



February 2026 News

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February may be the shortest (and now the wettest) month of the year, but, as always, we have had a very busy month with lots of fun activities and events squeezed in for our boys and girls.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEW WEEK



PTC

Thank you for your huge support, not only for your children, but also for our staff, through your engagement in our February Parent Teacher Consultations. As a school we value the relationship you have with us. It is important to us, as a community of learners, to have you in partnership with us, and your children at the core of our decision making, continuous improvement and raising standards.



SAFER INTERNET DAY 2025

Safer Internet Day took place on the 17th of February 2026, with activities, discussion and learning based around the theme "Exploring the Safe and Responsible use of AI". Safer Internet Day is the UK's biggest celebration of online safety. Each year we cover an online issue or theme that speaks about the things pupils are seeing and experiencing online at their own level within school.



Internet Safety Day 2026



Learning how to use AI safely





CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 2026

February celebrated Children's Mental Health Week. We talked about the importance of looking after our minds as well as our bodies. The theme this year is 'This Is My Place'. We talked about our favourite places and the people who make these places special. We talked about how belonging feels like a safe place or situation, with things we enjoy, and people that make us feel secure and cared for! Some of our ideas included sport clubs, home, school, friendships, church, family.

We talked about how we can make others feel they belong; asking them to play, checking if they are okay if they look upset. Everyone should feel included, and we should treat all people with kindness to feel valued and welcomed. ❤️



ASHWOOD VETS VISIT TO NURSERY

A huge thank you to Niall from Ashwood Vets for coming to visit us in Nursery. We discussed what we should do to keep our pets healthy and what foods they should eat. Some of us got to use the veterinary equipment and pretend to be surgeons!





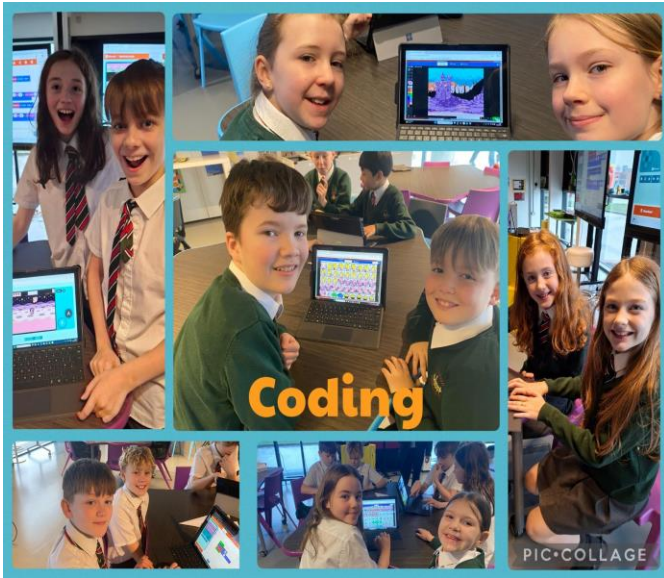
Visit to Dreamspace in W5life



PIC•COLLAGE

P7 DREAMSPACE IN W5LIFE

P7 went to DreamSpace in W5 Life during February. The boys and girls had the opportunity to take part in STEM challenges, lots of great coding activities and even created their own computer games. A great experience!



Coding

PIC•COLLAGE



Tower champions 2026

PIC•COLLAGE



STEM @ Dreamspace

PIC•COLLAGE



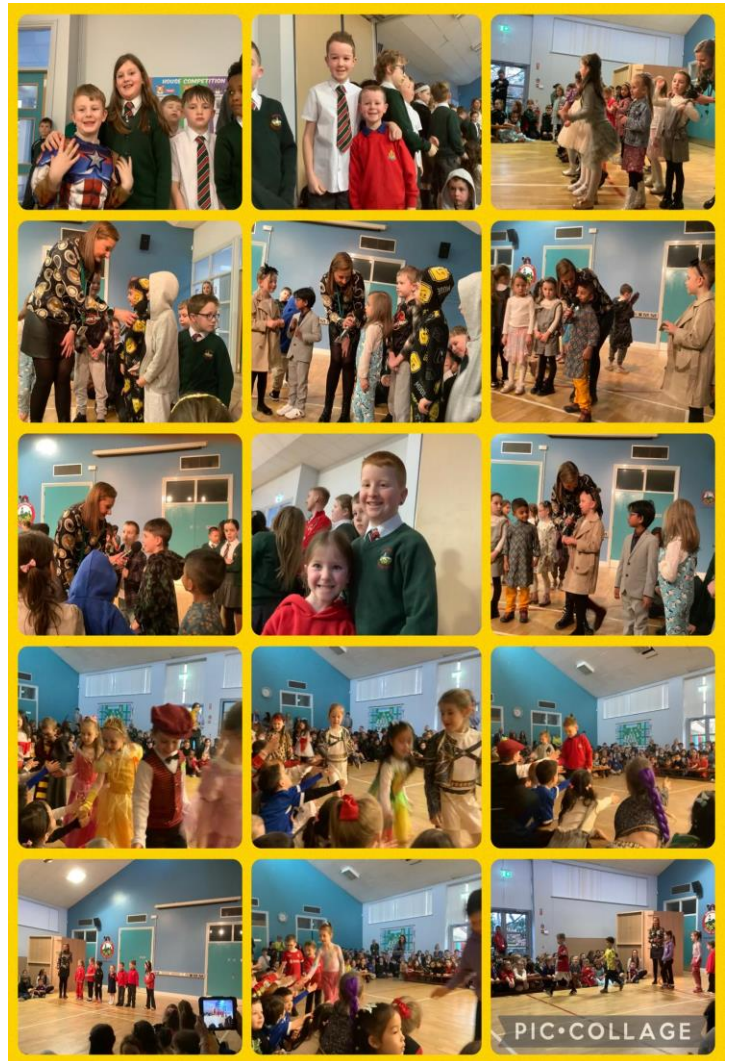
Loads of coding activities!



PIC•COLLAGE

P2 FASHION SHOW

P2 pupils had a wonderful morning hosting a Clothes Show in the Assembly Hall as part of their topic. This was very exciting as the rest of the school came to watch the performance.



P7 TITANIC VISITOR

Suzie came to visit our P7 pupils following their tour of Titanic Belfast. One of Suzie's family members was on the Titanic, and she came to share her family story with the pupils.

This week we had a visit from Susie Millar whose great grandfather was on Titanic. Tommy Millar worked for Harland and Wolff on the construction of Titanic, but sadly his wife died and he was left to look after his 2 young boys. Tommy made the decision to travel to New York and make plans to begin a new life there with his children. He left Harland and Wolff and got a job on Titanic as an engineer. His 2 boys were left behind with family and before he left on Titanic, he give each boy a 1912 penny, telling them to keep the pennies safe until the family was reunited. Tommy died in the disaster and the boys kept their pennies. Susie now looks after them and they are regularly on display in America.



P5 Foodbank Friday!

On Friday 20th February, we will be collecting donations to support Dundonald Foodbank.



P5 FOODBANK VISIT

A huge thank you to our incredibly kind and generous P5 families for their wonderful support of February's foodbank collection. We were overwhelmed by your generosity, with over 300 items donated! Karen and Carole from Dundonald Foodbank visited P5 to share how much of a difference these donations will make to local families. They explained their shelves are currently emptier than ever, while the number of people needing support continues to rise. Thank you once again to all our families for your generosity, and most importantly to our fantastic P5 pupils, who have shown such kindness, compassion and a real desire to help others. We are incredibly proud of you all!



FOOD THIEVES SPOTTED IN NURSERY!

Our boys and girls in Nursery have been keeping a close eye out this month to work out why all of the bird food is disappearing!!

Our clever Nursery Detectives managed to catch the thief in action this month!!!



PANCAKE TUESDAY
 February wouldn't be February without the smell of pancakes drifting throughout school & Nursery.... And the odd pancake splatted on a classroom floor!



The Gathering Drum
 Lots of music travelled down the hill this month from Nursery!! The Gathering Drum visited the AM & PM class with such a fun visit from Joe and his instruments. We developed our attention skills, listening skills, counting skills and awareness of music/rhythm as we played musical instruments and sang songs. 😊





P2 FIRE SERVICE VISIT
 The Fire Service announced their arrival in February to visit P2 with their sirens blasting before the hose was at full power in the playground. P2 had a wonderful time exploring the Fire Engine, dressing up and asking lots of questions. A huge thankyou to the NIFRS for giving P2 their time and wonderful experience.



P5 INTERGENERATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

We are delighted to see our P5HC Inter-Generational partnership flourish again this year with the residents of Grahamsbridge Manor. The boys and girls had a great afternoon getting to know lots of new friends and look forward to next month and the "Board Games" afternoon..... and of course tea & biscuits



Netball

This month our Netball teams have been busy in action.

Our P7 team competed in the local Blitz at Blair Mayne, winning all 5 of their games:

Dundonald 2 - Victoria 0 Dundonald 9 - Alexander Dickson 0 Dundonald 1 - Millisle 0
Dundonald 5 - Brooklands 0 Dundonald 2 - Glenraig 1

The mixed P7&P6 team, played at the Nendrum tournament and came away with a fantastic win and a few losses after some tricky matches. We're very proud of how much the girls have learned and developed their skills since starting netball club. 🏐 Thank you to the parents who assisted with transport and came along to support us.



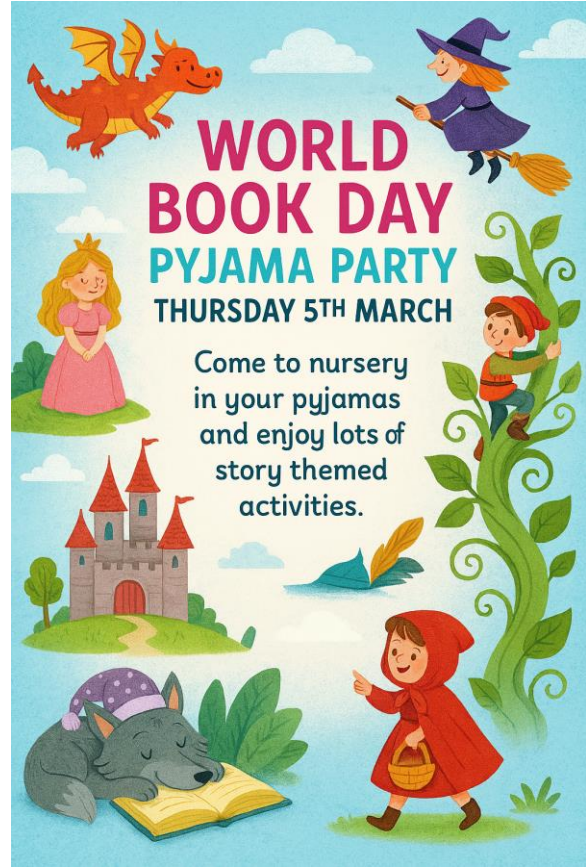
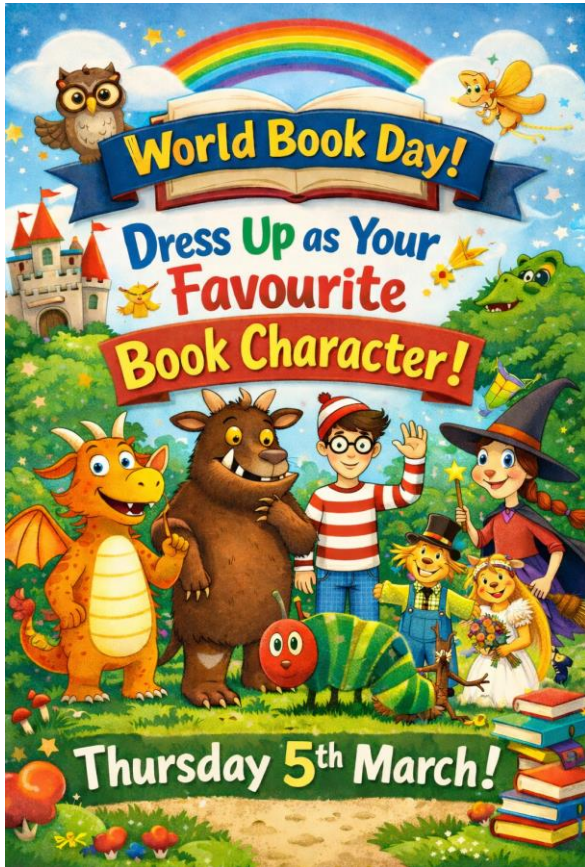
Hockey

Our Hockey teams represented us at 4 competitions in February. The boys and girls were both in action at the local blitz days....then we had the big qualifying tournaments for the Ulster Hockey Pearson Cup & McCloy Cup.

Both teams did exceptionally well with the girls reaching the Quarter-Final of their competition, losing to Rathmore Primary School, and the boys reaching the Semi-Final and losing to Ballyholme Primary School. Well done to both teams in coming so close to reaching the NI finals.



COMING UP: WORLD BOOK DAY THURSDAY 5TH MARCH 2026



PTA

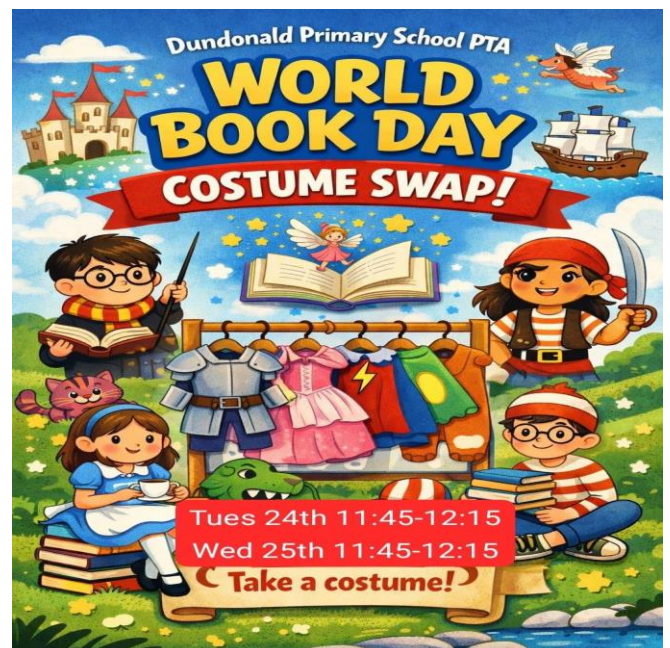
A huge thank you to our PTA for the fantastic February Movie Night and to all of our families who attended.

Thank you also to our PTA for organising the Costume Swap in advance of world book day and to all of the families who donated outgrown costumes.

Our PTA have also kindly organised a Story Dome by Vicky McFarland & a visit from author Masako Carey for the boys and girls as part of a successful bid for a Literacy Week grant.

Our Summer Fair has been scheduled for Tuesday 9th June 2026. We will send a Dojo message out in due course but if you would like to get in early and reserve a stall at the Fair, please get in touch with our team at Dundonald PTA dundonaldpta@gmail.com

Next meeting: **Tuesday 10th March 7pm** in the Staffroom



Dyslexia Coffee Morning

We have a new date for our dyslexia awareness coffee morning. Our new date is **Tuesday 10th March at 9:30am**. Susan Monks from the British Dyslexia Association will be joining us to share some information about dyslexia. We hope to see you there 😊



HOUSE PROGRESS AWARDS, BEHAVIOUR & UNIFORM – FEBRUARY 2026

Lions 5510	Tigers 5480	Cheetahs 5410	Jaguars 5770	Leopards 5800
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ATTENDANCE AWARDS - FEBRUARY 2026

P1-P2	Miss McNeill	98.8%
P3-P4	Mrs Brannigan	98.6%
P5-P7	Mr Beattie	97.7%



WHO TO CONTACT

If you need to contact us regarding your son/daughter, please do not hesitate to do so in the following order:

1. Initial contact with your child's teacher
2. Your child's head of Key Stage:
Head of Nursery **Mrs McConaghy**
Head of Foundation Stage (P1 & P2) **Mrs McGonigle**
Head of Key Stage 1 (P3 & P4) **Mrs Dodds**
Head of Key Stage 2 (P5, P6 & P7) **Miss Ellis**
3. SENCo **Mrs Savage**
4. Vice Principal **Mrs Burns**
5. Principal **Mr Massey**



SAFEGUARDING

Please remember, if you have any concerns about your child, or another child inside or outside school, you should share these concerns with us. When a child is in school, we are responsible for keeping them safe from harm and abuse. In Dundonald Primary School & Nursery Unit we strive to create a safe learning environment, identify children who are suffering from or may be at risk of harm and take suitable action.

If you have any concerns, please share them with:

Mrs S Burns (Designated Teacher for Child Protection & Safeguarding)

Mrs M Savage (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection & Safeguarding)

Mr D Massey (Safeguarding Team)



PUPIL & TRAFFIC SAFETY

If you see any cars driving dangerously or parking without care in the neighbouring streets, please report their registration to the local PSNI immediately.



DATES & COMMUNICATION



ClassDojo

Please continue to check your ClassDojo and please follow the school Facebook Page and Synced Website Calendar for updates on the exciting events happening in school throughout the very busy year ahead.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550216596814>



FEBRUARY 2026

M	23	P1-P6 Parent Teacher Interview Week – Pupils in P1-P7 finish at lunchtime unless attending Shrek rehearsals Gathering drum in Nursery Fire Service visiting P2
T	24	Annual Reviews PTA costume Swap 11:45-12:15
W	25	P1-P3 Story Dome PTA costume Swap 11:45-12:15
T	26	Annual Reviews P1-P3 Story Dome
F	27	

MARCH 2026

M	2	Literacy Week Annual Reviews
T	3	Literacy Week & Book Fair P6 Transferring to Post Primary meeting 6:30pm Assembly Hall
W	4	Literacy Week & Book Fair Jag Tag American Football P7
T	5	Literacy Week & Book Fair WORLD BOOK DAY 2pm Football Team @ Saintfield
F	6	Book Fair P7 Science with Campbell College
M	9	Ark farm visiting Nursery Extra Brass Tuition
T	10	PTA meeting Dyslexia Coffee Morning in Hall 9.30am
W	11	P7 Learning Community @ Tor Bank World of Owls P7 Science with Campbell College Jag Tag American Football P7

T	12	Orangefield Cross Country - Belfast Schools P6 Bird Ringing Football 2:30pm: Dundonald vs Killinchy; Dundonald vs West Winds
F	13	
M	16	Science Week Gathering Drum in Nursery
T	17	Pupils stop at Lunchtime – No EA meals or transport
W	18	P7 Science with Campbell College Jag Tag American Football P7 P5HC @ Grahamsbridge Manor
T	19	Scientific Sue in Hall Netball Tournament @ Strathearn Football v Victoria Primary and v Londonderry Primary
F	20	Scientific Sue in Hall P2 Aspire @ Longstone P7 Aspire @ Tor Bank
M	23	NUMERACY WEEK Notification of Nursery & Primary 1 places
T	24	Edinburgh Meeting in Hall 6:30pm
W	25	
T	26	Rockstar Maths Day
F	27	
M	30	Easter Holidays
T	31	Easter Holidays

APRIL 2026

W	1	Easter Holidays
T	2	Easter Holidays
F	3	Easter Holidays
M	6	Easter Holidays
T	7	Easter Holidays
W	8	Easter Holidays
T	9	Easter Holidays
F	10	Easter Holidays
M	13	Term 3 begins for all pupils
T	14	Mr Hullabaloo in Nursery
W	15	
T	16	P2 Aspire @ Longstone
F	17	
M	20	Gathering drum in Nursery P2 Aspire @ Dundonald P7 Aspire Longstone visiting for Matinee
T	21	SCHOOL SHOW "SHREK"
W	22	SCHOOL SHOW "SHREK"
T	23	SCHOOL SHOW "SHREK"
F	24	P4 AW @War Museum
M	27	
T	28	Belfast Schools Cross-Country Finals - Mallusk
W	29	Class & Team Photographs
T	30	P7 Aspire @ TBC Class & Team Photographs P4 JB @War Museum

MAY 2026

F	1	SDD4 School Closed for pupils
M	4	Bank Holiday
T	5	P7 in Edinburgh P4 JB @War Museum
W	6	P7 in Edinburgh
T	7	P7 in Edinburgh
F	8	P7 in Edinburgh P2 Aspire @ Dundonald
SA	9	Post Primary Y8 Placements
M	11	P4 NM @War Museum
T	12	
W	13	
T	14	
F	15	P7 Aspire @ Stormont Whole P1 @ Streamvale Farm
M	18	P6 Registration opens for SEAG 2026 Nursery "Stay & Play Day"
T	19	
W	20	P7 love for life workshop X2 P4 classes @ Folk Museum Wee Critters in P3
T	21	
F	22	
M	25	Bank Holiday
T	26	SDD5 - School Closed for pupils
W	27	Transformation Day - School Closed for pupils
T	28	
F	29	P2 Aspire @ Tor Bank P7 Aspire @ Tor Bank

JUNE 2026

M	1	P3 in Mount Stewart
T	2	
W	3	LORNE RESIDENTIAL GROUP 1 P3 in Mount Stewart P6 taster event @ Strathearn & Campbell College
T	4	LORNE RESIDENTIAL GROUP 1
F	5	LORNE RESIDENTIAL GROUP 1
M	8	
T	9	PTA Summer Fair 6pm-8pm
W	10	X2 P4 classes @ Folk Museum
T	11	W5 trip for P.5 SM & HC
F	12	P6 Birds of Prey W5 trip for P.5 KS & TS P2 Exploris Touch Tank visiting
M	15	LORNE RESIDENTIAL GROUP 2
T	16	LORNE RESIDENTIAL GROUP 2
W	17	LORNE RESIDENTIAL GROUP 2
T	18	
F	19	
M	22	
T	23	

W	24	Fizz Wizz Pop magician in nursery
T	25	Whole school final assembly & house awards
F	26	School stops at lunchtime - P7 Farewell Assembly (Staff & P7 Parents)
M	29	
T	30	Last Day of Term 3



Inspire. Believe. Achieve

"Through nurture we Inspire a love of learning, Believe in our abilities, and empower each other to Achieve our personal best within a supportive school community."