracy and autocracy. In PE, we're getting ready for Sports Day with lots of running, jumping, and throwing, developing both our skills and our team spirit!



Sense of Belonging: Magpies

The children have been busy crafting their own playscripts to retell the classic tale of Little Red Riding Hood, showcasing wonderful creativity through dialogue and stage directions. In Whole Class Reading, we've been exploring poetry, diving into rhythm, rhyme, and meaning. The children have enjoyed discussing their favourite



poems and performing them with great expression. Our spelling sessions have continued to build confidence and accuracy, with a focus on key patterns and rules. In Maths, we've been learning about turns and angles, with children enthusiastically giving each other instructions for quarter, half, and three-quarter turns. This was a fun and active way to grasp direction and movement!

In History, our journey through Ancient Egypt has taken us to pyramids, tombs, and fascinating beliefs about the afterlife, sparking curiosity and awe. In Science, we've been investigating the nutritional content of various foods, comparing sugar, carbohydrates, protein, fibre, and salt: encouraging healthy eating awareness. With Sports Day approaching, Magpie Class has been practising hard in PE, showing fantastic teamwork and enthusiasm. In Design and Technology, the children have been tasting ingredients for healthy snacks - a delicious and educational experience! And in Spanish, thanks to Mrs Govier, the children have learned to sing "Happy Birthday" in Spanish, adding a musical twist to their language learning.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to all the children and parents for secretly planning my special 50th birthday party - it was so wonderful and something I will remember forever. Thank you too for the beautiful flowers, cards, chocolates and bottles!



Sense of Belonging: Kingfishers

In Kingfishers, we've been learning to tell the time using "o'clock" and "half past" in Maths. To support this learning, please do point out these times on clocks at home, it really helps reinforce their understanding. In English, we've been exploring a variety of poems, identifying similarities and differences to inspire our own writing. This has set us up beautifully to create poems about Dunsford for our upcoming time capsule project. In Science and Art, we've continued our exploration of plants and fruits, combining creativity and investigation to make discoveries and record our findings in imaginative ways.

In our swimming lessons, we have practiced swimming up and down the pool, ready for the gala!

Sense of Belonging: Robins

In Robins, we've been busy investigating how to make different numbers using our brand-new numberblocks equipment. The children have been building numbers up to 10 and then breaking them down in creative ways using part-part-whole models. In our continuous provision, we've become intrepid explorers, binoculars in hand, spotting dinosaurs in the wild (don't worry, they're the friendly kind!). We even used cameras to capture our discoveries before having a go at drawing what we found. Did some of us transform into dinosaurs ourselves? Absolutely! Thankfully, others quickly stepped up as dinosaur-handlers to keep everything under control. It's been a week full of imagination, learning, and laughter!

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 – 1:30
Tuesday	08:30 – 1:30
Wednesday	08:30 – 1:30
Thursday	08:30 – 1:30



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](#)

If you have queries on Fridays, please do email dunsford@lapsw.org

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

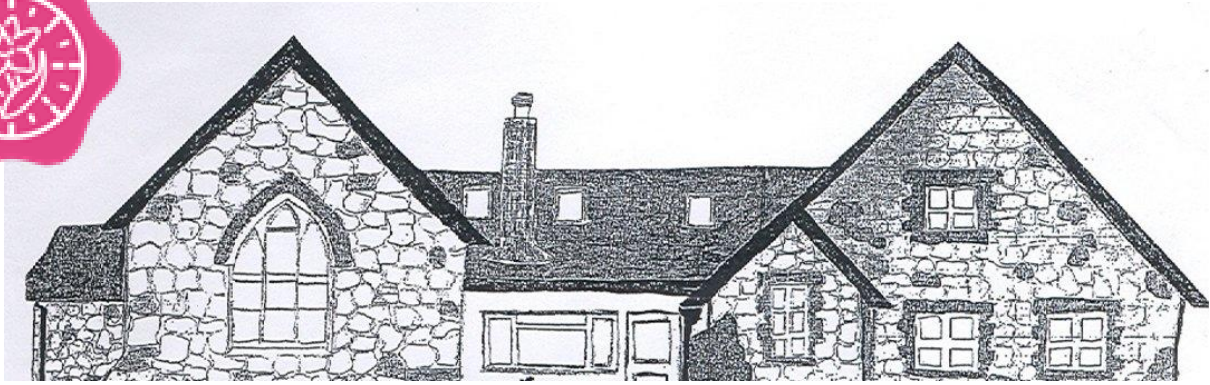
May 2nd - Science Workshops

May 6th – Y4 Forest and Beach Residential Parents Meeting

May 6th - 8th Bikeability

May 8th – Football Tournament (after school)

May 12th to 15th – KS2 SATs



May 15th – Census Day

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 – Barn Owl Trust Visit

June 6th - Y3/4 Art Workshop

June 9th – Art Showcase for Families at 3pm

June 13th – Class Photos

June 18th – Summer Concert Featuring Performances by Children who Take Music Lessons with Jo Todd and

Alice Footitt (Village Hall at 2.30pm)

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 3:15pm for Families

June 27th – Non-Uniform Bottle Day

July 2025

July 5th – Dunsford Summer Show

July 10th - Whiddon Autumn Festival Workshop (Y4 & 5)

July 14th - Sports Day: Families Welcome from 1:15pm

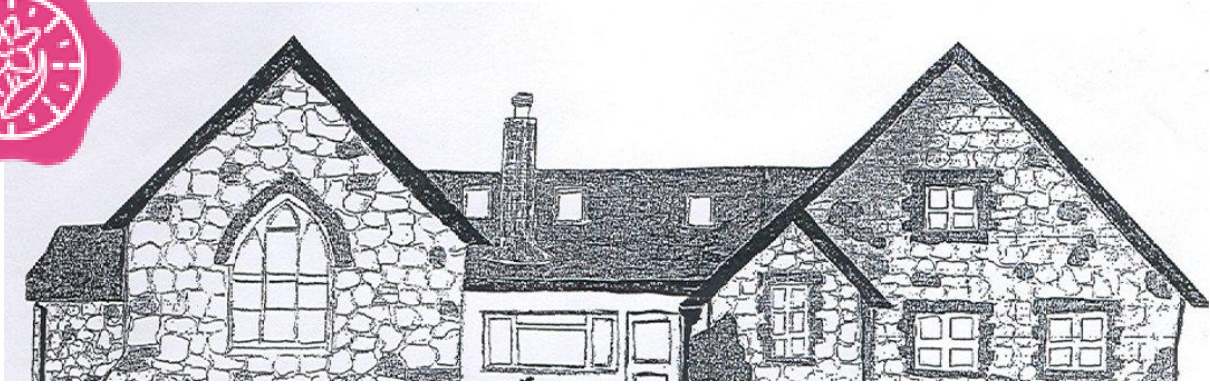
July 16th – Kingfishers visit to Drake's farm

July 17th - Lego Workshop

July 18th – Y6 Performance

July 21st – Swimming Gala

July 23rd – Y6 Leavers Celebration



September 2025

Wednesday 3rd September – First Day of Term

Monday 15th September - Whiddon Autumn Festival Workshop (Y5 & 6)

Tuesday 16th September – Vision Screening (Reception Class only)

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

Concert for parents from 13:30

September 24th-26th – Book Fair