

Dunmore Primary School

Explorers Curriculum Newsletter - Summer Term 2 2026



Our Themes this Term	Communication and Language
<p>Life Cycles This term we will discover what a life cycle is and learn about the life cycle of some living things. We will investigate the life cycle of a chick, a sunflower and a human.</p> <p>Summer We will be thinking about what makes summer different to the other seasons, comparing what we have already observed earlier in the year. We will talk about holidays and look at some basic maps together. Towards the end of the term we will help the children think about what they have enjoyed in Explorers and what they are looking forward to in Year 1.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will continue to share stories with the children looking for new vocabulary and experiences. • We will build on our listening skills as we explore books, videos, photographs and artefacts. • We enjoy using rhymes, poems and songs. • We love to give the children the chance to share their experiences with each other. We can use Tapestry to show photos of special things they have done at home.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Physical Development
<p>This term we will be thinking about coping with change. We understand that some of the children will feel anxious about moving to Year 1 and we will do activities that help to deal with those fears and worries. We will also help the children to celebrate the good things that have happened this year.</p>	<p>Fine motor skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding a pencil using tripod grip • Regular letter formation practice • Cutting skills <p>Gross motor skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor play available whatever the weather • Building, climbing, balancing • PE lessons – Ball skills
Literacy	Mathematics
<p>Daily phonics sessions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognising sounds (look out on Tapestry for which sounds we are learning each week) • Reading words and sentences • Letter formation • Segmenting words for spelling • Writing simple labels, captions and sentences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will extend our counting skills beyond 20. • We will be thinking about sharing and grouping numbers. • We will be making patterns and working towards simple mapping skills thinking about position and movement.
Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be exploring life cycles as we watch our caterpillars and eggs change and grow. • We will compare the seasons and think particularly about what makes summer special. • We will think about what makes a good holiday and look at some popular holiday locations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will look for opportunities to apply all of the skills we have learned this year, using a range of materials to explore colour and texture. • In music we will continue to sing songs and rhymes and we are looking forward to performing some of them to you!

Important Information

Reading Reminders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Please make sure you read with your child at least 3 times a week – we really notice the children getting this support from home, they make much quicker progress in their reading.✓ Please ensure you sign the reading record each time you read at home.✓ Please make sure your child's book comes to school every day so that we can read with the children regularly and change books each week.✓ The tricky words for this term are: said, have, like, so, do, some, come, little, one, were, out, what, when, where.
PE	<p>Our PE day is Friday. Please make sure your child has a PE kit in school. The bag and everything in it must be named please!</p> <p>We plan to use the field as much as possible so please make sure you include suitable footwear in their PE bag.</p>
Advance notice: Open Morning	<p>On June 17th we will be holding an Early Years Open Morning for Nursery and Explorers families. We will send more details nearer the time but please save the date and be prepared for some lovely singing and a chance to explore our classrooms together.</p>

Requests to Parents

- PLEASE make sure that all items of clothes are named! This is especially important now that the weather has warmed up.
- Please remember that we only allow water in water bottles. The children may bring a different drink for their lunch.
- Please make sure the children have sunhats and that you have applied sun cream at home before school. Our playground does not have a lot of shade and we want to keep the children safe.
- We would very much appreciate donations of pants and socks for our spares in school.

Key Dates

- ✓ Wednesday 10th June – Class Photos
- ✓ Wednesday 10th June - EAL coffee morning 8:45-9:45am
- ✓ Wednesday 17th June – 9am – 10am Open Morning for Nursery and Explorers
- ✓ Wednesday 24th June - Parents of children with SEND coffee morning 8.45am - 9.45am
- ✓ Thursday 25th June – Class Transition Morning
- ✓ Wednesday 1st July – 1:30pm Sports Day for Explorers and Nursery
- ✓ Thursday 2nd July – Open Evening to look at children's work and see your new classroom.
- ✓ Friday 17th July – Term finishes at 1:30pm