



## Spring Term 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

The spring term was a short but very busy term. It lasted 12 weeks but please read below to see the high quality teaching and learning that happened day in and day out at Dunkirk, plus all the exciting enrichment activities we know are an important part of our school life and community.

**Safeguarding Comes First!** We have been having to do a lot of work with Y5/6 at Highfields about their social media/online game use at home. Children have been using sites that are not age appropriate and messaging each other. I ask that parents/carers of children at Highfields are **vigilant about knowing what their child is using on social media/playing online**. I hope you found the online games fact sheet helpful that we sent out. Each year we have a focus on internet safety to raise the profile. However, we are teaching children about internet safety and supporting our families all year, as much as we can in this ever changing area.

As always, please look at our school website for information. We have our dedicated safeguarding section with helpful videos that explain how we carry out our safeguarding duties at Dunkirk.

<https://youtu.be/bochtqsVtYI>



### Dunkirk is a Multi-faith and Multi-cultural School

Lots of our families and staff have had religious observance and celebrations over the holiday period or just after including: Muslim Ramadan, Jewish Pesach, Christian Easter, Buddhist Therevanda, Sikh Basakhi, Hindu Hanuman Jayanti and others. To those staff and families, if you or your children would like to come into school and share your experiences, we would love to hear from you. We are a multi-faith school that promotes diversity and tolerance and at Dunkirk children learn knowledge about other faiths as part of their broad Religious Education curriculum.

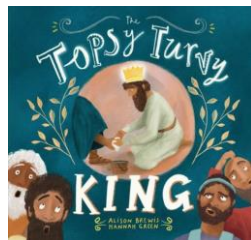
**Fundraising** We raised over £200 as part of comic relief and another £200 from our book sale for new planting at both campuses. All of our fundraising is part of our ACT curriculum and teaching children about caring for others.



*Climate Peaceful Protest March* Highfields campus created banners, placards and chants as part of their ACT environmental learning and went on a march to raise awareness of global warming and car emissions. Our event was covered on NottsTV!



*Topsy Turvy King Author Visit* Abbey campus had a special day with a real author, learning about how to write a story and they then enjoyed listening to the story.



*Heart on the Playground* Highfields had a surprise hot air balloon visit fly past. The children made an impromptu heart on the playground as an act of Dunkirk empathy kindness. What quick teamwork as well!



*British Science Week* Both campuses enjoyed our science week. We ran a science competition and had so many entries, my office was filled!



**Census Day** Our attendance on census day Feb 23 was 97% - fantastic. I just wish we could improve our attendance above our current and very low 91%! Please ensure your child comes to school each day and on time. It really makes a difference!

**Awards** Y5/6 won the '**School of the Year**' Nottinghamshire tennis award for their dedication to their tennis learning. Highfields children also attended a tennis tournament and were awarded this super trophy. It was noted by the organisers how kind our children were to each other and to other players. Dunkirk 'empathy' shines again!



**Snow White Production** Highfields campus watched a production of Snow White to support their understanding of playscripts. It also involved lots of fun and laughter.



**Nottingham Castle** Year 2 walked around Nottingham, drawing and reading. There was so much 'hands on' practical learning.



**Lock-in Trial** The children were calm and sensible when we practised what to do in an emergency and if we had to stay in school. Well done Dunkirk!

**Fundraising Bazar** Thanks to all the families who attended the earthquake fundraising bazar that was organised by families of Dunkirk children.



**Phonics Parents' Workshop** Wow...so many parents/carers who came to Abbey to see how we teach phonics and watch a story session with the children in their classrooms. The feedback was super positive!

**Fluency Parents' Workshop** We also had a very high number of parents/carers attend our Y4-6 reading fluency information session, where they observed teaching in a classroom and asked staff lots of questions. The children loved showing how they learn and teaching staff valued sharing our Dunkirk teaching model.

**Mental Health Awareness Day** Our well-being staff and child ambassadors attended a well-being training day and have brought lots of ideas back into school to share.



**Number Day** Y4-6 had a number problem solving day where they applied their Power Maths knowledge and skills. It was so good we were featured on Radio Nottingham! The children also demonstrated superb team work as they planned eco-cities.



**Erasmus Amazing Feedback** We completed our work with Rastaala Espoo in Finland, as part of a long term EU Erasmus funding project. The feedback for Dunkirk was fantastic...

*- However, the biggest achievement is that the learning from this project has become so ingrained in whole school practise, that it is used in all subjects, not just mathematics. The wider impact of this means that children know more and remember more across every subject, they are growing in confidence and ability and as a result, internal data is showing*

impact across every subject.

- This project is a really significant achievement for this excellent partnership.



## Summer weather uniform

Please remember that we adjusted our uniform so children can wear jogging bottoms or leggings so there is no need to change for PE.

Please make sure all uniform follows the school colours:

- Polo shirt in red or white (NOT black)
- Sweatshirt/jumper/cardigan in red (NOT black)
- Skirt/shorts/trousers/tracksuit bottoms/leggings in black or grey or red gingham dress or shorts
- Socks or tights in black/red/white/grey
- Shoes or black sensible closed toe sandals should be black or dark brown. Trainers can be black or white (NOT blue or red etc)

## PE clothing should be:

- **Red, grey or white plain top**
- **black or grey tracksuit bottoms/shorts or leggings**
- **NOT different coloured tracksuits or trainers etc!**

## PODs (Parents of Dunkirk)

**Parents of Dunkirk** is our online review forum where we can gather feedback from across both campuses on specific topics, all linked to school. The themes for this summer term's meeting will be 'RHSE (Relationships, Health and Sex Education) Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May online via Zoom at 3:45pm and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May Highfields Hall at 3:30pm, as we go through a parents/carer consultation process every year. We will explore our Discovery RHSE policy (including the sex & relationships section which is **JUST in Y6**) and get suggestions from you as to where you feel we can next develop. We will send a dojo reminder with the link.

## Lunch Menu

Here is the website link for the weekly menus. Some days have changed as the children fed back likes/dislikes to our School Council-democracy happening for lunch at Dunkirk!

<https://www.dunkirkprimary.com/page/?title=School+Dinners+%26%238203%3B&pid=64>

## Dunkirk Summer Diary Dates

Event	Date	Time	Campus
KS1 parent SATs mtg	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	3:15pm	Abbey hall
Provisional NEU strike day and school closed	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	-	Both
Bank holiday school closed	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	-	Both
Provisional NEU strike day and school closed	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> may	-	Both
Coronation Lunch Celebration Day	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	All day	Both



Bank Holiday school closed	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	All day	Both
Y4 Multiplication Check parents update	tbc		
Y6 National SATS week	9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Highfields
Year 2 National SATs tests	15 <sup>th</sup> to 26 <sup>th</sup> May		
RSE online consultation workshop via Zoom (link to follow on dojo)	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	3:45pm	Online
Y4/5/6 Colwick outdoors experience days	16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> May	All day	Highfields
RSE Parent consultation meeting	18 <sup>th</sup> May	3:30pm	Highfields hall
PHSE week	22 <sup>nd</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Both
Y6 Bikability-cycling road safety skills	23 <sup>rd</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Highfields
School class photo day	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	All day	Both
Last day of half term	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Both
School Closed for Holiday	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> May-Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June		
Y4-6 RE week	5 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Highfields
Y4 National multiplication check	5 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Highfields
Y1/2 National phonics testing	12 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Abbey
PHSE week	3 <sup>rd</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Both
Y1-3 Wollaton camp	5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> July	All day	Abbey
ACT sharing week	10 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Both
YR sports event	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	pm	Abbey playground
Y2 sports event	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	am	Abbey playground
Y3/4 sports event	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	am	Highfields field
Y1 sports event	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	pm	Abbey playground
Y5/6 sports event	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	pm	Highfields field
Whole school new class transition days	20 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup> July	All day	Both
End of year reports week	25 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Both
PRIDE assemblies (by invite only)	27 <sup>th</sup> July	am pm	Abbey Highfields
Y6 Leavers assembly (by invite only)	28 <sup>th</sup> July	am	Highfields
Last day of summer term	28 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Both

*Looking forward to sunny weather, happy playtimes and great learning at Dunkirk!*

*Heidi Hollis  
Head Teacher*

