



**DUNALLEY**  
**PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
 Learning and achieving together



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17th October - Newsletter

## Harvest - 23rd October



We are looking forward to celebrating Harvest on Thursday, 23rd October, with Roger, the Vicar of St Paul's Church.

The Harvest celebration provides a valuable opportunity to support our local food bank. We kindly invite families to contribute **canned food**

items, which may be sent into school with your child(ren) or delivered directly to the main school reception area.

Donations will be gratefully received on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of next week.

## Pre-School Harvest Stay and Play

Pre-school families - You're invited to our Pre-School Harvest Stay and Play on Friday 7th November, 2:00-3:00pm.

We'll enjoy a harvest-themed story, sing a song together, and have lots of time to play!

## Staffing Update

We're really pleased to welcome Jack Collins to our team. Mr. Collins is working as a Teaching Partner in Year 5 and brings lots of great experience as an OPAL Play Partner. We feel very lucky to have him with us.

We'll also be saying a sad goodbye to Helen March at half term. Mrs. March will be leaving us to take on more teaching responsibilities, and while we'll miss her greatly, we wish her all the very best for the future.

## Japanese school visitors

Last Friday, we were delighted to welcome 25 Japanese students and 5 of their teachers to Dunalley.

The students were secondary aged students from Chigakukan Senior High School, Japan. They had a tour of the school and then gave a presentation to children from Y2 and Y4 with a range of topics including food, sport and culture. After this, Y4 completed a range of cultural activities which included origami and some Japanese songs. It was lovely to see both our children and the Japanese students interacting with each other.

The highlight may have been their PE teacher doing handstands in the playground - unfortunately we don't have a picture! Thanks to Aska Holtz from Cotswold Wind Academy for bringing the students to visit.



## Nursery Stay and Play - Thursday 16th October - A huge success!

We were delighted to welcome our Nursery children's parents (and brother) in to our setting today for our stay and play sessions. The smile on the children's faces when they saw their relative was so heart warming - it made us smile too.

Both groups (morning and afternoon) treated them to a few Nursery rhymes including 'Humpty Dumpty', our rhyme of the week 'Pat a cake, pat a cake' and to finish everyone joined in with 'I'm a Dingle Dangle Scarecrow' - which we have been working hard to learn the actions to all week.

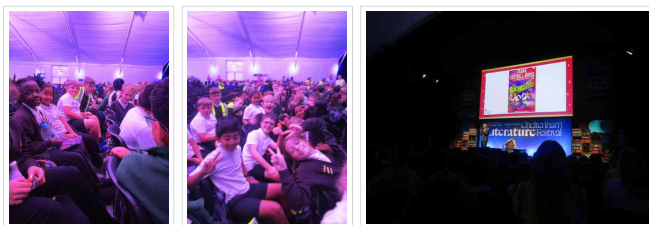
The children then took their adults to play both inside and outside the classroom showing them around our environment and playing with some of the activities they like to do when they are at Nursery.

Both Vicky and I (Rachel) had a really enjoyable day. A big thank you to everyone that was able to attend.

We look forward to doing more Stay and Play sessions in the future.

## Year 5 Cheltenham Literature Festival visit

On Tuesday, Year 5 were lucky enough to visit the Cheltenham Literature Festival where we saw the Children's Laureate, Frank Cottrell-Boyce. He talked to the children about his new book, 'Blockbusters', as well as showing us some fantastic magic tricks. He also discussed how important it is for a good 'imagination' for pupils to write stories and to take ideas already thought of and make them even better!



## OPAL - Please support us

Following on from last week's newsletter, as we begin our reaccreditation process for the Platinum OPAL Award, we would like to reach out to families for donations. Half term is often a great time for a good old declutter, so if you have any of the following items, we would be delighted to give them a new home at Dunalley:

- Tennis balls – or any type of balls
- Dolls' prams/pushchairs
- Paint brushes, rollers and painting trays
- Buckets – the more the better!
- Old musical instruments (suitable for outdoor use)
- Old saucepans (no glass lids), sieves and plastic bowls for our lovely new mud café

Together, we can continue to make play a powerful part of every child's day at Dunalley!

## Healthy Snacks at school - NO nuts policy

### No Nuts

We would like to remind families that we have a NO NUTS policy at Dunalley Primary School and in our Nursery and Pre-school. It is very important that we follow this rule as we do have children in our school with severe nut allergies.

### Healthy Snacks

Reception and KS1 children receive free fruit at for break time

and we like to encourage all children in KS2 – years 3-6 - to follow the same healthy eating habits during their breaks too. Please encourage your child to bring any of the following for break times:

- Cubes of cheese
- Fruit or veg
- Mini box or tub of plain dried fruit
- Savoury rice cakes or bread stick

If these can be placed in a re-usable, plastic box (named) then we can also do our bit for the planet. By not having items in wrappers or plastic bags we can minimise litter and prevent hazards for wildlife and Pippin our school dog who will try to eat wrappers and cling film if it is on the floor!

## Open Morning

Do you have a child starting school in September 2026? If so, come and join us for our Open Morning on Wednesday, 12th November – we'd love to meet you!

Full details can be found at the following link.

## Cool Milk

Once your children turn 5 they no longer receive Free School Milk.

If you would like them to continue having milk at school, please register with the following website:

<https://coolmilk.com/parents/>

## PTFA - News and Updates

### Christmas Card Project

Last week your child should have bought home an A6 card from School Print World with details of our Christmas Fundraiser. Children have been busy designing their own personalised Christmas cards. You card order cards, gift labels, calendars and more by using the details in the card.

**ORDERS NEED TO BE MADE BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON BEFORE FRIDAY 17th OCTOBER (today)** and we will receive 25% commission for each order; with money going towards new playground equipment.

### Cake Sale

Thanks you to everyone that baked, bought and ate! We raised £141.60!

And a big thank you to our helpers - Jenna, Kate, Manisha, Maryam and Rebecca for running the sale.



### Rags2Riches Clothing Collection

Thank you to everyone that bought in clothes for recycling. We raised a fabulous £35.25

### New Mud Kitchen

Thanks to your support last year we've been able to buy a new mud kitchen for the children to enjoy and it was delivered last week (and already enjoyed before we got to take the photo)!



### Competition: Help us name the Benefact bear and win a £1000 for our school

Benefact Family's new Bear needs a name! Watch the video to get to know Bear a little better, then send them your idea. If the judges choose the name you send them, they'll give our school £1,000 to spend on something we need!

For more details and to enter:

[https://form.benefactgroup.com/bear/?utm\\_source=QR+Code&utm\\_medium=Postcard&utm\\_campaign=Chelt+Lit+Fest+2025](https://form.benefactgroup.com/bear/?utm_source=QR+Code&utm_medium=Postcard&utm_campaign=Chelt+Lit+Fest+2025)



### Winter Raffle and Christmas Fair

We're still in need of prizes for our Winter Raffle. If you work for a local business that might be able to donate a fabulous prize, please get in touch ([email protected]).

And we still need volunteers for our Christmas Fair on Friday 12th December (3:15-5:30pm).

### Around Our Community

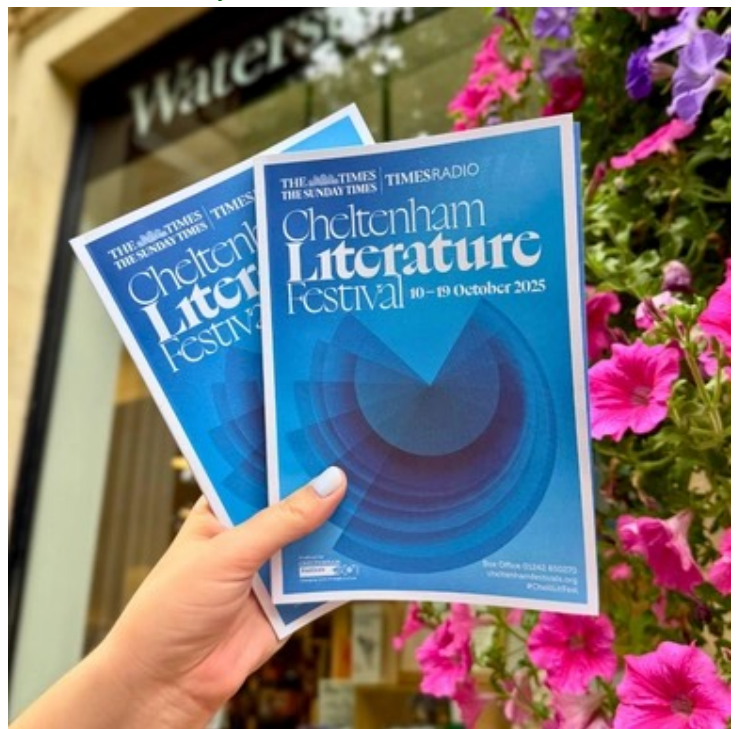
Don't forget the Cheltenham Literature Festival is still on this weekend and there's lots of FREE activities for the whole family!

Saturday:

<https://www.cheltenhamfestivals.org/events/free-events-saturday-18-october>

Sunday:

<https://www.cheltenhamfestivals.org/events/free-events-sunday-19-october>



### Poppy Appeal

#### Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

This year we are once again supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. We have one box of merchandise and one box of Poppies to sell and help raise funds at the school office

There are suggested donations for the merchandise: Slap Band – £1.50, Wristband – £1.00, Reflector – £1.00 and Zip Pulls 50p.



## Monkhouse - Uniform shop offers

Great News from Monkhouse!  
For a limited time, enjoy 20% off all orders online and in-store – perfect for an opportunity to save money! USE CODE SAVE20

Offer Dates:

20% Off All Orders

- Start Date: Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> October
- End Date: Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November (midnight)

We're here to make uniform shopping as simple and stress-free as possible. Happy shopping!

## Family Meetings - IN PERSON with Class Teacher

Oct  
21  
Tue

21 Oct 2025  
3:30 PM to 6:30 PM

Whole school

## Family Meetings - ON LINE with Class Teacher

Oct  
22  
Wed

22 Oct 2025  
3:30 PM to 6:30 PM

Whole school

## Flu vaccinations

Nov  
4  
Tue

04 Nov 2025 - 05 Nov 2025  
Giving consent:  
Please complete the consent form online (one for each child, please) using the following link ensure you use the Unique School Code below. To ease submission please ensure that you manually enter your unique school code and not copy and paste from the attached letter. You will receive an email confirming receipt.

[Flu Vaccination Consent Form \(ghcimmunisations.co.uk\)](https://ghcimmunisations.co.uk)

Dunalley Primary School Unique Code: GC115582

This link will close at midday on the working day before the team is due to visit so please complete this as soon as possible as the team will be unable to take any consents after this point. If you are unable to access the online consent form for any reason, please contact Gloucestershire Immunisation Team on 0300 421 8140 or email:

[email protected]

can also access information regarding the flu vaccinations in 29 different languages via this link [Flu vaccination for children: leaflets and posters - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Whole school

## Sports Hall Athletic Event

Nov  
5  
Wed

05 Nov 2025  
12:30 PM to 2:30 PM

Yr5

## Reception Class - Stay and Play

Nov  
6  
Thu

06 Nov 2025  
2:15 PM to 3:15 PM

Reception

## PTFA - Tea & Toast with PTFA AGM

Nov  
7  
Fri

07 Nov 2025  
3:15 PM to 4:30 PM

Whole school

# Vision Screening and the National Child Measurement Programmes (NCMP).

02 Dec 2025 - 03 Dec 2025

Dec  
2  
Tue

Yr6 Reception

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