

# DUNANNIE THURSDAY LETTER Issue 20

10<sup>th</sup> March 2011

Dear Parents

Spring has truly sprung and the orchard looks quite magnificent with 'a host of golden daffodils!' You may have noticed too the raised beds that have appeared where the children will be planting garlic, peas and broad beans next week.

The Spring Concerts will take place on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March for Reception and Year 1 and Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March for Year 2 and 3. The concerts will start at 9.15am (**please note the change in time**) and in order to allow Debbie time to set up in the Library, coffee will be served in the Challenge Room. I look forward to welcoming parents and grandparents to an entertaining morning.



Please don't forget to come to Tom Smiley's talk on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March in the Library where he will be talking about such issues as bed times and negotiating with 3 - 8 year olds!... I am sure this will prove to be very useful and interesting. Please sign up on the board in the entrance hall.

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March it is Red Nose Day. The children can come to school wearing their noses and we shall be raising funds for the charity by holding a delicious cake sale in the Library at 3pm. All donations will be greatly received, even if they do have a Waitrose label!

Jane Grubb, the new Head of Dunhurst from September, will be in the Library from 7pm on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March giving Year 3 parents an opportunity to meet with her. I hope to see as many parents as possible, to give her a warm welcome.

With best wishes



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## REMINDERS FOR PARENTS

- 🌱 Petit Picasso: Due to Dunhurst Parents' Evening, there will be no Petit Picasso next Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> March. Please let Marian know if your child would like to join Swallow Club instead.
- 🌱 Cardboard Boxes Needed: Reception and Nursery need any cardboard boxes you may have at home.
- 🌱 Allergies Notice: Please can you remember that the school has to be nut and seed free...so anything brought into school must conform to these requirements, including birthday treats.
- 🌱 Tesco Vouchers: We are collecting these and should be grateful if you could pop them into the collecting box in the entrance hall. Many thanks.
- 🌱 Swaziland Appeal: We are still collecting for the Swaziland appeal and more books would be much appreciated.



### RED NOSE DAY

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March

Yummy Cake Sale at 3.00pm in the Library

Please bring in cakes, biscuits, scones, tarts etc. (NB no nuts or seeds) on Friday morning



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Congratulations to the following children for all their hard work in Mathletics...

Elspeth (1 Bronze)  
Tiger (2 Bronze)  
James (1 Bronze)  
Lola (1 Bronze)  
Rachel (1 Bronze)  
Tory (2 Bronze)  
Leela (1 Silver) Brilliant!  
Elliot (1 Bronze)  
Theo (1 Bronze)  
Andrew (1 Bronze)  
Issy (1 Silver) Brilliant!

Well done  
David

## SCIENCE CHALLENGE

I did give a small hint in last week's challenge about the moon's gravity and the error of course is that the astronauts are floating off the moon's surface. Although the pull of gravity on the moon is weaker than on Earth, the moon does have gravity. People and other objects do not float off it.

Several children made this observation. Well done to Dominic, Athena, Lily & Nela. A few children said that they wouldn't float because they are wearing special boots. Evie thought that the Earth is too close – this is probably a fair comment as the Earth is too detailed – the continents are barely visible from the moon. Isabelle thought that the flag looked too small. Anne queried why the moon appears to be under the Earth.

Well done everyone.



## Raising the **temperature**

Yesterday we launched a campaign at Dunannie to raise funds to buy a power wheelchair for a child. In assembly the children saw a short film of a little boy whose life was improved when he received a power chair. He gained some independence and a great deal of confidence both at home and at school. The fund-raising target is **£6000** which is a huge sum of money! The first main event will be the Fun Run but there will be other opportunities to raise some funds.

This morning Year 3 were lucky enough to see a theatre production called “The World’s Gone French”! They met up with the Groups from Dunhurst in the Hall and were entertained by Simon and Sarah in French and in English for just under an hour. Simon, who is English, finds a puzzle map of the world in a charity shop, but some of the pieces are missing. Suddenly his mother, sister, grandmother – in fact everyone he talks to – are talking French! It was very entertaining and Year 3 were pleased to tell me that they understood quite a lot. A “fantastique” way to practise their listening skills.

Ellie Chilton

## Challenge Club

Last night in our Challenge Club, the children were presented with the task of building a domino run. Although we didn't quite beat the world record of 4.8 million, we did manage to use over two hundred dominos. We had several minutes of frustration as sections of our run toppled too soon. However in the end we managed to complete the task and asked Jacqui to perform the opening 'topple'



Well done to everyone involved.  
David

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## Class 1 News

Dear Parents,



We have had a very busy and exciting time in Year 1. Michael and Theo Truss wowed us all with an amazing planetarium presentation before Half-term.

Your children impressed Michael with some challenging questions such as "How heavy is the universe?" asked Rachel.

A huge thank you to Michael and to Toby Hardy for giving us their time and expertise.



Next Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March we will be visiting INTECH near Winchester where we will have the opportunity to extend and consolidate our work on Light and Dark.

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We had a cold but fantastic rocket launching workshop with Toby Hardy last Tuesday when despite your children's best efforts to launch various objects, gravity did its job and pulled everything back down to earth.



It was enormous fun and it demonstrated some of the complexities involved in how difficult it is to send rockets into space.



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Toby visited again yesterday to show us an enormous model of Saturn V rocket and some film of rocket launches. Again your children asked brilliant questions and answered

Toby's  
equally  
difficult  
ones!



Everyone listened carefully and we will email Toby our remaining questions as we could have continued all afternoon! We are all set now for rocket designing and modelling. We are looking forward to our visit to INTECH next week.

With best wishes  
Amanda, Dorota and Kessie