



Strength in difference, together we are one,  
together we fly high.

Dunbury  
Church of England Academy

## Weekly communication

Week beginning 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### Whole School Reminders

**“Strength in difference, together we are one, together we fly high.”**

We loved sharing our Maths learning with you this week through our parent and carers' workshops. Please take a moment to complete this short evaluation about the event: [Evaluation](#)  
Practising recall of key addition and subtraction facts in EY and KS1 and times table facts in KS2 is a great way for you to support your child's mathematics learning. Please speak with your child's class teacher, or Mrs Duerdoth, if you would like more ideas on how to support your child.



**Lost Property:** At the moment, we have several unnamed winter coats and a box full of unnamed jumpers and cardigans! If your child has lost an item of clothing and you pick up from the school gates, please do ask the staff and come in and have a rummage. If your child goes on the bus, please let their teacher know and we will have a look with your child. All remaining items will be donated to charity if unclaimed by the end of next week.

**Attendance:** Whole school attendance: 96%.

**Reading:** Well done to all those who managed 3 or more reads this week! Please do speak with your child's teacher if you have any concerns, or if you are struggling to hear them read.

**Things to remember:** Following the link to our school calendar for a full list of events this term: [Calendar](#)

### **Beech Class Reception**

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the maths workshop this week. Thank you for engaging with the activities already! The children have been proudly showing their paper diaries of the maths games that the children have played at home.

#### Curriculum

**Phonics:** The children have changed their reading books today, and are excited about bringing them home. Please remember that the children need to read it at least 3 times to build confidence and fluency.

**Maths:** This week we have been learning number bonds to 5. The children are building confidence with this, but for a first attempt are remembering a few already!

**Things to remember:** Please check your child's book bag. They have brought home their learning from last half term. This can be taken out of their bags and be kept at home. Please do look thorough it – they have made so much progress and been busy making lots of lovely things!

### **Oak Class Year 1 and 2**

Thank you to everyone who came to the maths workshop, it was lovely to see so many parents getting stuck into our daily mastery sessions and the children really enjoyed 'showing off' their maths knowledge. We had a very special visit from a little frog in our courtyard, which inspired a range of frog-related learning activities!

**Phonics:** Year 1 have learnt 'ire' and 'ear' while Year 2 are continuing with longer words.

**Writing:** We have started our independent retelling of 'The Storm Whale', but with our own characters and settings using adjectives and 3-part sentences in year 1 and expanded noun phrases and 'because' in year 2.

**Maths:** What an incredible bunch of mathematicians in Oak Class! Year 1 have finished their geometry topic and are ready to begin numbers 0-10. Year 2 have started subtracting 2-digit numbers.

**Things to remember:** Practice phonics screening checks for Year 1 next week (w/b 2nd February). **If you have any questions, please use the class email address: [oak@dunbury.dsat.org.uk](mailto:oak@dunbury.dsat.org.uk)** Have a lovely weekend!

Cherry Class Year 3

In Art, we have been discovering all there is to know about story quilts and enjoyed having a go at sewing. In History, we are exploring the fascinating era of the Iron Age and, in particular, the structure and function of hill forts.

Curriculum

**Reading:** We have continued with Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. We have dived into the language used and enjoyed reading together.

**Writing:** The children have written wonderful variations on King Midas. Their stories are imaginative and include interesting similes and sentence length variation for added drama.

**Maths:** Cherry are continuing to study angles and polygons. We had a lovely lesson just learning how to draw a shape with accuracy.

**Things to remember:** Please remember to do the homework set as it supports the learning at school.

Elm Class Year 4

Elm class all enjoyed learning about Maiden Castle in History as part of their iron age topic, where we were looking at hillforts. Do go and visit, it's free and the children can run up and down the ramparts.

Curriculum

**Reading:** We have been continuing with Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, looking at the vocabulary in the book as well as answering questions about what we have read.

**Writing:** In writing we have written our own versions of King Midas and the golden touch, do ask your children who their main characters were and what they wished for.

**Maths:** We have been looking at the relationship between the 3 and 9 times table. As many of you saw we learnt the facts 3 x 7 and 6 x 7 in fluency. Please keep up practice at home using hit the button or timestables.co.uk

**Things to remember:** Keep up with regular reading and recording in the reading record. Homework is on Century. Class email address: elm@dunbury.dsat.org.uk

Golden Willow Class Year 5

This week has seen us researching the 'Industrial Revolution' using a range of resources and recording key facts about the period. In Music, we enjoyed listening to a pentatonic scale and visualising the story told by the music pictorially.

**Reading:** We have introduced out new key text, which is the World War 1 poem, 'Dulce et Decorum Est' by Wilfred Owen. Children shared some insightful thoughts into the poem's underlying message.

**Writing:** This week we have begun writing our own innovative stories based on Gorilla by Anthony Browne. We used the 'story mountain structure' and considered powerful vocabulary and impactful grammar structures. Spelling was a focus on words ending with –ibly and -ably.

**Maths:** We have been uplevelling our skills at finding area – focusing on step-by-step problem-solving strategies to find the area of compound shapes (using a step-by-step approach).

**Things to remember:** Please continue to encourage your children to read. Homework has been set using worksheets sent home this week. We will endeavour to reintroduce Century ASAP. If you need anything, do not hesitate to get in touch at goldenwillow@dunbury.dsat.org.uk. **Our PE days will be Monday and Thursday.**

Scots Pine Class Year 6

We have enjoyed learning about the impact of the industrial revolution on agriculture in Dorset and creating our own science investigation linked to mental wellbeing.

Curriculum

**Reading:** We have been focusing on a poem by Wilfred Owen 'Dulce et decorum est' , using a range of our reading strategies to help us understand the text.

**Writing:** This week we have been writing our own narratives linked to the story 'Gorilla'. It has been great seeing some of their ideas and including key sentence features within their writing.

**Maths:** We have been continuing to looking at long division and different methods to help us solve these equations.

**Things to remember:** Homework is due every Monday and PE is on Mondays & Thursdays.

If you have any questions, please use the class email address: scotspine@dunbury.dsat.org.uk