



As we look ahead to next week, our thoughts are very much with our wonderful Year 6 pupils as they prepare to sit their SATs. Over the coming days, they will complete assessments in grammar and punctuation, spelling, reading and maths. They have worked incredibly hard, shown real determination and demonstrated that they are fully prepared for the challenge ahead. We are already proud of them.

These tests are important - they help us understand academic progress and identify next steps - but they do not define who our children are. They cannot measure kindness, creativity, humour, resilience or the way our pupils support one another every single day. As a school built on the belief that "together we are stronger" and guided by our vision to "encourage one another and build each other up," we know that success is about far more than a score on a page.



To all our Year 6 pupils: do your best, trust in your preparation, and know that we believe in you. Good luck - you've got this.

On Wednesday, Knowsley delivered an online safety session for parents and carers, focusing on how to keep children safe in the digital world. If you were unable to attend, the recording is available to watch here:

<https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/online-safety-parent-carer-session-may-2026/>

Please take the time to view it. Online safety remains a crucial part of our safeguarding work, and we ask all families to remain vigilant in monitoring what children are accessing and sharing online. This week, we were made aware of an incident involving some of our pupils on WhatsApp, which serves as an important reminder that even seemingly small online interactions can have real-world consequences.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep every child safe, both in school and beyond.

Kind regards

Mrs Emma Darragh

Headteacher

Attachments

- [Lunch menu link \(w/c 11th May is week 2 of the new Summer menu\)](#)
- Community Events and Services newsletter, Year 5 PTA Bake-Off poster, Warwickshire Child & Family Wellbeing Newsletter, MHST Tips for Wellness - 'Empathy', Dunchurch wildlife photography competition, Safeline Internet Safety Workshop poster.

Notices/ reminders

Peripatetic Music Lessons

Please note that there are some peripatetic musical instrument lessons not running over the next few weeks due to SATs and staff not being available - please check the diary dates and look out for communications from IMS/ True Music.

Notices/ reminders continued...

A reminder that we are a **NUT AWARE SCHOOL**. Please do not send your child into school with nuts or food containing nuts. Your cooperation in this matter is vital in order to keep children with allergies safe.

Pupil absence

If your child is absent, please make contact on **each day of their absence** by 9.20am, either by speaking to us, leaving a message on the school office telephone (01788 811028) or by emailing office.juniors@dunchurch.covmat.org. **Please let us know in the message the nature of their illness.**

Class Dojo

A reminder we do not use the direct message function on Class Dojo. Please do not contact teachers on Class Dojo - please do so via the office email address.

School meals

Please ensure school meals are paid for in advance on ParentPay. The cost is £2.85 per day.

MCAS

Thank you to those parents/ carers who have activated their MCAS accounts so far. We will be resending activation emails to those who have not yet activated their accounts- if you have not received any of these emails that have sent so far (first priority contacts), or have experienced an issue with activating your account, please let us know. We will soon be rolling out various functions on MCAS such as email communications, paying for school meals and trips and booking parents evenings and performances, so it is important that parents and carers have access to their accounts.

Parking and road safety - polite reminder

We ask all parents and carers to be considerate of our neighbours and other road users when dropping off and collecting pupils from school. Please avoid blocking driveways, parking on pavements or on junctions, and stopping in unsafe places. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep everyone safe and in maintaining good relationships within our school community and with local residents.

If you are concerned about local parking issues you can report these to Rugby Rural South Safer Neighbourhoods Team - [Contact your local policing team | Warwickshire Police](#). Obstructions and dangerous driving can be reported to Warwickshire Police by calling 01926 415000 or 101.

WOOSH - Game On (important information)

WOOSH before and after school club is now run by Game On Coaching. Please use the Pebble Booking system to book your child into WOOSH (link below). Bookings must be made directly with Game On and cannot be made through school.

If you have not used the system before you will need to register on the system. If you have registered with the Pebble booking system or are planning to do, [please ensure that you give full and accurate information with regard to medical, dietary and SEND information](#). School do not share this information with Game On due to GDPR, so please make sure your details are updated and shared so that your child's safety and wellbeing can be fully catered for.

If you have any queries regarding WOOSH please contact Game On directly.

- [Link to Pebble Booking System for WOOSH](#)

Email - info@gameoncoaching.co.uk

Phone - 07776 322590

If you make a last minute booking with Game On and your child is not expecting to go to WOOSH, please still contact school as well as Game On so that we can pass the message on to your child.

Mental Health and Wellbeing at Dunchurch Boughton CofE Junior Academy

This week has been a short but busy one. On Wednesday we saw the return of the Mini-Marathon, organised again by Edith in Year 6. This year was slightly different as the money we raised will be donated to a local wildlife charity in honour of Sir David Attenborough reaching his milestone 100th Birthday. Thank you to William for being the driver behind this decision, researching and choosing the charity to donate to in his honour. I can reveal that around 100 children took part, and as a collective they ran nearly four whole marathons. We raised £92.50! The children could join in however they wanted to - we had some children cartwheel, some walk, some dance, and two very dedicated students travelled on their hands and knees for the two laps. The children could also wear animal ears or costumes - as you can see from the pictures, we had a few rabbits and a couple of bananas! It was brilliant to see them all having fun, joining in and raising money for a wonderful cause. We also had a special guest appearance from a panda (Mr Cassels), who also completed his two laps. We hope the children enjoyed themselves as well.



With SATs approaching next week, I wanted to share this information from the *Contented Child*. It outlines gentle ways in which parents and carers can support children emotionally during SATs week through routine, regulation, connection, rest, decompression, and reassurance.

Children cope best when they feel safe and supported.

As always if you have any concerns, please use the pastoral email address: pastoraldj@dunchurch.covmat.org

Kind regards

Mrs Clusker
Pastoral and Inclusion Mentor
Senior Mental Health Lead

PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR SATS WEEK

KEEP THINGS PREDICTABLE

During SATS week, children's nervous systems often work harder than usual. Even children who seem calm on the outside may be carrying worry internally. Predictable routines help the brain feel safer and more regulated. Simple things such as laying clothes out the night before, keeping mornings calm, having familiar meals, and maintaining normal routines can reduce unnecessary stress. Children cope better with challenge when home feels steady, emotionally safe, and reassuringly familiar.

PRIORITISE SLEEP AND REST

Sleep plays an important role in concentration, memory, emotional regulation, and learning. During SATS week, some children may struggle to switch off because their brain stays busy thinking about tests or school expectations. Earlier bedtimes, calmer evenings, reduced screen stimulation, and quiet connection before sleep can all help. A child who feels rested and emotionally safe will usually manage challenge more effectively than a child who feels overwhelmed, overtired, or under pressure.

FOOD, WATER, AND REGULATION

Children's brains need fuel, hydration, and steady energy to function well. Breakfast, snacks, and water genuinely matter during SATS week. Anxiety can sometimes affect appetite or cause tummy aches, so gentle encouragement is often more helpful than pressure. Familiar foods and regular hydration support both emotional regulation and concentration. Looking after a child's body also helps support their nervous system, which plays a huge role in learning, coping, and emotional resilience.

MAKE SPACE FOR DECOMPRESSION

Many children hold themselves together all day at school, then emotionally unravel once they are home. This can look like irritability, tears, withdrawal, silliness, anger, or exhaustion. Often, this is not "bad behaviour" but a nervous system release after prolonged stress and effort. Children need opportunities to decompress after school through movement, play, quiet time, sensory regulation, laughter, connection, or simply feeling emotionally safe enough to let the pressure out.




REDUCE PRESSURE, INCREASE CONNECTION

The most protective thing adults can offer during SATS week is emotional safety. Children need to know they are valued for who they are, not simply for scores or results. SATS cannot measure kindness, creativity, humour, empathy, determination, or emotional strength. Praise effort, courage, perseverance, and self-care rather than perfection. Calm adults help calm children. Connection, reassurance, co-regulation, and warmth support learning far more effectively than pressure ever will.



Attendance Summary

Whole School: 95.67% (Target %)

			
3AE	3L	4B	4CG
93.18%	94.32%	96.67%	96.69%
			
5A	5HT	6CM	6F
95.08%	96.97%	95.96%	96.59%



HOUSE POINT TOTALS



<p>This week's total:</p> <p>95</p> <p>Cumulative total:</p> <p>647</p>	<p>This week's total:</p> <p>107</p> <p>Cumulative total:</p> <p>699</p>	<p>This week's total:</p> <p>95</p> <p>Cumulative total:</p> <p>656</p>	<p>This week's total:</p> <p>99</p> <p>Cumulative total:</p> <p>684</p>
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This week's winning House is: **Sapphire**

Awards this week

The Together We Are Stronger award for 3L goes to....



Shashana has achieved this week's TWAS award in 3L as she consistently demonstrates excellent behaviour, a positive attitude to learning, and always tries her best. She is kind, caring, and respectful to others, and proudly demonstrates our school values every day. Shashana follows our school rules carefully and can always be trusted to make the right choices. Her positive attitude and willingness to help others help make our classroom a happy and supportive place. By setting such a wonderful example to her peers, Shashana is a truly valued member of our school community.

The Together we are Stronger award for 4B goes to....



Arya has been amazing not only this week, but throughout the whole year. Arya is extraordinarily kind, gentle, and peaceful, and she always brings a sense of calm to our classroom. She works incredibly hard in everything she does and is always so softly spoken and thoughtful. I have been especially proud of Arya's ability to ask for help when she is unsure, it is such an important and valuable skill to have as a learner. Arya, you are doing amazingly this year, and we are all so proud of the progress you are making. Keep being your calm, caring, and hardworking self!

The Together we are Stronger award for 4B goes to....



He has made fantastic progress and effort. He has been producing excellent work in Maths, showing great confidence with numbers and proving himself to be a brilliant mathematician. I have also been really impressed with Logan's focus in English, especially during our extended writing on Beowulf. He has shown determination and effort, and it's been wonderful to see him apply himself so well. Logan, your hard work and positive attitude are really shining through. Keep it up! We are very proud of you.

The Together we are Stronger award for 4CG goes to....



Marni has shown super progress across all subjects, demonstrating a fantastic attitude to learning this half term. Her willingness to try every challenge with growing confidence and positivity has really stood out recently. Marni has been developing new skills consistently and should feel very proud of her achievements. In particular, her writing has improved greatly, showing creativity and growing confidence. Her ideas are becoming more thoughtful, and her presentation is improving every week. Her excellent behaviour, manners, effort and commitment make her a wonderful role model for others in the class. Well done - you should be incredibly proud of the excellent progress you have made!

The Together we are Stronger award for 5HT goes to....



Luke is our TWAS winner this week because he truly demonstrates our school value of "Together We Are Stronger." Whether he is making honey cakes, playing sport, completing a science experiment, or designing and writing a leaflet, Luke consistently shows that he is a supportive and hardworking team player who wants everyone to succeed. This was especially clear during the recent swimming gala, where his encouragement and determination stood out. In lessons, Luke shares thoughtful ideas and demonstrates a perceptive understanding of our learning. In particular, his extended writing is carefully structured and detailed. Well done, Luke - keep up the hard work because you have a lot to offer!

The Together we are Stronger award for 6CM goes to....



Rory, you bring a great energy to the classroom and your enthusiasm for learning shines through. As the year has progressed, you have challenged yourself and demonstrated that you are wanting to aim high and be successful in everything that you do. Every day, you always endeavour to follow our school rules and live out our school values and because of this you are a great role model to others. We have also noticed that you are a good friend and will speak up if you observe something happening which you know is unkind or unfair. Never change Rory-keep that positive attitude and energy as you move into secondary school and beyond.

The Together we are Stronger award for 6F goes to....



This week's TWAS award goes to Parnavi! She is incredibly conscientious in her learning, always wanting to do her very best in all subjects. She is keen to ask questions, as well as answer them, in lessons (especially in maths!) and listens respectfully to her peers. Parnavi follows our school rules of ready, respectful and safe, which helps her to be able to give 100% effort in her learning. She knows her strengths and knows what she needs to do to progress as a learner. These qualities will support Parnavi when she takes her next steps in her journey to secondary school. Well done Parnavi - keep it up!

The TT Rockstars Awards go to



Diary Dates - w/c 11th May 2026

Monday 11th May	Tuesday 12th May	Wednesday 13th May	Thursday 14th May	Friday 15th May
Activities & Events Year 6 SATs	Activities & Events Year 6 SATs	Activities & Events Year 6 SATs	Activities & Events Year 6 SATs	Activities & Events
Lunchtime Clubs	Lunchtime Clubs	Lunchtime Clubs	Lunchtime Clubs Cross Teach Bible Club	Lunchtime Clubs Music ambassadors Year 4-6
Musical Instrument Lessons No IMS piano and flute today No True Music Guitar lessons today	Musical Instrument Lessons No IMS drums today No IMS Piano / keyboard today	Musical Instrument Lessons No IMS Violin and Keyboard today	Musical Instrument Lessons	Musical Instrument Lessons No IMS Singing lessons today
After School Clubs Computer Xplorers Year 3 & 4 15.30-16.30 Craft Club Year 3-6 15.30-16.30 Girls' Football Year 3-6 15.30-16.30	After School Clubs DM Football Year 3-6 15.30-16.45 Multisports Year 3-6 15.30-16.30	After School Clubs Spanish Club Year 3-6 15.30-16.30 Cookery Club (FULL) Year 3-6 15.30-16.30 Basketball Club Year 3 & 4 15.30-16.15 Year 5 & 6 16.30-17.15	After School Clubs Computer Xplorers Year 5 & 6 15.30-16.30 DM Football Year 3-6 15.30-16.45	After School Clubs Dodgeball Year 3-6 15.30-16.30

Future dates for your diary

Monday 18th May	Year 5 PTA Bake-Off No IMS piano / flute lessons today
Wednesday 20th May, 14.30	SEND Parent/ Carers coffee event
Thursday 21st May, morning	Class & group photographs - Versaprint
Friday 22nd May	PTA Dare to be Different Day
Monday 25th - Friday 29th May	Half term holiday
Monday 1st June	School closed - teacher training Day
Monday 8th - Wednesday 10th June	Year 6 Residential visit to Frontier Centre
Friday 19th June	Father's Day Gift Shop
Tuesday 23rd June – morning	Sports Day
Thursday 25th June (times TBC)	PTA Summer disco
Monday 29th June	Year 3 PTA Bake Off
Wednesday 8th July	County transfer day
Thursday 9th July	Year 5 Athletics festival
Friday 10th July	End of year school reports sent home
Monday 13th July, 15.30-16.30	Parent/ carer drop-in to discuss reports
Tuesday 14th July	Year 4 Cricket festival
Thursday 16th July, 17.00-19.00	Year 6 Leavers BBQ and disco

TERM DATES 2025 - 2026

Summer Term 2026

Term Starts	Monday 13 April
<i>May Day</i>	<i>Monday 4 May</i>
<i>Half Term</i>	<i>Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May</i>
<i>Teacher Training Day</i>	<i>Monday 1 June</i>
Warwickshire Induction Day	Wednesday 8 July
Term Ends	Friday 17 July
<i>Teacher Training Day</i>	<i>Monday 20 July</i>

TERM DATES 2026 – 2027

Autumn Term 2026

<i>Teacher Training Day</i>	<i>Tuesday 1 September</i>
<i>Teacher Training Day</i>	<i>Wednesday 2 September</i>
Term Starts	Thursday 3 September
<i>Teacher Training Day</i>	<i>Friday 23 October</i>
<i>Half Term</i>	<i>Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October</i>
Term Ends	Friday 18 December

Spring Term 2027

<i>Teacher Training Day</i>	<i>Monday 4 January</i>
Term Starts	Tuesday 5 January
<i>Half Term</i>	<i>Monday 15 – Friday 19 February</i>
<i>Teacher Training Day</i>	<i>Monday 22 February</i>
Term Ends	Thursday 25th March

Summer Term 2027

Term Starts	Monday 12 April
<i>May Day</i>	<i>Monday 3 May</i>
<i>Half Term</i>	<i>Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June</i>
<i>Teacher Training Day</i>	<i>Monday 7 June</i>
Warwickshire Transfer Day	Wednesday 7 July
Term Ends	Wednesday 21 July