



Dunvegan Nursery School

Let the learning begin

Newsletter No. 4

April 2026

Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our recent AGM. It was a wonderful evening of connection and shared purpose, and we are truly grateful for your ongoing support of our school.

A special thank you to Raksha for the delicious cheese and wine, and to The Landing for supplying the wonderful eats that made the evening even more enjoyable.

We were privileged to hear from Lynnette Johnston, whose insightful talk on “risky play” left us with much to reflect on. She highlighted the growing concern around what has been termed “the great rewiring of childhood” — where children are increasingly overprotected in the real world and under protected in the virtual one.

Her message reminded us that play is the true work of childhood. Through unstructured, child-led play — especially play that includes manageable risks — children learn to problem-solve, regulate emotions, resolve conflict, and build resilience. Physical risk, when appropriately managed, teaches children how to keep themselves and others safe. These experiences are essential in developing confidence, competence, and independence.

She also spoke about the decline of risky play due to factors such as parental fear, academic pressure, and the “safety-first paradox.” Importantly, she encouraged us to aim to keep children “as safe as necessary,



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not as safe as possible,” allowing space for growth through challenge, exploration, and discovery. Together, we can support our children in becoming strong, capable, and confident individuals.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the parents who so willingly raised their hands to support the school in the year ahead — whether as EXCO members, or as volunteers assisting with fundraising and hot dog days. Your willingness to give your time and energy is deeply appreciated.

As a community, we function much like an orchestra. Each parent, teacher, and staff member represents a unique instrument. On our own, each plays an important part — but together, we create something far more powerful: a harmonious symphony that supports and uplifts every child in our care.

Following the AGM, some parents requested a more detailed list of the special projects planned for the year ahead. We are excited to share these with you. If you are able to assist with time, materials, or donations, we would be most grateful. While some projects can be achieved with the help of Walter, our dedicated groundskeeper, and Barney, our school handyman, all initiatives require funding — some are simple and achievable, while others will require more extensive fundraising efforts.

Smaller Projects:

- Seal the mud kitchen in the sensory garden with marine sealer.
- Add new fairy accessories to the fairy garden.
- Top up gravel in the sensory garden.
- Install new fairy lights in the garden.
- Purchase additional metal watering cans for the children to enjoy.
- Replace sandpit toys across all three sandpit areas.
- Repair and restore a wooden bench, apply a fresh coat of lilac paint and seal to prevent weather damage.
- Refresh the therapy room with new paint, signage, and posters.
- Hang a photo gallery in the foyer and update it with current black and white images.
- Update website photos to reflect current school spaces and daily life.
- Repaint classroom tables and selected furniture.
- Paint the stairs leading into the Purple Group and changing area.
- Install three rope and tyre swings in the Purple garden.
- Add a small freestanding slide in the Purple garden.
- Repair door closures between the foyer and Red Group, and between Green and Blue Groups.
- Replace the carport next to Yellow Group.



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Larger Projects:

- Repaint the entire school and adjoining buildings, including roofs, walls, and window and door frames.
- Install roll-out speed bumps on both sides of the road leading to the car park.
- Repaint the metal jungle gym equipment using a more durable, long-term solution.

We are excited about what lies ahead and look forward to working together to bring these projects to life.

Public & School Holidays

Please take note that the school will **not be open** on the following public holidays:

3rd of April – Good Friday

6th of April – Family Day

27th of April – Freedom Day

1st of May – Workers' Day

15th of June – Special school holiday

16th of June – Youth Day

Hot Dog Day

The next hot dog day will be on **Friday the 24th of April**.

Mother's Day Celebration **SAVE THE DATE**



Moms (or any other significant female) please join us on the **8th of May** **from 07:30-9:00 am** as we celebrate you and your special connection with your little one/s. More details will follow soon.



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Overheard in Class:

Teacher: What are you making for Baker's Day?

Child: Teenage Gluten Ninja turtles.

Child to teacher: My tummy is sore. It's crumbling.

Extra – Murals

Mondays		
Little Lab Coats 12:00	Nadia	082-349-1481
Gymnastics 12:30	Laverne	084-023-1987
Tuesdays		
Build Em Bricks 12:30		011-882-3428
Tribal Blue	Alessandra	076-523-0059
Messy Play	Steph	076-329-4311
Wednesday		
Pottery 12:30	Angie	083-258-2804
Soccer Starz 12:30	Shane	084-293-3305
Dance Mouse 12:30	Demi	069 -523 -9251
Thursdays		
Karate 12:30	Bradley	082-926-9517
Playfit 12:30		076-795-9415
Ballet	Andrea	082-964-8104
Friday		
Tumbling Tigerz 12:30	Tiago	066-225-8569
Growing Beautiful Minds 12:30	Laura	072-796-7842



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Lost Property

Please mark everything. The children often have similar items of clothing and shoes. Please check the lost property regularly. All unmarked, unclaimed belongings are donated to charity as we are unable to accommodate the large volume. We encourage a sense of responsibility in the children. The teachers remind children to place their own belongings in their lockers or bags, but do not do so for them.



End Term 1 and Term 2 Dates:

Date	
30 th of March to 7 th of April	Holiday Club
3 rd & 6 th of April	School closed – Good Friday & Family Day
8 th of April	Start Term 2
14 th & 16 th of April	Hearing Screening
23 rd of April	Character Dress up Day
24 th of April	Hotdog Day
27 th of April	School closed (Freedom Day)
1 st of May	School closed (Workers' Day)
8 th of May	Mother's Day tea 7:30-9am
15 th of May	Cappuccino/Hot chocolate and croissant Fundraiser
21 st of May	Innings: Puppet Show for the kiddies



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29 th of May	Slipper Day Hotdog Day
5 th of June	PJ Party
15 th of June	School Closed (School Holiday)
16 th of June	School Closed (Youth Day)
19 th of June	Father's Day Tea: 7:30-9am
24 th of June	Reports to be emailed out.
26 th of June	Hotdog Day Break up Day (End Term 2)

This Month's themes	Purple group	Younger Groups	Older groups
8 th – 10 th of April	Reptiles	Emotions	Shapes (2D & 3D)
13 th – 17 th of April	Reptiles	Day & Night	Farm animals
20 th – 24 th of April	Farm Animals	Farm Animals	Day & Night
28 th – 30 th of April	Farm Animals	Safety	Caring for our world

We operate on an open-door policy and are more than happy to discuss your child's progress and any questions that you may have. However, it is not always possible for the teachers to chat during the school



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morning. They are more than happy to make an appointment for a suitable time when they are not busy with the children.

Please feel free to email me on admin@dunvegannurseryschool.co.za or call me on 011-453-7969 should you wish to discuss any matter. If I am not available, I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Cindy Keet

Principal

You have received this newsletter because you have a child who attends our school and we are committed to keeping all parents and/or guardians informed. If, however, you would prefer not to receive any further newsletters from us, please notify the Office Administrator by email: admin@dunvegannurseryschool.co.za.



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