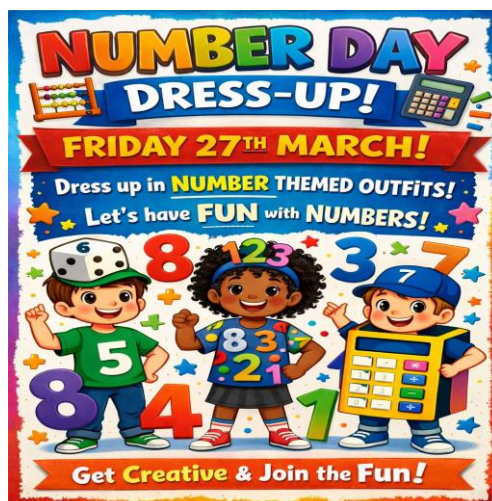




## March 2026 News

### WELCOME

It has been lovely to have some dry weather this month and to see the boys and girls enjoying the outdoors, especially our lovely forest school areas and surrounding school grounds. When the daffodils start appearing we know March is upon us and our activities beyond the classroom begin to multiply. In addition to everything outside the classroom, March is also very busy with Literacy Week, Science Week and we end the month with Numeracy Week and Rockstar Maths Day!



### Literacy Week & World Book Day

March began with a fantastic week of fun activities during Literacy Week, notably dressing up for World Book Day, the Book Fair and funding gained by our PTA for the Story Dome and our Story Telling visitor. As part of our literacy week celebrations, we also had our Through the Keyhole competition, where the children were encouraged to dream big and design their own extraordinary worlds - places filled with wonder, adventure, and the magic found in the stories we read and love. Massive congratulations to the following winners who received their prize of a £25 book voucher:

P1 - Teddy P1KG P2 - Emily P2JM P3 - River P3LC P4 - Bethan P4JB P5 - Penelope P5SM  
P6 - Raizel P6TM P7 - Sophie P7TB



## Storytelling with Masako Carey





In the afternoon the P2s had storytime together. Mrs Sunerton read 'The Day the Crayons Quit'



## SCIENCE WEEK

Following on from Literacy Week, Science Week was next up on the calendar in March. In addition to lots of fun experiments in our classrooms, we also had a visit from Scientific Sue!!



## Scientific Sue!





### NURSERY VISITORS

The Gathering Drum were back making lots of noise and music in our Nursery.



### DOCTORS & NURSES

P1 had to call the medical services this month. Luckily everyone was treated at the scene, were well looked after, and made a full recovery!! P1 had a fantastic time learning more about how to keep healthy and the role of "People Who Help Us." 🚑🍎 Thank you to the professionals who came in to speak with P1 and allowing us to look at and play with lots of equipment. 🩺👩‍⚕️

### DOCTOR VISIT





### ARK FARM IN NURSERY

The Ark Farm provided a wonderful hands on experience for our boys and girls in Nursery this month with lots of interaction with the animals.



### MY MIND & ME

P5 had a lovely visit this month from *My Mind & Me* and enjoyed fun workshops in class this month, exploring fun well-being activities.



**WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY**

March was also the month to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day and the boys and girls were delighted to mark the occasion by wearing their fun socks for the day.



**5 School Learning Community**

Some of our P7 pupils represented us at the 5 school Dundonald Learning Community hosted this month in Tor Bank. The special guest was "The World of Owls" and the pupils had a fantastic hands on experience and asked lots of interesting questions.



## BIRDS & BATS VISITOR

P6 had a visit from Aidan in partnership with Lisburn and Castlereagh Council. We heard about bird ringing and built two bat boxes for our school grounds. He inspired us to be curious, have fun and care for the nature around us.



## GOLF

This month saw the introduction of Golf classes for P6 hosted by Dylan from Skill School, and hopefully this will open up to other year groups as an after school club in the summer term.



## NETBALL

This month our P7 netball girls who played in matches as part of the Belfast Schools' Competition League. The girls played brilliantly and came away with 3 fantastic wins and 3 very tight and hardly fought defeats. Match scores:  
Dundonald 8 - Methody B 0  
Dundonald 6 - Strandtown A 2  
Dundonald 2 - Millennium 4  
Dundonald 2 - Victoria Prep 3  
Dundonald 2 - Strandtown B 0  
Dundonald 0 - Methody A 2  
Well done girls!



## RUGBY

Well done to our excellent boys rugby squad for their first fixtures of the 2026 rugby calendar - The Methody Festival. In the beautiful sunshine, our boys played against several formidable opponents, including teams from Strandtown, Downshire, Methody Prep and Moneyrea. On the day, our results were: 2 wins, 1 draw and 3 competitive defeats. Congratulations to our P6 players, who represented our school rugby team for the first time! Well done boys!



## CROSS-COUNTRY

The wettest and muddiest morning imaginable did not deter our P6 and P7 boys and girls who competed in the Belfast Schools Cross Country race at Bloomfield Park, Orangefield. We had podiums and medals galore!!! Well done to our boys and girls, many of which will now race in the overall finals in Mallusk in April 🏆🏆



### FOOTBALL

Congratulations to our football teams who have had lots of fixtures this month. Well done to everyone who represented the school in the various leagues we are competing in:

- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Dundonald 0 - 2 St Caolan's  | Saintfield League             |
| Dundonald 1 - 1 Ballynahinch | Saintfield League             |
| Dundonald 1 - 1 Killyleagh   | Saintfield League             |
| Dundonald 0 - 2 Moneyrea     | Saintfield League             |
| Dundonald 4 - 0 Killinchy    | Newtownards and District PSFA |
| Dundonald 5 - 1 West Winds   | Newtownards and District PSFA |

### 🏆🏆 7-A-Side league champions! 🏆🏆

March saw our final round of fixtures in the 16 matches in the Newtownards and District PSFA League.

Our team gave absolutely everything they had & came away with a win and a draw.

- Dundonald 2-1 Londonderry
- Dundonald 0-0 Victoria

This means win finish our league campaign with 33 points and share the title with Newtownards Model.

A huge congratulations to every pupil who has represented our team over the past seven months. Winning the league is a huge achievement and they can proudly call themselves CHAMPIONS! 🏆

After Easter, we can look forward to lifting the league trophy and competing for the 9-a-side Cup!





**PTA**

A big thank you to our PTA and Literacy Team for the superb Book Fair, Story Dome & Storyteller this month during Literacy Week. A staggering total of **£6967.47** was spent by everyone who attended and a huge thank you again for your fantastic support.

Any business owners within the local community who would like to support us in the form of a raffle prize for our School Musical Production to be held during April and/or our upcoming Summer Fair in June 2026, we'd really appreciate your support. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with our PTA team.

If you would like to become involved in our PTA, please contact Andrew our chairperson: [dundonaldpta@gmail.com](mailto:dundonaldpta@gmail.com)



**HOUSE PROGRESS AWARDS, BEHAVIOUR & UNIFORM – MARCH 2026**

Lions <b>6640</b>	Tigers <b>6460</b>	Cheetahs <b>6600</b>	Jaguars <b>6840</b>	Leopards <b>6960</b>
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**ATTENDANCE AWARDS - MARCH 2026**

P1-P2	Miss Horner	96.2%
P3-P4	Mrs Brannigan	97.7%
P5-P7	Miss Patton	95.2%



## 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)



## 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**



## 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 term ahead.

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



The 2026-2027 School Holidays can now be accessed on our website:

<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/dundonald-primary-school/UploadedDocument/452125e1-4dd4-4fd1-b8cb-8bbf65a5b38e/2026-2027-holidays.pdf>

## MARCH 2026

M	23	NUMERACY WEEK Notification of Nursery & Primary 1 places
T	24	Lyric Theatre visiting P4 Edinburgh Meeting in Hall 6:30pm

<b>W</b>	<b>25</b>	9:30 – 12 P4 + P5 Danske Bank visiting Jag Tag competition at Ballybeen Hub
<b>T</b>	<b>26</b>	Jag Tag competition at Ballybeen Hub
<b>F</b>	<b>27</b>	Rockstar Maths Day End of Term 2: half day finish
<b>M</b>	<b>30</b>	Easter Holidays
<b>T</b>	<b>31</b>	Easter Holidays

#### APRIL 2026

<b>W</b>	<b>1</b>	Easter Holidays
<b>T</b>	<b>2</b>	Easter Holidays
<b>F</b>	<b>3</b>	Easter Holidays
<b>M</b>	<b>6</b>	Easter Holidays
<b>T</b>	<b>7</b>	Easter Holidays
<b>W</b>	<b>8</b>	Easter Holidays
<b>T</b>	<b>9</b>	Easter Holidays
<b>F</b>	<b>10</b>	Easter Holidays
<b>M</b>	<b>13</b>	Term 3 begins for all pupils
<b>T</b>	<b>14</b>	Mr Hullabaloo in Nursery
<b>W</b>	<b>15</b>	
<b>T</b>	<b>16</b>	P2 Aspire @ Longstone
<b>F</b>	<b>17</b>	Jag Tag competition at Lough Moss Leisure Centre
<b>M</b>	<b>20</b>	Gathering drum in Nursery P2 Aspire @ Dundonald P7 Aspire Longstone visiting for Matinee
<b>T</b>	<b>21</b>	SCHOOL SHOW "SHREK"
<b>W</b>	<b>22</b>	SCHOOL SHOW "SHREK"
<b>T</b>	<b>23</b>	SCHOOL SHOW "SHREK" 9-a-side football league v Andrews Memorial
<b>F</b>	<b>24</b>	P4 AW @War Museum
<b>M</b>	<b>27</b>	
<b>T</b>	<b>28</b>	Belfast Schools Cross-Country Finals - Mallusk
<b>W</b>	<b>29</b>	Class & Team Photographs
<b>T</b>	<b>30</b>	P7 Aspire @ TBC Class & Team Photographs P4 JB @War Museum

#### MAY 2026

<b>F</b>	<b>1</b>	SDD4 School Closed for pupils
<b>M</b>	<b>4</b>	Bank Holiday
<b>T</b>	<b>5</b>	P7 in Edinburgh P4 DF @War Museum P2 @ Hillmount
<b>W</b>	<b>6</b>	P7 in Edinburgh P2 @ Hillmount
<b>T</b>	<b>7</b>	P7 in Edinburgh P2 @ Hillmount
<b>F</b>	<b>8</b>	P7 in Edinburgh P2 Aspire @ Dundonald P2 @ Hillmount
<b>SA</b>	<b>9</b>	Post Primary Y8 Placements

M	11	P4 NM @War Museum Prayer Space – Church on the Green Rockport Netball Tournament
T	12	PTA 7pm
W	13	
T	14	Netball Tournament @ Moneyrea
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 Athletics Competition at Bangor Sportsplex
T	21	Provisional date for P1-P3 Sports Day
F	22	Provisional date for P4-P7 Sports Day
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 Parents Afternoon for New P1 families
T	2	Parents morning for New Nursery families Parents Afternoon for New P1 families
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	Induction Day for new nursery pupils <b>PTA Summer Fair 6pm-8pm</b>
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 P6 Boys – Coding @ Ashfield Boys School
W	17	LORNE RESIDENTIAL GROUP 2 Athletics Competition at Bangor Sportsplex
T	18	
F	19	
M	22	
T	23	

<b>W</b>	<b>24</b>	Fizz Wizz Pop magician in nursery Whole school final assembly & house awards
<b>T</b>	<b>25</b>	P7 Fun Day, Bouncy Castles etc
<b>F</b>	<b>26</b>	School stops at lunchtime - P7 Farewell Assembly (Staff & P7 Parents)
<b>M</b>	<b>29</b>	
<b>T</b>	<b>30</b>	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.”