



**DUNALLEY  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Learning and achieving together



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28th November - Newsletter

## Photo Shoot - New website

We had a photographer in school on Tuesday, and it was a beautiful day to capture the school in action!

Once we receive the photos, we'll share some of them on our **new website**, which is launching before the Christmas break. We'll keep you posted.

You won't need to do anything differently—your usual links through **EduLink One** will still be the best way to access everything you need.

## Family Snowman Competition 2025

We are excited to launch our family snowman making competition. Building on the success of last years competition, we invite you all to make a snowman that can sit on school window sills during the winter months. We hope that the following pictures will inspire you.

Please bring your entries to school as soon as they are ready. The competition will be judged in the final week of term so you have a couple of weeks to make your entry. Please label your snowman clearly and make sure that he is able to sit on a window sill (which is 25cm deep).



## Santa Dash Event



Monday 15th December – Festive Fancy Dress Fun!

Get ready to walk, jog, run, and sing your way through a merry mile! Dress up in your most festive outfits and join the celebration!

All donations to take part will help us create an amazing new adventure playground for our school.

More details will be available next week.

## Year 2 - Family Event

On Thursday afternoon, Year 2 busily and patiently made poppy decorations to hang up as a lovely end of History unit activity and as part of their DT work. We were so thrilled to have so much support from families, without whom we'd still be here threading needles into the weekend! The children are very proud of their hard work, and rightly so! Well done, everyone.



## Year 6 football team report

Hello Dunalley families,  
Last Friday the Year 6 football team competed in a Cheltenham schools' football tournament hosted at the Burrows in Leckhampton.

Dunalley had a tough start playing against Grangefield. Sadly, we lost 2-0 however that didn't stop us. After a good team talk lead by our coach (Mr Adams), we went on to win our next game (2-0) against St James with Dougie and Rudy scoring. Our winning streak didn't end there as we won our next match 1-0 against Bishops Cleeve with Rudy scoring a 'top bins' free-kick just past the halfway line.

Then we played against Warden Hill and we knew the stakes were high. If we won we would go through to the semi-finals and have a chance of winning the whole thing, and if we lost we were out. Unfortunately, we let in a unlucky goal which cost us our chances of going to the semi-final.

Thank you to the families that came to support Dunalley and to the players who played amazingly well. Our team consisted of Rory G (GK), Hollie S (LB), Seth K (CB), Leo W (RB), Dougie W (RW), Rudy K (CM), Zayn R (LW), Felix M (ST), Michael M (RW), Lukasz P (LB), Leo R (ST).

(reported by Dougie, Hollie and Rory)

## PTFA News and updates

### PTFA Non-Uniform Day, Winter Raffle and Christmas Fair

A reminder of the details of our PTFA Winter Raffle, Non-Uniform Day and Christmas Fair which is less than two weeks away!

#### CAN YOU HELP? Christmas Fair Volunteers

We've got plans for a fabulous fair on Friday 12th December from 3:15-5:30pm BUT it won't happen without the support of our community. Parents, grandparents, friends and children are all welcome to volunteer!

We don't want to get to the point of having to cancel stalls due to lack of volunteer support but we may have to as there's just two weeks to go and we've still got a few stalls needing volunteers.

If you can help, please sign up here: [SIGN UP HERE](#)

#### Non-Uniform Day on Friday 5th December

Children are invited to wear their OWN CLOTHES (non uniform day) on Friday 5th December. In return, we are asking families, if they are able, to donate the following:

- new/unopened bottles (drinks, toiletries etc.)
- new/unopened chocolates and sweets
- new/unopened gift sets
- new or very good condition books and toys
- any other suitable (adult and children) TOMBOLA items
- soft toys in good/very good or new condition
- new or very good condition party bag fillers for LUCKY DIP

#### Winter Raffle

Please don't forget to return your raffle tickets (sold or unsold)!

**The draw will take place on Friday 12th December at 5pm, during our Christmas Fair.**

**Christmas Fair on Friday 12th December - FREE ENTRY**

We have lots of exciting things planned for our fair which runs from 3:15pm - 5:30pm in the School Hall and Playground:

- food and drink
- Countdown to Christmas Club performance / Sing-Along Carols
- Story Time with Santa (booked in advance - now sold out but running a waiting list)
- festive teacher fruit machine
- games
- face painting and glitter tattoos
- FREE crafts
- Winter Raffle draw

**All proceeds from the raffle and fair will go towards enriching the educational experience of our children, including:**

- New playground equipment to encourage outdoor play and active learning
- A 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

## Winter Raffle – Check Out These Amazing Prizes!

- Ninja Air Fryer (4 in 1, 7.6L in Black) - worth £120
- Amazon Fire HD 8 Kids Pro Tablet (Ages 6-12 in Hello Teal) - perfect for TT Rockstars! - worth £150
- Yoto Mini (screen-free audio player for kids age 3-12+) - worth £59.99

*with 1 x music and 1 x story card (cards donated by a Dunalley Family)*

- Venture Studios Silver Photography Experience - worth £315

*donated by Venture Studios*

- Explore Learning 1 Month's Membership - worth up to £210

*donated by Explore Learning*

- Ffern Autumn '24 and Winter '25 Organic Eau de Parfum - worth £178

*donated by a Dunalley Family*

- High Street Shopping Voucher - worth £50

*donated by White Move Cheltenham Ltd*

- Beauty Hamper
- Food Hamper
- Boulders Cheltenham Family Give It A Go Session - worth up to £48

*donated by Boulders Cheltenham*

- Painswick Rococco Garden Family Admission - worth £31.50

*donated by Painswick Rococco Gardens*

- Bombay Sapphire Premium London Dry Gin
- Chase Distillery British Rhubarb Vodka
- Jack Daniel's Tennessee Honey Whiskey

*donated by Dunalley Families*

- Dozen By Nickie Voucher for Box of Brownies - worth £24

*donated by Dozen By Nickie*

## Christmas Jumpers

Jumper Swap - 8th to 12th December in the School Foyer

Everyone is then invited to wear a Christmas Jumper on the last week of term, instead of their brown jumper / cardi.

## 47 Bikes Serviced

**Bikeability Preparation – Thank You!**

Today, GC Cycles and a fantastic group of volunteers from Cheltenham and County kindly serviced **47 bikes** in readiness for our Year 6 Bikeability sessions next week.

We are extremely grateful for their generosity in providing this service free of charge, ensuring that all bikes are roadworthy before the children take part.

They noted that some seat posts were adjusted because they were above the safe limit. If you find your child's seat has been lowered significantly, it may be worth considering whether a larger bike is needed for them.

**Yr6 Reminder:** Please ensure your child brings a well-fitting helmet and their bike for Bikeability next week. Please also ensure your child has outdoor clothing suitable for the weather.

## Spare Clothes - Donations please

YR would love donations towards their spare clothes box.

**Socks, pants and trousers are needed.**

Thank you!

## Winter Weather Reminder

Please ensure your children bring a warm and waterproof winter coat to school and wear it during break and lunchtime.

While we know they love to run around and often don't notice the chill, this week's sudden cold snap has been a real shock. Staying wrapped up will help keep everyone comfortable and healthy outdoors.

## School Photos

Images are now live for viewing. Please order by the 4th December to secure free delivery back to school.

<https://dsp-academy.gotphoto.co.uk/login>

DSP Photography hope to turn around orders and printing in time for Christmas.

Children will be coming home with their QR Codes again today.

## Benefits of Pre Ordering School Lunch

### School Meals – Order in Advance

Our kitchen provider Dolce orders ingredients **one week in advance**.

To ensure your child is never disappointed, please order online **at least a week ahead**.

### Christmas Lunch – 18th December

To book your child's Christmas Lunch:

1. Log onto School Grid
2. Scroll to 18th December
3. Book the meal

**Important:**

No booking by 1st December = No Christmas Lunch

## Holiday Free School Meal Vouchers – Winter 2025

Gloucestershire County Council is offering **Free School Meal (FSM) vouchers** to help with food costs during the Winter holiday.

- **Applications open:** Midday 25th November to midday 9th December
- **Voucher emails sent:** Week commencing 15th December
- **Value:** £15 per child for one week

**Who is eligible?**

Children in Reception to Year 11 who receive **benefits-related Free School Meals** and attend a school in Gloucestershire.

**Already signed up?**

No need to re-register, but please update any changes (e.g., number of eligible children) via the Microsoft Form.

**New to the scheme?**

Sign up as soon as possible via the <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-meals/holiday-free-school-meal-vouchers/>.

**Important:**

- Vouchers cannot be backdated and must be used during the holiday period.

- If you haven't received your voucher by 22nd December, submit a query via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#).

Make sure you are registered for term-time Free School Meals before applying.

To find out more about the scheme and to apply, those wishing to find out more about eligibility and the scheme can do so by visiting our holiday free school meal voucher webpage here: [Holiday free school meal vouchers | Gloucestershire County Council](#)

## Late Arrival at School

We know that mornings can be difficult for some families.

If you are struggling and would like to talk to someone to discuss avenues for support to help you attend school on time, please contact Emily Alway via [\[email protected\]](#) to make an appointment or arrange a phone call.

Children arriving after 8.50am and signing in at the office all have their morning registration marks recorded as L or U. To obtain a present mark = /, children must arrive before 8.50am and we recommend arriving at the school start time highlighted below.

### Attendance and Punctuality at Dunalley Primary School

Arriving at school on time is vital.

Late arrival disrupts not only your child's learning but also their peers and teacher.

Punctuality is equally important at the end of the school day, and late collection of children is taken seriously.

We expect children to attend school **all day, every day**. Our goal is to achieve **100% punctual attendance**, and we are committed to eliminating unauthorised absence and poor punctuality.

### Start and Finish Times

- Reception, Year 1 & Year 2:  
Start: 8:40 am | Finish: 3:10 pm
- Years 3, 4, 5 & 6:  
Start: 8:45 am | Finish: 3:15 pm

Dunalley Primary School expects the highest standards of attendance and punctuality from all pupils at all times. We work closely with families to support excellent attendance.

If you would like to discuss avenues for support to help your family to attend school on time, please contact Emily Alway via [\[email protected\]](#) to make an appointment or arrange a phone call.

### Attendance Register & Punctuality Codes

The law requires schools to take the attendance register at the start of each morning session and once during each afternoon

session. At Dunalley Primary School, we confirm the afternoon register immediately before home time.

On each occasion, we record whether each pupil is physically present or absent, using the **national attendance and absence codes** from the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024.

### Arrival Codes

- Before 8:50 am → / code = Arrived on time
- Between 8:50 am and 9:20 am → L code = Late arrival (before registers close)
- After 9:20 am → U code = Late arrival (after registers have closed)

## Christmas Fair and a visit from Santa

Guess who's coming to town?

**Santa will be at our Christmas Fair this year!**

He's hosting two magical Storytime sessions (30 minutes each), where every child will enjoy festive tales and receive a special gift from Santa himself.



Tickets are limited – don't miss out!

[Buy your tickets HERE](#)



## External Clubs Next Term

FOR Years 1 and 2 ONLY

  
**Cheltenham Town Community Trust**  
**AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS CLUBS**  
**@ DUNALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
 **AFTER SCHOOL FOOTBALL CLUB**   
**KS1**  
**MONDAY**  
**JAN 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>. FEB 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>. MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>.**  
**(10 week course)**  
**£45.00 IN TOTAL TO BE PAID BEFORE THE COURSE**  
**BOOKINGS WILL GO ONLINE ON TUESDAY 16th DECEMBER @ 10am**  
 .....  
 APPROX TIMES 3.15-4.15PM  
 To make an online payment please visit:  
<https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/cheltenhamtownfc/>  
 Please then select the Dunalley Primary School (KS1) After School Club.  
**Under additional information please enter your child's school year, class and who is collecting your child at the end of the session.**  
 If you are unable to make an online payment or if you have any questions, please e-mail [info@ctfccp.com](mailto:info@ctfccp.com)  
 Thank You  
**Cheltenham Town Community Trust**

Magical Maths will be coming into school to support our children.

Families can also access this provision via this new club - full details came home with children yesterday:

  
**Magical Maths is coming to Dunalley primary school!**  
  
*Dear Parents/Carers,*  
**Professor Poopenstinken and his friends will be coming to Dunalley primary school to introduce a brand new after school club, designed to show your children just how much fun can be had with numbers!**  
**Our fantastic after school clubs will help to boost your child's engagement and enjoyment in maths through really fun and challenging games, tricks and activities.**  
**This 11 week club begins 13th of January 2026 and is priced at just £88. To find out more or to book your child's place, visit our website [www.magicalmathsclub.com](http://www.magicalmathsclub.com) or call us on 07907 475052 but hurry as places are limited!**  
*We look forward to welcoming your children for lots of Mathemagical fun!*  
  
**Brand New This Year:**  
 Magical Maths Online is now **FREE** with every booking! Don't miss out on over 260 hours of interactive content designed to compliment our after school clubs and continue the fun and learning from home!  
www.magicalmathsclub.com  
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 MAG002-CV5

## Atlas Camps Christmas Camps

Atlas Camps Christmas Camps ([www.atlascamps.co.uk](http://www.atlascamps.co.uk))

With the festive school break just around the corner, Atlas Camps will be back with our award-winning multi-activity camps running throughout the Christmas 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.

- 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 camps that put children in charge of what they do

Head to the Atlas Camps website at [www.atlascamps.co.uk](http://www.atlascamps.co.uk) to book.