

# Dunmore Primary School

## Reception Curriculum Newsletter - Spring Term 1 2026



Our Themes this Term	Communication and Language
<p>Winter – 3 weeks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Winter in our environment</li> <li>• Looking after yourself in winter</li> <li>• Winter art inspired by our book 'Jack Frost'</li> <li>• Winter animals and habitats</li> </ul> <p>Space – 2 weeks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring the solar system</li> <li>• Making rockets</li> <li>• Light and Dark investigations</li> </ul> <p>Chinese New Year – 1 week</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We love sharing stories with the children and spend a lot of time talking about new vocabulary through our books.</li> <li>• We are helping the children to become good listeners, both to their teachers and their peers.</li> <li>• We enjoy using rhymes, poems and songs.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Physical Development
<p>This term we will be learning about setting goals and working towards that goal. We will help the children to learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Challenges</li> <li>• Never giving up</li> <li>• Setting a goal</li> <li>• Obstacles and support</li> <li>• Rewards for reaching goals</li> </ul>	<p>Fine motor skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holding a pencil using tripod grip</li> <li>• Regular letter formation practice</li> <li>• Cutting skills</li> <li>• Dough Disco to strengthen hand muscles</li> <li>• 'Squiggle me into a writer' dances.</li> </ul> <p>Gross motor skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outdoor play available whatever the weather</li> <li>• Building, climbing, balancing</li> <li>• PE lessons using the apparatus to find different ways to travel.</li> </ul>
Literacy	Mathematics
<p>Daily phonics sessions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognising sounds (look out on Tapestry for which sounds we are learning each week)</li> <li>• Reading words and sentences</li> <li>• Letter formation</li> <li>• Segmenting words for spelling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recap numbers from 0 to 5</li> <li>• Introduce numbers to 10</li> <li>• Measuring length, mass and capacity</li> </ul> <p>We enjoy playing lots of games in Maths and find ways to combine maths with our indoor and outdoor activities.</p>
Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our winter theme will help us understand the seasons and weather patterns in our country. We will explore making and melting ice. We will think about animals suited to the cold weather and think about their homes.</li> <li>• We will learn about different cultures as part of our Chinese New Year theme.</li> <li>• Our Space theme will help us to understand the solar system and how our world is part of something bigger. We will look at events from history such as rocket launches and moon exploration.</li> </ul>	<p>Through all of our themes we aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use a variety of artistic effects such as paint, pastels and chalk.</li> <li>• Sing songs related to our themes.</li> <li>• Respond to music through dance and art.</li> </ul>

## Important Information

<b>Reading Reminders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Please make sure you read with your child <b>at least</b> 3 times a week – more if you can! Don't forget to look out for the Target reading books online as well as the reading book your child brings home.</li> <li>✓ Please ensure you sign the reading record each time you read at home.</li> <li>✓ 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.</li> </ul>
<b>PE</b>	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!
<b>Forest School</b>	We are very excited to be able to offer Forest School this term. Please make sure you send your child in warm, old clothes on their day and be prepared for them to need a bath when they get home! Wellies are essential for this activity.

### Requests to Parents

- PLEASE make sure that all items of clothes are named!
- 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 enough warm clothes to enable them to play outside. Boots are essential during the winter months.
- We are very grateful for your support in the mornings and are very proud of all the children for the improvement that has been made. We would like to remind you that the children should say goodbye at the door and not wave at the window. Our gate will be locked at 8:55.

## Key Dates

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January – Forest School starts for group 1 (please refer to the information sent home in December)

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January – Forest School starts for group 2 (please refer to the information sent home in December)

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January – 8.45am - 9.45am Coffee morning for parents in families who serve in the Armed Forces

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January – 8.45am - 9.45am Coffee morning for parents of children with SEND

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 9am – Explorers Class Assembly!

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Last day of term