

Welcome back ...

We hope that you all had a lovely half-term break. The children are settling back into our busy daily routine. The first half term of the year was spent making friends and creating masterpieces through their play.

We are trying to play outside as much as possible, despite the weather! Please make sure that your child has a *named* coat in school with them every day and that they are wearing appropriate footwear. Please send in a pair of wellies that your child could keep in school for the very wet days!

Theme –

This month we will be learning about travel and **Outer Space**.

We will be learning about Space travel and our Solar System and will be reading lots of story books and non-fiction books on our new theme. Please have a look at the library and at home for some titles on the themes to read with your child too!

Colour –

Our colours this month are **black and white**. Please encourage your child to look out for black and white objects in their environment.

Getting Ready to Learn

We had a fantastic evening with the children at our Bedtime Story event to launch our Big Bedtime Read programme, just before the half term break. Thank you to parents for supporting this event and to the many parents who also attended the Parents' Workshop in Dunclug Primary School. We will start our book lending scheme and will send information on the scheme to you via Seesaw next week, on Monday 11th November.

Preventing the spread of illnesses in Nursery

It is the season of colds, flus, bugs and viruses! To help us prevent the spread of these, and for your child's wellbeing when they are ill, we would like to remind you that your child should not attend Nursery if they have a temperature (even if they say they want to!) and we will ask you to come and pick your child up if they develop a raised temperature during their session.

Any child who has been vomiting or having diarrhoea should remain at home for **48 hours after their last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea**. There are also some other highly infectious childhood ailments that can be dangerous for children and adults in certain circumstances and require a period of absence from school. **To enable us to help to protect children in our Nursery School for whom catching some of these illnesses can be extremely dangerous, please contact us to let us know if your child is unwell, to enable us to refer to PHA guidelines and advise about exclusion where necessary. Thank you.**

Tissues

It is runny nose season too!

Please send in a box of tissues with your child that we can keep in Nursery and use as necessary!

Thank you 😊



Recent ETI Inspection

Thank you to the parents who spoke with Inspectors or submitted a questionnaire response for our ETI Inspection last month. The Inspectors shared some of the anonymous feedback with us and we were delighted with the positive comments that many parents added to their responses.

The Inspection team fed back very positive comments about our provision and were really complimentary about the children's behaviour, engagement with the play opportunities, levels of independence and the creativity that they observed over their two-day visit with us.

The final report will be issued early next month and we will share a link to this with you when we receive it.

Contact with Nursery

Please feel free to contact us, by phonecall on 028 256 44286, email on pmuir291@c2kni.net or via the Seesaw messaging function. Please note that our office is unattended between 9.00 and 11.30am, so if you call during these times please leave a message and we will get back to you.

School Photographer

The School Photographer will be in school on **Thursday 28th November** to take individual photos of the children in each class. We will send details about how to register your child for a photo via Seesaw the week before.

NATIVITY PERFORMANCES

We are delighted to be able to invite parents to attend for our Nativity Performances this year. They will be on the following dates –

RED Part Time AM Class – **Tuesday 17th December** in Dunclug **Primary** School at 10.00am

BLUE Part Time PM Class – **Monday 16th December** in Dunclug **Nursery** School at 1.00pm

YELLOW Full Time Class - **Tuesday 17th December** in Dunclug **Primary** School at 11.30am

This will be a big day for the performers, so they will go home with you after their performance.

September 2025 Admission to Nursery

We will be having an Open Day in Nursery on **Thursday 12th December from 2.00-6.00pm**, for children who will be starting Nursery in September 2024. Please pass this date on to any relatives or neighbours who want to come and have a look around!

Applying for a Primary School Place for your child for September 2025

We will share details of Primary School Open Days as we receive them over the next month, without any bias – last year we had children leave us, destined for 13 different Primary Schools!

Applications for Primary School are made online at www.eani.org.uk through the same Parent Portal you used when applying for a place in our Nursery School.

The Application process will be open from 10th to 24th January 2025.

Pick Up Times

Please ensure that you arrive promptly at the end of your child's Nursery session. Late pick ups can be distressing for your child and they also restrict the amount of cleaning and preparation time staff have to set up for the next sessions.

Jo Jingles



We have begun our Jo Jingles Music and Movement sessions, once a month until the end of the year. Jo Jingles' music and movement programmes are designed with the Early Learning Goals in mind and help to develop:

- 🎵 Communication & Language
- 🎵 Listening Skills
- 🎵 Numeracy Skills
- 🎵 Physical Development
- 🎵 Creativity & Imagination
- 🎵 Memory
- 🎵 Personal Social & Emotional Development .

Our next session with Jo and Gillian will be on 13th November, during normal session times.

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 11th Nov – Start of Book Lending Scheme

Wednesday 13th Nov – Jo Jingles

Friday 22nd Nov – Wee Critters Animal Roadshow at Dunclug Primary School

Tuesday 26th Nov – Mr Hullabaloo at Ballymena Primary School (Red and Yellow Classes)

Thursday 28th Nov – Individual Photographs (Cool 4 School Photographer)



Birthday Boys and Girls

Happy Birthday to these special children, who will be celebrating their birthdays this month-

Red Class –

Abigail

Caoimhin

Ollie

Many Thanks for your continued support,

Pamela Muir