



Dunscore Primary August Newsletter

I am delighted to welcome everyone back after what I hope has been a long, sunny and enjoyable summer. I trust you all feel rested and ready for an exciting new term filled with learning and new experiences. A special welcome goes to our new Primary Ones and to pupils who have recently joined our school community. They have already settled in well and are adjusting confidently to their new routines and surroundings.

As before, I will continue to share a monthly newsletter to keep you updated with life in school. You'll notice a small change in how we are communicating with families this session, and I hope you find this new approach both clear and helpful.

As always, my door is open. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you'd like to speak with me about anything, big or small. I wish everyone a positive and successful start to the 2025–2026 school year.

Warm regards,

Mrs S. James

Headteacher

Uniform



I have been so impressed with how smart the children look in their new uniforms. Keep up the good work! You all look wonderful! If you need any uniform top ups, feel free to use our

pre-loved rail in the school. We also have a very large tub of lost property so have a look to make sure your belongings are claimed.

Communication Procedures



Thank you to everyone who shared their feedback about our current methods of communication and information sharing in the end of term survey. I have combined this, with staff views, to pilot a tweaked approach going forward. Thank you for your patience as we adapt to these slight changes. Please see below:



Class Dojo:

Parents will now be required to use class dojo to follow what is going on in school. Here you will find:

1. Examples of the weekly experiences your child is gaining in their classroom.
2. Information of upcoming events via our calendar. It will also send automatic reminders about these events. We will colour code events so you can look out for your child's class colour.
3. A messenger tool so you can contact your child's teacher about small issues. Please note, this tool should not be used for complaints or concerns, in this instance, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment with a member of staff.

4. Absences should **not** be logged via dojo. Please contact the school office directly in the event of an absence.



Emails and Group Call:

Emails from the school office will now be sent on a Tuesday and Thursday. These will contain official items such as consent forms, surveys, newsletters and council correspondence. On occasion, emails and group calls may be sent out with these days, in urgent, emergency or last-minute situations.



Glow Blog:

Our website is run by our pupils and they enjoy regularly updating it with their stories, photos, experiences and achievements. Logging on will give you an insight into school life from their point of view. We recommend clicking on each week to see what they have to say. You can find our blog here: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/dunscore/>

Thank you again for your cooperation. We hope that by making the systems more consistent, key information won't be missed, and you have an easy place to check back and find it.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to get in touch.

Parent Council Meetings



We had our first parent council meeting of the session on Tuesday. It was the annual AGM and the official handover of the chairperson was passed on from Wilma to Carrie. You will find the minutes from this meeting on our blog. Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 7th October at 6:00pm**. The fantastic opportunities our children enjoy are made possible thanks to the Parent Council's dedication and fundraising efforts. We'd love to see as many parents and carers as possible - your support really makes a difference!

August Stars



Our superstars of the month are Krue, Murdo, Ivar, Zayne and Lewis in P1, Donald in P4-5 and Fearne in P6-7. All of these pupils have really impressed their teachers. Keep up the good work!



Our Kindness Cup and Love Bug went to Alice in P7 and Margot in P2. They were spotted demonstrating kindness to others, something we should all strive to do. Well done girls!



Our wider achievers this month are Archie M, Sophia, Charis and Mitchell. Well done for excelling out of school too!

Wider Achievement



We love to celebrate the successes of our pupils in and out of school. If your child has achieved something at home such as reaching a milestone in a club, learning a new skill like riding their bike, conquered a difficulty or made something amazing, we want to hear about it. You can send in information about the wider achievement, and any certificates, medals, photos etc to show us and we will celebrate them together. Our assembly day is usually a Thursday (unless Mrs James has to be off site).

Tombola Donations



In preparation for the community Firework Display next term, the parent council are asking for tombola donations. Last year's stall was a big hit and raised lots of money for the school. Please send in any donations to the school office. Thank you.

Forest School



From the 16th September, I am delighted to share that we will be developing our outdoor learning through forest school skills. We will be collaborating with Dunscore playcare, and using the Millennium Wood weekly to learn about life skills, sustainability and wellbeing. We will also develop curricular learning through the natural environment. Please ensure you send in wellies, a change of outdoor clothes with long sleeves and covered legs, waterproof jackets and suncream on these days. Pupils are welcome to bring a bag of these clothes and leave them in school if that helps.

- P1-3 will be every Tuesday afternoon and will collaborate with the playcare to support the transition of our rising 5s.
- P4-5 will be every Wednesday afternoon and be led by our very own outdoor expert Jim, and the class teachers.
- P6-7 will be every Thursday morning and also be led by Jim and the class teachers.

P7 Class of 26 Hoodies.



A big thank you to the parent council for providing the funding for this year's P7 hoodies. Thank you also to Eve (Harri and Samson's mum) for organising the colours and printing. We are looking forward to their arrival very soon.

Volunteers Please!



We are looking to give the school grounds some TLC. Weeding, planting, painting and general maintenance would help make our grounds look welcoming for the children and visitors. If you think you might be able to lend a hand at a future agreed date, please

complete the form below and we will organise a get together to spruce the place up. Many hands make light work!

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frameborder="0" marginwidth="0" marginheight="0" style="border: none; max-width:100%;
max-height:100vh" allowfullscreen webkitallowfullscreen mozallowfullscreen
msallowfullscreen> </iframe>

We are a Reading School!



A huge well done to Mrs Robertson and the school for achieving our first Reading Schools award. A huge amount of work and effort has gone into raising the profile of quality reading in our school and we have plans to go for our silver award next. Fantastic work everyone!

Be Ready for School



Here is a wee reminder of items you should be bringing to school each day. P.E. kits are welcome to stay at school all week.

- P.E. Kit (shorts and t-shirt, a jumper for cooler weather)
- P.E. trainers for outdoor gym.
- A change of indoor shoes to keep everyone nice and clean (plimsoles are a good idea)
- A water bottle
- A healthy snack
- A change of clothes for younger pupils if required.
- Sun cream and a hat for hot days

Please ensure absolutely everything is labelled with your child's name and class.

Dates for the Diary



Please check your class dojo calendar for the most up to date information about upcoming events. Here are some key dates for this term:

Tuesday 2nd September: Meet the Teacher 2:30pm-3:00pm

Wednesday 3rd September: Afterschool P4-7 Pickleball club begins (complete the permission form, limited spaces)

Tuesday 16th September: P4 swimming starts

Tuesday 16th/Wednesday 17th/Thursday 18th: Forest School Starts

Monday 22nd September: The Impossible Workshop comes to Dunscore (in school event)

Monday 22nd September: Flu Vaccinations

Monday 6th October: P7s at Operation Safety

Tuesday 7th October: Parent Council Meeting

Thursday 9th October: (TBC) Harvest Assembly. Parents can attend. Food donation collection on the day/ week leading up.