



November 2024

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Dear Parents,

A very warm thank you to the parents of Year 6 2023-2024 who donated a recycled tree seat for the bark area around Rosary House. This seat will be used by many children for years to come - it will be very much loved and used. Thank you!

It was wonderful to see parents join us for the Parent Teacher meetings before the half term. These first meetings are so important as they allow you to get to know your child's class teacher better and to hear how well your child is settling into the new year group and the new demands that are expected of them. If you do have any concerns regarding your child's learning or welfare, please do contact the school office or catch your child's teacher on the gate at the end of the day. Remember, in school, it is your child's class teacher who will know the child best, so please always direct your concerns with them in the first instance.

Thank you for ensuring that your children come to school in their smart school uniform, a coat and appropriate haircuts. Your support in ensuring the children look smart, take pride in their appearance and follow the school rules is hugely appreciated. It was one of the aspects of the school that our prospective parents mentioned when they visited the school for the Open Morning before half term. Our Year 6 ambassadors, really looked the part and did a marvellous job of speaking so enthusiastically about the school as they took visitors on tours of the school.

We received overwhelmingly positive feedback about our ethos, values and exceptional, educational provision. Our school is over-subscribed, full in every year group and with waiting lists for every class. We are grateful for the support parents give us when they choose St. Dunstan's for their children.

This half-term is always a very exciting one in school for the children. We look forward to welcoming you to our next Partners in Learning session on Friday 1st December so that the children can share all of their learning with you, in their classroom.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement.

Georgina Morganti

St Dunstan's
Catholic Primary
School

Onslow Crescent,
Woking, Surrey,
GU22 7AX

T: 01483 715190

E: info@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk

www.stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk



Activities and Events

EYFS – Mrs H. Robbins: Head of Year and Senior Teacher



In a world where calculators and smart phones have made mental arithmetic seem a skill of the past, it is crucial that we continue to build strong foundational mathematical skills for our young children. That's why we have been focusing on "superb subitising" in Reception. Subitising is a vital part of developing children's concept of quantity, enabling them to tackle more complex mathematical problems later on. Essentially, subitising is being able to recognise a quantity of objects without needing to physically count each one, for example, rolling a "2"

on a dice and instantly seeing that it is 2 dots. Or, as the children simply put it, "don't count, show me the amount!" I think you will agree that we are all superstar subitisers!



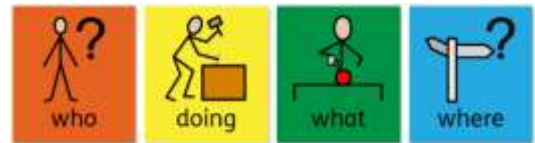
Year 1 – Mrs G. Corsini: Head of Year and Senior Teacher



Year 1 had a fantastic half term and we could not be more proud of how well they have settled in. This has been helped by our regular RHE lessons, where we explore and discuss issues such as friendships and feelings.

In English, the children really enjoyed exploring our focus text - The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister. To help them build confident sentences, we introduced "colourful semantics"—a tool where each part of a sentence is linked to a colour. For example, in the sentence "The Rainbow Fish is sharing his shimmering scales with the other fish in the sea," each part has its own colour, helping the children understand who

is doing what. We have also been practicing using our writing checklist: remembering capital letters, finger spaces, and full stops. The children are excited to keep using colourful semantics to grow their writing skills!



Year 2 – Mrs S. Bradshaw and Mrs J. Knowles: Head of Year

In Year 2, the children have enjoyed using their imagination to begin writing descriptive sentences about Mr Twit, with particular focus on adjectives that we could use to describe his appearance and personality. We used our visualisation skills to draw pictures of a person based on a description from a book. It was interesting to see how everybody's pictures were different! Then we used our describing skills to help us think of adjectives to describe Mr Twit. We are looking forward to writing our own character descriptions this half term and finding out what happened to Mr and Mrs Twit in the story!

In History, we are very excited to start our learning about fossils, with a focus on Mary Anning and the role she played in their discovery.



Year 3- Mrs C. Barrett: Head of Year



This autumn, the children completed their study of the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age history, exploring how early humans lived, worked and developed their tools. Our journey began with an inspiring trip to Buster Farm, where students experienced life as it was thousands of years ago. This

hands-on experience set the stage for our discussions about how these early civilizations shaped the world around us.

As we progressed through the term, we focused on the development of tools through these ages. Students explored the evolution from simple stone tools to bronze and iron implements, understanding why they developed as they did and the impact of these innovations on daily life and survival. To conclude the half term, the children had the opportunity to design and create their own tools from one of the ages we studied. This creative project enabled them to apply the knowledge they have learned in a fun and engaging way. How they spoke about their inventions showed clearly how much they have learned this term.

Year 4 – Miss H. Fail: Head of Year and Assistant Headteacher



Year 4 have had a fantastic start to the school year, leading us in a beautiful Harvest Festival Liturgy. Their service reminded us of the importance of harvest and why we gather to celebrate it each year. It was a time to reflect on how blessed we are with the food we have and to remind ourselves to always be thankful for these gifts.



The children shared meaningful scripture from the Bible and showed excellent commitment in preparing for their roles. From readers to actors, dancers, and percussionists, every child played a part in making the liturgy so successful.

It was a wonderful way to celebrate this important time of year, and we are so proud of Year 4 for leading us in such a special and inspiring celebration.



Year 5 – Miss E. Roe: Head of Year and Assistant Headteacher

In English, Year 5 have been continuing to explore Kensuke's Kingdom through diary writing about a suspenseful day from the perspective of Michael, our protagonist. The children focused on developing their descriptive vocabulary with expanded noun phrases and building cohesion in their sentences. Our Science lessons took us further into the wonders of the solar system. We delved into the concepts of day and night and explored how seasons change. The class showed keen curiosity and deepened their appreciation for the complexity of our planet.

Looking forward to our upcoming trip to Hampton Court Palace, we have introduced Year 5 to using historical sources to learn about the past. The children have been fascinated to discover what these sources can tell us and enjoyed holding artefacts from this period of time during our trip to the Lightbox, as they learned about the life and times of Henry VIII. During this month, it has been wonderful to see the children's hard work and curiosity blossom.

Year 6 – Miss N Johnson: Head of Year

In Year 6, we have had a busy start to the year! We have enjoyed our residential trip to PGL and have elected House Captains. The end of October gave us a chance to refine our learning strategies and strengthen our leadership skills. Year 6 did an outstanding job supporting Mrs Morganti during our first Open Morning, confidently and proudly showing new parents around the school.

Thank you for supporting us to ensure that those children who are leaving school independently are doing so with awareness of their safety. It is lovely to see their maturity in walking in pairs, crossing roads with thought and being mindful of what is going on around them. Though now with the arrival of winter and the darker evenings, it is vital for those children walking to and from school independently to consider their safety even more deeply, i.e. walking in pairs, reflective strips on coats, having clarity of where they are going and to who they are meeting.

For those attending after-school clubs, please ensure that they are collected by an adult, as the daylight hours are now shorter. Thank you for your support and understanding!

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Inclusion and Welfare

Mrs H. Robbins

In school, your child's class teacher will always be your first point of contact. Please direct any questions or queries to your child's class teacher. You can speak to them directly at the end of the day or email the school office.

Sometimes, there may be things that your child will need further support with. As the Leader of Inclusion and Welfare, I am here to help.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are experiencing painful transitions such as bereavement or separation, if you are in need of financial support, or if your child has a medical need or condition that school should be aware of. My direct email address is inclusion@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk



What to do if my child is unwell?



We understand that at this time of year young children often are more prone to coughs and colds due to the colder weather. Often, during the winter months, people spend more time indoors and this allows common childhood illnesses to spread more quickly. Please remember that if your child is absent from school due to illness you must complete our online form every day that they are absent. This can be found on the school website or accessed [here](#).

The UK Health and Security Agency also have this [helpful poster](#) that provides advice and guidance about your child's return to school after illness.

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Catholic Life and Mission

Harvest Festival and Woking Food Bank – Mrs K. Willmott - Prayer and Liturgy Coordinator



Thank you to all the families who contributed to our food donations, for the Harvest Festival. Our Year 5 and Year 6 Faith Ambassadors loaded all the food ready for delivery.

Woking Food Bank were extremely grateful to receive all of your generous donations, we donated 281kg. These donations will support local people in Woking who are in need of extra help this year.



A big thank you to Mrs S. Genco and Mrs S. Saliba for giving up their time to help us transport all of the donations to the food bank, we really appreciate it.

Advent Giving – Woking Lions



For our Advent Giving this year we are pleased to be supporting the 'Woking Lions Club Caring Christmas Appeal'. These donations will be used by Woking Lions to support local families at Christmas time and to live out the Gospel Values of showing Jesus' love by serving those in need.

Items they are collecting are Christmas biscuits, mince pies (with a long shelf life), sweet biscuits, non-perishable food items and Christmas treats, toiletries, toys, slippers, socks, hats and scarfs.

Contributions are, of course, voluntary so if you are able to donate an item please send it in with your child to their classroom between Monday 25th November and Friday 29th November.

The Poppy Appeal



As always, we will be supporting the Poppy Appeal this year. We have poppy stickers in the classrooms should you wish your child to bring in some coins for the collection and to donate to this important appeal.

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Children's Learning

Miss H. Fail and Miss E. Roe – Assistant Headteachers



For your information: Partners in Learning afternoons

The first Partners in Learning has been organised for **Friday 29th November**.

The sessions are designed for you to spend time with your child in their classroom, look at their books and talk about their learning from the autumn term. The children look forward to these sessions to show you their classrooms and work they feel proud of, so please make sure you save this date in your diary!

The sessions will start approximately 5 minutes after the children leave for the day, as the class teacher needs to ensure all children have been collected safely and have time to return to the classroom before parents arrive. As year groups leave at different times, please be patient and wait to be called in through one of the entrances.

- For **EYFS and Year 2**: the 'little wooden gate' near Reception St Teresa's class.
- For **Years 1, 5 and 6**: the external classroom door
- For **Years 3 and 4**: the door beside the After School Club room on the KS2 playground.

The timings will be approximately:

Year R: 3.10pm

Year 1: 3.15pm

Years 2 & 3: 3.20pm

Years 4- 6: 3.25pm

The session ends at 4pm.

Please note: As corridors are busy at this time and to ensure fire routes are kept unhindered, please do not bring prams into school. Thank you for your consideration.

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Christmas Cards

School Christmas Cards

Congratulations to Christian in Reception, Adam B in Year 1, Katherine in Year 3 and Isabelle H in Year 4 whose Christmas card designs have been chosen as the school Christmas card for Mrs Morganti to send to other schools, Governors and Diocesan officers.

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Clubs

Mr A. Coyle – Assistant Headteacher

We have been reviewing the systems we currently have in place for booking external led clubs at St. Dunstan's and the number of places we are able to offer.

We wanted to let you know that Mr Coyle will be sending a Schoolcomms to parents shortly to share how you will book external provider clubs in the Spring Term. Please do keep an eye out for this.

Walking Home after Clubs

During November, the daylight hours start to decrease and it will be dark by the end of after school clubs. The side roads around the school are quiet and not particularly well lit, so for the safety of the children, Year 6 will only be allowed to leave school independently directly from school at 3.20pm (and only with written agreement consent from a parent).

Until the daylight hours extend again, **all children must be collected by an adult following after school clubs**. Thank you.

Your help please!

It is very important please, to inform the office or teacher if your child is not able to attend a club one evening so that staff do not spend a great length of time out of the club seeking confirmation that your child has been collected from school.

It would also be of great support to the office, if dates of clubs are added to your diary, in particular, noting when clubs commence and finish.

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Extended Schools

After School Club and Breakfast Club – Mrs N. Hammond

We do currently have limited spaces in breakfast club on **Monday and Friday mornings** and very limited space on a **Friday afternoon** at our after school club.

Please contact Mrs Hammond in the school office wraparound@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk or 01483 715190 for further details.

A reminder that a half-term's written notice should be provided if you wish to withdraw your child from a regular booking at Breakfast or After School Club.

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Information from Subject Leaders

Eco Committee – Mrs J. Knowles and Mrs C. Allen

The Eco Committee hope you are well underway supporting them in taking part in 'Cut your Carbon Month' which started on 1st November. All information and the checklist of activities we would like you to try and do should be on your google classroom page.

Our wonderful new committee also recorded a video that all the children watched in class before half term. An abridged version was posted on twitter. We look forward to collating the results at the beginning of December.



Houses – Mr A. Coyle and Miss K. Bingle

Congratulations to our newly appointed house and vice captains. The Year 6 children wrote persuasively to Mrs Morganti to explaining why they would make a good leader, we were very impressed by their understanding of what a St Dunstan's role model should be and their understanding of what would make a good leader.

The school looks forward to these children leading school competitions and being role models for their house, in the hope of leading their house to victory in the inter-house competition! Their first house competition to judge is the House Logo drawing competition which ended today. The children were asked to design a new house logo to be used this year for their house.

RE learning – Mrs R. O'Neill and Mrs. K Willmott - R.E. Team

In November, Year groups 3 and 4 will continue to study Baptism and Confirmation (Belonging) before beginning the Advent and Christmas (Loving) topic.

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING

Year 3 PROMISES - Promises made at Baptism
Year 4 CALLED - Confirmation: a call to witness

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS – LOVING

Year 3 VISITORS - waiting for the coming of Jesus
Year 4 GIFT - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus

Suggestions for Home activities

Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism or Confirmation
Share photos from your child's Baptism or a family members Confirmation
Discuss how your family welcomes visitors into your home.
Prepare something for others for Christmas together.
Find out about an advent symbol e.g. Jesse tree or wreath
Use a CAFOD or Missio online Advent calendar together

The children in both the Lower and Upper year groups will be learning about the role of the Blessed Virgin Mary and her importance to Christians, through the unit called: Prophecy and Promise.



<p>EYFS Mary, who loved and trusted God, was chosen by Him to give birth to His son. God chose a simple stable for the place where His son would be born. Jesus was the son of God, the saviour of mankind, the King of Kings but God wanted Him to be a king of all people – not a rich and powerful King that people would be afraid to approach. God wants us all to be able to come to baby Jesus in the manger and know that He came for all of us.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES</p> <p>At Mass, listen to the Gloria – a special song to praise God. Talk about how this is the song that the angels sang to the shepherds on the hills outside of Bethlehem. We sing this in the Mass as a special way to praise God.</p> <p>Reflect on the Nativity story at home by setting up at a Nativity scene.</p> <p>Explore music and art that has been written or created that offers time to reflect and ask questions about Mary, the annunciation or the special birth of Jesus in a stable.</p> <p>Go out as a family and look at the various nativity scenes that have been created in our local area.</p> <p>At home, you could share photographs or experiences you or your family have had celebrating Christmas in Woking or in other countries in the world</p>
<p>Year 1 In Luke’s Gospel, we learn about the Annunciation, that God chose Mary to be the Mother of Jesus and she said yes. We think about how this makes Mary very special. We honour Mary in lots of ways and one of them is to pray a very special prayer called the Hail Mary. Exploring artistic representations of the nativity story from around the world and events in our local community, we will understand that the birth of Jesus is an international celebration.</p>	
<p>Year 2 We will build on prior knowledge of the events leading up to the birth of Jesus. It allows pupils to make connections with St Luke’s gospel and to deepen their understanding. We are introduced to the annunciation of John the Baptist to Zechariah, who finds it hard to accept Angel Gabriel’s message, so hard that he loses his ability to speak. The children will then make links with how Mary said ‘Yes’ to God and believed in him fully and whole heartedly. The children will also explore Advent and how we use this time as a time of waiting and preparation. We also explore advent in other cultures.</p>	
<p>Year 5 We will explore the Gospel through the prophet Samuel who advises the people to rely on God. When David is anointed as King, God guides him. David comes from humble beginnings working as a Shepherd boy in Bethlehem. These are important facts, as we the children will begin to see the similarities with Jesus’ birth. The children will explore O Antiphons that has been sung in Church for over a thousand years and be part of the evening prayer called Vespers. They will be invited to reflect on their understanding of a leader as a shepherd. They will also think about what it means to be a good shepherd in today’s world and how they can serve others especially during Advent.</p>	
<p>Year 6 We will learn about the significance of women in salvation history by studying Old Testament scripture passages, improving our understanding of historical context. We will understand the Christian concept that Mary fulfils the Old Testament promises. We will create relevant connections to Mary’s ‘Yes’ to God as we learn about how women today respond to God’s call in their lives.</p>	

Safeguarding – Mrs G. Morganti

Our Designated Safeguarding Leaders

A reminder of who our Designated Safeguarding leads are:

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL's) are:				
				
Lead DSL: Mrs G Morganti <i>Headteacher</i>	Deputy DSL: Mr A Coyle <i>Assistant Headteacher</i>	Deputy DSL: Mrs H Robbins <i>Inclusion Leader</i>	Deputy DSL: Miss H Hughes <i>SEND CO</i>	Deputy DSL: Mrs M O'Riordan <i>Office Assistant</i>

Please use the [form](#) to share information directly with our Designated Safeguarding Lead. This form is also accessible via the website. Or you can call the school office to ask to speak to one of the DSLs to share a safeguarding concern with.

Safeguarding the children

External doors:

All external doors are for pupil and staff access only. Please always enter the school building via the school office where you can sign in and collect a lanyard. Thank you for your support.

NSPCC – Sexual abuse and inappropriate behaviour

Some topics of conversation are more difficult to navigate than others. The NSPCC has lots of advice for parents on how to talk to your child about the dangers of sexual abuse and sexually inappropriate behaviour. A simple conversation with your child can make a big difference. Every family is different, and when and where you have this conversation will be unique to your family. However, as a generic rule, the PANTS acronym has five rules to help your child feel empowered to keep themselves happy and safe:



- P – Private parts of our bodies are private
- A – Always remember that your body belongs to you
- N – No means no
- T – Talk about anything that upsets you
- S – Speak up, someone can help

We encourage parents to have a look at the [NSPCC website](#) for more top tips on how to talk PANTS with your children at home.

SEND: (Special Education Needs and Disabilities) Miss H. Hughes- SENDCo

SEND Free Online Parenting Guides:



On the Surrey Local Offer [website](#) you will find signposts to [free online parenting guides](#) for understanding various stages of child development.

One particularly useful guide is titled '*Understanding your Child with Additional Needs*'. It has been developed by a team of professionals including Clinical Psychologists and Child Psychotherapists, alongside parents with shared experiences. The purpose is to support you to better understand your child's world and how the important relationship you share can enable them to thrive.

These guides usually have a cost involved, however families in Surrey can have lifetime access to all the guides **free of charge** using the access code 'ACORN'. Please click the link to find out more: [Online Learning](#).

Road Safety Awareness – RHE Leader- Mrs C. Banfield

With shorter daylight hours and our roads more congested, making our children aware of how to be safe seems very relevant.

Understanding potential risks and dangers on our busy roads is an essential skill for all young people to learn. We believe it important to teach children how to be safe passengers, walkers, and cyclists at St. Dunstan's, and this is reinforced in each year group during the year. Only by working together with parents, children, and the school community can we assure our safety when we are out and about.

What we do:

- Encourage sustainable and environmentally aware travel to school.
- Use the National Road Safety Resources (organised by BRAKE) – supporting and enhancing our RHE curriculum.
- Walking safety sessions in Year 3– 'Feet First' – we want all children to know how to keep themselves safe as a pedestrian
- Teach and remind children when going out of school how to stay safe on the roads e.g. walking to church or school trips.
- Offer cycle proficiency – we want all pupils to feel safe when cycling or scooting. Children in Year 4 and 6 are offered 'bikeability' training.
- Highlight any improper parking in our school newsletter and regularly remind all parents to consider local residents when parking outside of school. We know that the majority of our parents are safe and considerate when parking near school, but we urge you to remember, that it only takes 1 moment for 1 parent to park or drive without consideration to cause harm to a child!



Travel Plan – Surrey's Better Points App: Mrs S. Saul, Premises Manager



Surrey County Council have teamed up with the BetterPoints app to make every car-free journey worth your while. Not only will you be helping reduce congestion around the school, the app will track your journey and awards points, which can be redeemed for high street vouchers for you to spend at your favourite shop, local coffee shop or can be donated to charity. So whether you walk, cycle or catch the bus – every journey counts.

Further information about the app and how to download it can be accessed [here](#).

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Liturgy and Worship

Mrs R. O'Neill and Mrs. K Willmott - R.E. Team

Harvest Festival

Year 4 led a thought-provoking Harvest Festival Celebration for the children in Key Stage 2 and parents. They reminded us of the beauty of our world, though a reading of the Canticle of Creation (by Saint Francis of Assisi) and the tradition of harvest. They reminded us of our brothers and sisters at home and throughout the world who are not lucky enough to enjoy their fair share of a plentiful harvest and how we can live out the Gospel values. They helped us to reflect on Pope Francis' letter Fratelli Tutti in which he asked us all to work together to build a better world for future generations.

Mrs K. Willmott – Prayer and Liturgy Coordinator Our new Year 5 Faith Ambassadors

We are delighted to celebrate the appointment of our new Year 5 Faith Ambassadors. To help congratulate the children on their new roles, the Year 6 Faith Ambassadors helped to plan and lead a special Celebration of the Word Assembly where their Faith Ambassador badges were presented to them. We were so pleased to welcome, Fr. Peter and Mrs. Smith who joined us as we welcomed them into their roles.



Praying the Rosary

Praying the Rosary on the KS1 playground on a Tuesday morning has been a really lovely and prayerful way to start the day. It was great to have so many families with us and see the group growing each week. Thank you Fr. Peter and Mrs Smith for leading us each week in praying a decade.

Our children have enjoyed praying the Rosary this month in school. It is a lovely way to pray with your children at home and there is no need for a Rosary, just count a decade on your fingers. [This link](#) has some lovely ideas you may like to use at home.

Important dates in November:

- All Saints Day – 1st November
- All Souls Day- 2nd November
- Remembrance Sunday – 10th November
- Feast of Christ the King – 24th November



Parish Links:

Please do keep up with events in the Parish via the newsletter available on the Parish [website](#).

WORKING TOGETHER FOR WOKING VOLUNTARY SECTOR FAIR A free event for residents looking for volunteering opportunities and a chance to speak to local organisations providing support in the community. Drop in! Woking Leisure Centre, 7th November from 10am to 2pm

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR - Saturday 23rd November 12.30pm – 2.30pm.

STALLS: We will need lots of gifts to fill our stalls, so please get sorting. We need Bottles, Gifts, Nearly New Toys, Computer Games, Books, Plants, CDs and DVD's, unwanted Christmas and Birthday Gifts, and also on the day lots of homemade Cakes, Jams and Chutneys for our very popular CAKE Stall. Please use the boxes in the Narthex for your donations! But PLEASE NO USED kitchen or household items, clothes or food.

GAMES WANTED: We are planning to hold a games stall for younger parishioners at the Christmas fair. All offers to loan or donate unwanted items will be very much appreciated especially table tennis, table football, air hockey, board games etc. Please contact: Lara: 07466 763 735/ 01483756278 laraspereira23@gmail.com Thank you.

Are you in YEAR 3 OR ABOVE? If so, and you would like to help run a stall at the Parish Christmas Fair on Sat 23rd November from noon to approx. 2.30pm staffed entirely by young people offering games for children, get your mum or dad to e-mail Liz MacIntyre at emacintyre8@gmail.com for further information.

Children's Raffle: Donations of prizes suitable for a children's raffle, "Guess the number of sweets in the jar" or similar are also welcome.

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School Office

A Polite Reminder please:



School Office: please phone or email if at all possible

Could we please ask that you telephone or email the school office with your messages/requests if at all possible?

The number of people coming into the main school office on a daily basis, has increased significantly. Whilst we completely understand it may be more convenient for you to come into the office in person, we are accommodating a large number of requests which can be addressed via the [school website calendar](#) or by phone or email. Thank you for your understanding.



SchoolComms

We note that some parents are sending messages via our SchoolComms Inbox. We wanted to remind you that this inbox is **NOT** monitored and should therefore not be used as a platform to communicate with the school office. If you do need to send a message to the school please use info@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk

Lunch Money

The cost for this half term is £95.20. We would be grateful to receive prompt payment please.

PLEASE NOTE. At the beginning of each half term parents will be able to log into their [Scopay](#) account and see the amount due for the current half term. The prices for the current term can be found on the school website. School dinners are payable half termly or termly in advance. Thank you for your support.

Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 18th December



If your child is already on hot dinners, they will receive Christmas lunch automatically and the cost has been included in your lunch balance.

If your child usually has a packed lunch, you will receive a communication via SchoolComms with a link to School Cloud where you can opt in and pay for your child's Christmas Lunch in school should you wish your child to have one. The cost for this lunch will be £2.80 (years 3 – 6)

Children in Reception – Year 2 do not need to pay, but we would ask you to confirm if you wish your child to have a hot meal at school on this day, you will receive a SchoolComms with a link to a form. Please note that due to forward purchasing and operational costs incurred for this highly popular school meal, no refunds will be given for a Christmas lunch.

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Sport & PE

Sporting update – Mr A. Coyle: PE Leader and Assistant Headteacher

Year 6 Basketball



On Friday 4th October, we took three teams to the 3 vs. 3 basketball festival hosted by Blackhawks Basketball club, at the Woking leisure centre. The afternoon began with the children learning some new skills and working as a team. Then to finish off, we played a series of games against the other schools in attendance.

A really lovely afternoon, with lots of new skills and experiences and a great sense of enjoyment.

Year 6 boys' county cup

Our year 6 boys began their county cup campaign with a home fixture against Hurst Park School, from Molesey. Knowing the knockout format of the cup, the boys knew only a win would see us progress to the next round. The boys began brightly and their early pressure was rewarded with a flurry of early goals.

An entertaining game saw the score line swing backwards and forwards, with Hurst Park a very good opposition. When the final whistle sounded, the boys had done enough to win the match 4-3. We now look forward to playing our next match away to Manor Park School on Friday 13th December.



Year 5/6 Netball festival



On Friday 18th October, we hosted a netball festival for five other WASPs schools. Playing in a round robin of fixtures, the children experienced their first netball matches of the year. The festival was played in a friendly, yet competitive atmosphere with the main essence being on fun and representing the schools. Our team performed amazingly well and did not lose a game all afternoon. We look forward to taking part in the netball leagues and competitions going forward after beginning to gel as a team.

A really big well done to some of our wonderful sports leaders, who helped facilitate the festival with Miss Roe and Miss O'Sullivan. It was wonderful to see how proactive they were and the experience served as a great opportunity to develop their flourishing leadership skills.

Year 4 Football festival



We hosted another festival on Tuesday 22nd October, this time for year four. It was the first opportunity for some of our budding year four footballers to have the opportunity to represent the school.

On the day, we invited six local schools to take part in a round robin festival. Each school played against all other schools. It was a fantastic afternoon, with lots of skill and desire on offer. Our team played superbly well. Winning three games and drawing three games, with no defeats. A fantastic second place finish was

the final result, with the smallest of margins to first place.

Well done to those that took part, and a special thank you to our year 6 referee's for their help and support.

We are delighted by how many keen footballers we have in the year group, it is very hard to select one team! We aim to give lots of opportunities over the year, for more boys to take part.



Year 4/5 girls' county cup

In a busy run of fixtures, next up was our year 4/5 girl footballers on Wednesday 23rd October.

Manor Park Primary School travelled from Sutton to play. In an end to end, tight affair the two teams were hard to separate. Knowing that one goal might be enough to send us through, Zara popped up in the second half to score what would become the winning goal.

An amazing effort from the girls, who had no substitutes on the day. They showed incredible grit and determination to repel the opposition and find the win.

We now look forward to a Quarter final vs. St George's before the Christmas holidays.



WASPs football six a sides



Our last fixtures of a busy month saw our boys and girls play in six a side at Woking leisure centre on Thursday 24th October.

The boys played in the morning, and knew they were up against it in a tough group. Playing against Goldsworth, Hermitage and New Haw the boys fought valiantly and were unlucky in some close scoring games to come on the wrong side of the results. On this occasion the boys were unfortunate not to secure a route through to the semi-finals, but they played incredibly well and should be proud of their efforts.

The girls' played in the afternoon. Also, in a tough group featuring Goldsworth, Horsell, Beaufort and St. John's- the girls knew they had some tricky games. They started off fantastically well, beating Goldsworth 1-0. This was followed up with another amazing performance to beat Beaufort 4-0. Playing against a strong Horsell team, the game swung both ways. Horsell managed to score a goal that saw the girls lose 1-0. Not being put off though, the girls bounced back and the final game against St. John's saw the girls win 5-0.

When all the results were added up, the girls had won their group and progressed to the semi-finals. The semi against Hermitage was an extremely tight game, so tight in fact that it went to penalties. The girls unfortunately lost in the cruellest of ways losing 3-1 on penalties.

An amazing performance from the girls none the less, with some of the team playing their first football games. Well done girls!



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Staffing Updates

Mrs G. Morganti



Baby News!

We are so pleased to share that Miss Paling has given birth to a beautiful baby girl- Liliana Rose. I am sure you would also want to know that Mrs M Ferrari, from Young Explorers, is a very proud Grandma to a baby boy- Maximus.

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Uniform

Mrs G. Morganti

School Coat

Thank you for ensuring that your child is wearing a school coat to school and warm clothes so that they start the day warm and dry.

A reminder that we will be aiming to get the children outside to play every day, even if it is drizzling. So please do ensure that your child's coat is relatively rainproof. The padded 'down type' coats that some of the children are wearing can become soaked through very quickly in heavy rain.

Water Bottles: basic water bottles only in school please

Thank you for ensuring that your child's water bottle is clear. This enables us to see what the children are drinking and also how much they are drinking.

We are noticing children bringing in expensive water bottles for school. A basic, simple, clear water bottle is all that is required. We hold uniform in high regard as it is a leveller for all children. We do not want to encourage a system where some children are bringing water bottles to school that cost £30 or £40. **Only** basic water bottles are allowed. Thank you for your support.

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Dates for your Diary



For your information - a reminder that the term dates for 2024-2025 are available to view on the [school website](#)

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Friends of St. Dunstan's (FoSD) Section of the School Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers, and Friends of St Dunstan's,

We hope you all had a great and relaxed half term.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the FOSD Fireworks event. We deeply appreciate all the families and friends who attended, making it an unforgettable evening. With favourable weather, the Lower School Playground hosted over 1000 spectators for an impressive fireworks display. Thanks to your generosity, FOSD raised over £5,700 for the school. We specially thank Mrs Sarah Genco and Mrs Sharon Saliba for their leadership in organising this event.



We are also grateful to the Y6 volunteers and the Second-Hand Uniform Team for facilitating a very successful first Cake and Second-Hand uniform sale, generating more than £800 for the school. Looking ahead, our next cake sale, led by Y5, will take place on December 13th. Alongside this, we will have a Second-Hand uniform sale and a special Christmas Jumper sale.

We are now gearing up for one of the most popular events at school "The School Disco", Mrs. Rawson who has volunteered to lead this event has the DJ lined up and the kind volunteers ready to support the event. We will also have the Happy School bag drop off on the same day so do not forget to bring all those preloved items to donate.

Other FOSD activities for the diary:

- Saturday, 16th November: FOSD Night at the Oscars Winter Ball at Pyrford Lakes.
- Saturday, 7th December: FOSD Winter Wonderland featuring our very own ice rink!

Finally, we would like to remind you our Christmas Hamper raffle. Each of the 21 classes have been asked to produce a lovely Christmas hamper that will be raffled on behalf of FOSD. Over the past years, these hampers have had themes such as Italian, BBQ, Movie Night, Pampering, Night in or Christmas party food!

We kindly ask if you could please sell your 10 tickets at £1 each and return both cash and completed stubs in the envelope provided to school by Tuesday December the 9th. The draw will take place on Wednesday December the 11th after the Year 4-6 Advent service.

Congratulations to our October FoSD School Jackpot winner, Mrs H Peacock. Please let us know if you would like to sign up for the monthly Jackpot at stdunstansschooljackpot@gmail.com. It has a minimum £12 annual contribution for the chance to win a monthly prize of £50!

As always, we welcome any feedback, ideas or comments.

Sincerely
The FOSD Committee



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