



**DUNALLEY  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Learning and achieving together



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26th September - Newsletter

## Congratulations to Mr Jones (Y6LJ)

Huge congratulations to Mr Jones, (Y6LJ) who completed Ironman Wales last weekend in an impressive time of 11 hours and 29 minutes!

The children in his class have been learning about the event, with some Year 6 Ironman-themed maths challenges. Ironman Wales takes place in Tenby and is renowned as one of the toughest yet most spectacular races in the world. Athletes begin with a 2.4-mile swim in the often challenging waters of Tenby's North Beach. From there, they cycle 112 miles through the rolling Pembrokeshire countryside, tackling steep hills and enjoying stunning coastal views. Finally, they take on a hilly 26.2-mile marathon through the heart of Tenby, cheered on by crowds of enthusiastic supporters that create an unforgettable atmosphere.

"We are all immensely proud of Mr Jones—even the moustache!"



## Attendance and Punctuality

The importance of regular, punctual attendance at school is well known. Children only get one chance at school; making the most of it enables them to succeed and flourish later in life.

Children who attend school regularly

- make and keep friendships and enjoy the social side of school life
- keep up with school work and achieve well
- increase their chance of finding and keeping a job in the future.

Children who miss school regularly

- find it difficult to form and maintain friendships
- struggle to keep up with school work
- struggle to find and keep jobs later in life.

Arriving at school on time is also vital. Arriving late to school disrupts the child, their peers and teacher. Punctuality is also essential at the end of the school day and the late collection of children is taken seriously.

In line with updated government guidance materials and legislation, we have updated our Attendance and Punctuality policy:

Attendance & Punctuality click [HERE](#)

Please make the time to familiarise yourself with the policy as we are eager to provide support for families who are finding it difficult to get their children to school on time every day.

We are keen to avoid situations where the local authority could choose to take legal action to secure regular, punctual attendance for your children.

Please be aware that regular attendance at Dunalley is achieved when there have been no unauthorised absences from school within the last 12 months.

Our School Day starts at:

Rec, Yr1 & Yr2 = 8.40am

Yrs3, 4, 5 & 6 = 8.45am

Our School Day ends at:

Rec, Yr1 & Yr2 = 3.10am

Yrs3, 4, 5 & 6 = 3.15am



## World Mental Health Day - 10th October - WEAR YELLOW

Our school has taken part in Hello Yellow today (World Mental Health Day) to raise awareness and funds for YoungMinds, the UK's leading charity for young people's mental health.



No young person should feel alone with their mental health and that's why Hello Yellow matters. We're taking this opportunity as a school community to come together and show our students that we're with them and they're never alone with their mental health.

Most importantly, we want to share the resources which YoungMinds offer to support parents and carers if you ever need help and advice to support your children. This includes:

- online resources ([www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/](http://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/))
- a phone line, open 9.30am-4pm (0808 802 5544)
- an online chat for parents and carers to speak to trained professionals if you're concerned about your children's

## Curriculum Information - Whole School

Dear Families,

You can view all curriculum information for Autumn Term 2025 on our website, organised by year group, including Nursery & Pre-school by clicking the link below:

If you would like further information or advice, please don't hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or email [\[email protected\]](#) —we're always happy to help.

## Year 2 - Tudor House building

On Monday afternoon, our Year 2 children had a wonderful time making Tudor houses with their families.

The classroom was filled with creativity, teamwork and lots of smiles as pupils and parents worked together on their designs. We are so grateful to all the families who were able to join us and help make the afternoon such a special experience for the children.

## Can you help ?

We're looking for doll-strollers/pushchairs to enhance learning in our Pre-school. If you have one to donate, we'd be incredibly grateful.

We're also still hoping to create a calming space for children with special educational needs and are in need of:

- Two children's tents
- Cushions
- Simple wooden jigsaw puzzles (up to 20 pieces)
- LEGO or construction kits

If you're able to help, please get in touch with us at [\[email protected\]](#).

Your support means the world to us – thank you!

## OPAL Play Donations – Let's Make Playtime Magical!

We absolutely love receiving donations for our OPAL Play initiative — they help make lunchtime play even more exciting and imaginative for our children!

If you'd like to donate, you can drop items off with Mrs Byrne at the school office, or pop them into the black OPAL donation box just outside the main reception.

The autumn term is a great time for a clear-out (especially with Christmas around the corner!), and with the lovely sunshine making a comeback, our sandpit is busier than ever — we'd be thrilled to receive some beach toys to keep the fun going!

We're also hoping for a few other treasures to boost our playtime adventures:

- Suitcases - these are played with all of the time
- Old tennis or badminton rackets
- Construction toys
- Planks of wood — these are especially needed for building assault courses!
- Balls - we need more please

Thank you so much for your kindness and support — it truly means the world to us and makes a huge difference to the children's play experience!

## PTFA News & Updates

### Christmas Card Project - October

Children have created their own artwork which is printed on professionally produced cards and other products (gift labels, thank you postcards, A3 wall calendars, jumbo cards, magnets and mugs, hand poured scented candles).

For every item you order, School Print World will give us commission.

### PTFA News - Autumn Term Dates for your Diary

#### Cake Sale on Tuesday 7th October from 3:15pm

We'd love donations of NUT FREE bakes and cake (baked or bought) please!

You can drop them off at the school office on the morning of Tuesday 7th October.

You'll be able to buy cakes after school from 3:15pm in the playground.

We have enough Volunteers to run this event - thank you, helpers!

#### Launch of Winter Raffle on Monday 3rd November

More details to follow. But if you know of any business or company that could donate or sponsor a prize then please get in touch ([email protected]).

#### FREE EVENT: Tea and Toast (with PTFA AGM) on Friday 7th November

from 3:15pm in School Hall (after school)

Join us for tea, toast, craft and Lego. Socialise with other families in the warm and dry. And hear about what we achieved last year and our plans for this year.

#### Own Clothes Day on Friday 5th December

Wear your own clothes to school. And if you're able, we'd love donations (on 5th December) of the following for our Christmas

Fair. Donations can be left at the school office on Friday 5th December.

- - Bottles / Toiletries / Chocolates / Sweets (new and unopened) for our Adult Tombola
- - Children's books, crafts, games and toys (new or in good condition) for our Children's Tombola
- - Party bag fillers (new or in good condition) for our Lucky Dip stall
- - Pre-Loved Soft Toys (in good condition) for our Adored Before stall

### Christmas Fair on Friday 12th December 3:15-5:30pm

We need a minimum of 36 volunteers, ideally more, to run the stalls (in 45 minutes slots) on the day - children welcome to help their grown ups too! Please get in touch ([email protected]) if you can help! We're a registered charity and you may be able to use your company's volunteering hours towards this event.

#### Our Fundraising Goals

Some of the things we are aiming to fund this year include:

? A new mud kitchen and new playground equipment to encourage active play and outdoor learning, supporting the school's OPAL initiative

? The return of the visiting Planetarium during British Science Week to inspire curiosity in STEM

? Author visits for Dunalley's Literature Festival to spark imagination and a love of reading

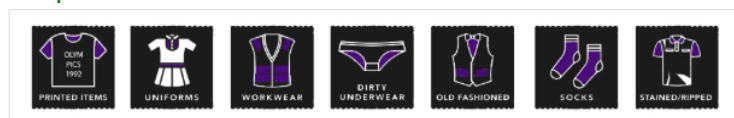
### Rags2Riches Clothing Collection on Friday 10th October

Are you having a clear out? We're raising money by collecting reusable clothes. Every kilo counts!

#### You can donate:



#### But please don't donate:



## Reminder: Dunalley Pantry

We would like to remind our families about the Dunalley Pantry, which supports families who may be experiencing financial challenges. The pantry offers a variety of products, all free of charge, to help families in need.

For your convenience, the pantry has now been moved to the main entrance area. You are very welcome to pop in and collect

whatever you need. There are some bags available on the side of the pantry unit for your use.

If you would like to **donate items** to the pantry, you are very welcome to add them directly to the shelves or hand them in at the **school office**.

Thank you for helping us to support our community!



## Families in Partnership September newsletter for families with SEND

In partnership with Gloucestershire Parent Carer Forum (GPCF) and the Integrated Care Board (ICB), co-produce a monthly newsletter for parents and carers of children and young people with SEND.

The **Families in Partnership** newsletter includes information and articles from teams within Education, Health, Care and the voluntary sector as well as responses to parent-carer feedback about the Local Area Partnership.

To subscribe to every new *Families In Partnership* newsletter on publication, please [sign-up here](#).

This monthly newsletter for families with SEND shares the latest updates, news and developments in Gloucestershire, covering topics you say are important. In this issue the focus is on response to your feedback to the team; 'You Said, We Did report'.

It looks at the new EHCP Annual Review process and are introduced to the new Community Connector at the National Deaf Children's Society. It also notes that Gloucestershire County Council's Children's Services have been judged as Good with Outstanding elements in its most recent inspection.

## Atlas Holiday Camp - October Half Term

With the October school break just around the corner, Atlas Camps will be back with our award-winning multi-activity camps – as well as our super popular Football Camps - running throughout the school break!

Rated Outstanding by Ofsted, Atlas Camps specialises in multi-activity clubs for children aged 4-14, with two early years settings for 3+ also available. With a focus on fun, activities on offer span everything from arts and crafts to sports and active play, all in a safe, enjoyable environment designed to cater for all. Joining them will be our ever-popular Atlas Camps Football Academies, allowing footie-mad All-Stars aged 7-14 to hone their sporting skills with drills, games and plenty of FUN.

- Ofsted-rated 'Outstanding'
- Tax-Free Childcare and Childcare Vouchers Accepted
- Early drop-off/ late pick-up options
- Sibling discount and 5<sup>th</sup> day savings available
- Multi-activity and Football camps

For further information, please watch [this video](#) or check out the attached poster. Head to the Atlas Camps website at [www.atlascamps.co.uk](http://www.atlascamps.co.uk) to book our multi-activity camps, and [www.atlascamps.co.uk/sports-camps](http://www.atlascamps.co.uk/sports-camps) to book our sports camps.

## Open Day at Ribston Hall High School

Open Day at Ribston Hall High School on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October

This event is a fantastic opportunity for prospective students and their parents to visit the school, meet staff and students, and learn more about the broad range of opportunities Ribston Hall has to offer – both academically and beyond the classroom.

**Ribston Hall High School**  
SHARING AMBITION

**Open Morning and Evening - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

**Ambitious academic learners**      **Confident and creative thinkers**      **Proud to be Ribston**

Our students are inspired to perform to the best of their ability, challenge themselves and go beyond expectations.

This event is aimed at Year 6 students who will have received their grammar school results as well as perspective year 5 students who are at the start of their grammar school journey.

Ribston is a community we are all proud of.

Visit our website to find out more: [www.ribstonhall.gloucs.sch.uk/join-us](http://www.ribstonhall.gloucs.sch.uk/join-us)

## Free Adult Education Course: Connect to Catering

### Free Adult Education Course: Connect to Catering

Adult Education in Gloucestershire, part of Gloucestershire County Council, is running a free course called **Connect to Catering**. This course is ideal for anyone looking for a job that fits around school times and holidays, or for those wanting to start a career in catering.

#### Course Highlights:

- Industry-approved training
- Guaranteed interview with Caterlink
- Learn food safety, nutrition, manual handling, safeguarding, first aid basics, and more
- Improve your English, maths, and ICT skills
- CV and interview skills support

#### Dates & Times:

Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th September, Wednesday 1st October, Monday 6th, Tuesday 7th & Thursday 9th October 2025

9:30am – 12:30pm

Hesters Way Children and Family Centre, Dill Avenue, Cheltenham, GL51 0ES

#### Eligibility:

- Aged 19 or over
- Qualified below Level 2 (less than 5 GCSEs)
- Or earning below £25,000 per year

#### To book a place or for more information:

Call Nasrin on 07771 674411

Email: [email protected]

**\*Free  
CONNECT TO  
CATERING**

Looking for a job that will fit around school times and school holidays?  
Or do you need a foot in the door within the catering industry?

Why not join our employer approved course where you can find out more about the many opportunities in the sector, receive industry training and gain a **GUARANTEED** interview with Caterlink.

If successful you will work as part of the catering team performing a variety of food production tasks, including preparing food and snacks and ensuring the kitchen and restaurant areas are clean and tidy.

**Key benefits include:**

- Pay: £12.21 per hour
- Work-life balance - term time only - no weekends
- Company pension
- Store discount
- Full training and development opportunities

**COURSE DETAILS:**

MONDAY 29TH & TUESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER,  
WEDNESDAY 1ST OCTOBER, MONDAY 6TH,  
TUESDAY 7TH & THURSDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2025

9:30AM - 12:30PM

INTERVIEWS WILL TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY 9TH  
OCTOBER FROM 12:30PM ONWARDS

HESTERS WAY CHILDREN AND FAMILY CENTRE,  
DILL AVENUE, CHELTENHAM, GL51 0ES

TO BOOK A PLACE, OR FOR MORE INFORMATION  
PLEASE PHONE NASRIN ON 07771 674411 OR EMAIL  
NASRIN.ATCHA-PATEL@GLOUCESTERSHIRE.GOV.UK

**You will learn:**

- Food safety
- Nutrition
- Awareness of medical diets
- Manual handling
- Safeguarding
- First aid basics
- Improve English, maths & ICT
- Generating your own CV
- Interview skills, including a mock interview

\*Participants must be aged 19 or over; qualified below a Level 2 (less than 5 GCSEs); or earning below £25,000.00 per year.

## Call of the Wild - Celebration - Family event

17 Oct 2025

Oct  
17  
Fri

2:45 PM to 3:30 PM

Yr6

## Family Meetings - IN PERSON with Class Teacher

21 Oct 2025

Oct  
21  
Tue

3:30 PM to 6:30 PM

Whole school

## Family Meetings - ON LINE with Class Teacher

22 Oct 2025

Oct  
22  
Wed

3:30 PM to 6:30 PM

Whole school

# Reception Class - Stay and Play

Nov  
6  
Thu

06 Nov 2025

2:15 PM to 3:15 PM

Reception

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