



Dunmore Primary School
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Headteacher: Samuel Bartholomew

‘Great to be Inspired, Inspired to be Great’

Wednesday 5th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

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1. Welcome Back

It is a pleasure to welcome you back to Dunmore for a new academic year. I hope you had a lovely summer holiday and were able to enjoy the lovely sunshine.

2. Staffing changes

We welcome Mrs Wadzyk, who will be teaching full time in Year 3 Australia class for the year as Mrs Bennett is on maternity leave.

3. Before and end of the school day

Children in the main school (Reception – Year 6) are permitted to arrive at school from 8.35am onwards. No responsibility can be taken for children before this time, so we ask they are not on the school site prior to 8.35am as there are no adults to supervise them. All children should be on the school premises by 8.45am when they should come into school and organise themselves ready for the start of the day. Reception and Year 1 children should wait outside their classrooms.

Year 2 and Year 3 pupils are to wait on the back playground and Years 4-6 on the Upper School Playground. Pupils should line up on the playground at 8.45am and are brought in by the class teachers.

At the end of the day, Reception and Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) children should be collected from their classroom at 3.15pm. Key Stage 2 children (Years 3-6) can be collected from the Upper School Playground at 3.15pm.

Please ensure that your family do not use the play equipment before or after school. Children up to Year 3 should be accompanied by an adult while on the school site. Children in Years 4-6 can move around the site without an adult. Only children in Year 6 should be allowed to walk/cycle etc to the school site without an adult. Also, Reception staff will be setting up the outside area before school so please make sure that this equipment is not touched.

Great to be inspired. Inspired to be great.

4. Attendance

At Dunmore Primary School we expect the highest possible level of attendance. For the academic year 2025-26, we aim for whole school attendance to be above 97%. This means each child missing a maximum of five days of school. Our aim is to ensure that all pupils make excellent progress, achieve high levels of attainment and develop positive relationships with both staff and other pupils. This is achievable only when pupils are present for every possible session.

Our aim is to work alongside pupils and parents/carers to promote, support and when necessary involve the Local Authority to ensure that each pupil is receiving their education. National guidance for schools is to ensure that children's attendance is as high as possible. To help us have accurate information about attendance each day, if your child is ill and unable to attend school then please contact the school office by telephone by 8.45am, select option 1 and give the name of your child and the symptoms that they have.

To support your child to attend school regularly, helpful tips are:

- Ensuring regular and early bed time
- Helping with homework
- Having uniform and equipment prepared the night before
- Providing a healthy breakfast
- Reporting any academic or social concerns promptly
- Retaining open & honest communication with our school
- Being positive about school (even if your own experience was less than positive)

5. Curriculum Letters

Curriculum letters will be sent home soon. They will be available on the year group page of the school website. Please read them carefully as they do contain the details for your child's class and how you can support them with their learning.

6. Walk your wheels

For safety, please can I remind you that parents and children should 'Walk your wheels' on the school site to prevent any accidents.

7. School Uniform

At Dunmore, we do expect all children to be in school uniform. Just to remind you, the school uniform required is below for your information:

- Grey trousers, skirt or shorts in warm weather
- White shirt/blouse or white/red polo shirt
- Red pullover, cardigan or sweatshirt
- Red gingham/striped or grey divided skirts/shorts or dress in the warmer weather
- Black flat shoes or sandals. High heels and open toe sandals are not acceptable as these pose a safety risk in the playground
- Jewellery is not allowed in school for safety reasons. Ear studs may be worn but should be removed for PE
- Watches are permitted
- We request that hair bands, tie backs, scrunchies etc. are in the **school colours** to match the uniform

8. Dates of Key Events

We will send out dates for key events in the next week or so. They will also be added to the diary on the school website.

9. Class Assemblies

Class assemblies will take place again this year. This is a valuable opportunity to share in your child's learning. Dates for these are below. They all start at 9am in the Upper School Hall on a Wednesday (unless otherwise indicated).

| Date | Class |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Oct 1 st | Year 6 Mauritius |
| Oct 8 th | Year 6 Madagascar |
| Oct 15 th | Year 5 Sri Lanka |
| Oct 22 nd | Year 5 India |
| Nov 19 th | Year 4 Canada |
| Nov 20 th (Thurs) | Year 4 Mexico |
| Dec 3 rd | Year 3 New Zealand |
| Dec 10 th | Year 3 Australia |
| Jan 21 st | Year 2 Argentina |
| Jan 28 th | Year 2 Brazil |
| Feb 11 th | Explorers |

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| March 11 th | Year 5 Sri Lanka |
| March 18 th | Year 5 India |
| March 25 th | Y3 New Zealand |
| March 26 th (Thurs) | Y3 Australia |
| April 29 th | Year 2 Brazil |
| April 30 th (Thurs) | Year 1 Spain |
| May 6 th | Year 2 Argentina |
| May 21 st (Thurs) | Y4 Canada and Mexico |

10. Communication

I will send newsletters regularly throughout the year highlighting particular aspects and activities of our school life. If you have a query or concern regarding your child's work in the classroom, or a question about the day-to-day routines in the class, please have a quick word with your child's teacher after school.

You can contact the school office to make a telephone appointment for you with the teacher if necessary. If you still have concerns after speaking to the teacher, please speak to the appropriate leader:

- Early Years (Nursery and Reception): Mrs Barker
- Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2): Mrs Bartholomew
- Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4): Dr Strange
- Upper Key Stage 2: (Years 5 and 6): Mrs Ross

If your question is regarding Special Educational Needs, then please contact Mrs Smith, our SENCo, on sendco@dunmore.oxon.sch.uk

If your question is more about a whole school issue, please do get in touch with the appropriate Assistant Headteacher: Mrs Barker, Dr Strange, Mrs Ross or myself. Appointments with me can be made through my PA, Mrs Law (tlaw1625@dunmore.oxon.sch.uk). You can also email any of us directly if a telephone appointment or virtual meeting isn't necessary:

- Mrs Ross: pros3517@dunmore.oxon.sch.uk
- Mrs Barker: rbar0415@dunmore.oxon.sch.uk
- Dr Strange: astr5531@dunmore.oxon.sch.uk

11. Bike sheds

We now have two new bike shelters, one at each entrance, for parents/carers to park their bicycles in, when dropping their children at school. We hope that this will make the drop off for those who cycle in with their children a bit easier. Pupil bikes MUST still be parked in the pupil bike shed, at the end of the car park, near to the school office.

12. School Lunches

A reminder that all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils are entitled to a free lunch each day. This MUST be ordered on Schoolgrid in advance.

Children in Years 3- 6 can order a school dinner at the cost of £2.75 a day. Please follow this link for more information: [Dunmore Primary School - Lunches](#)

It is essential that parents order a school dinner in advance or provide a packed lunch.

Yours sincerely



Mr S J Bartholomew
Headteacher