

School Newsletter Friday 26th September 2025

Headteacher's insight

It has been another busy and productive week in school, and I am so proud of the way our children continue to embrace their learning. We are really beginning to see a shift in attitudes towards challenge – pupils are not only willing to step outside their comfort zones but are actively seeking out opportunities to push themselves further. This growing resilience is wonderful to see and something we will continue to nurture across all areas of school life.

A particular highlight this week has been **celebrating some outstanding home learning.** The creativity, effort and thought that children are putting into their responses is truly impressive, and it is such a joy to see their hard work proudly shared in class. Thank you for the encouragement and support you give at home, which makes such a difference.

I would also like to remind families of the **importance of regular times tables practice.** Tools such as Times Table Rock Stars can make this both fun and effective, and just a few minutes each day can have a real impact on children's fluency and confidence in maths.

Looking ahead, we are excited to welcome the **Book Fair to school next week.** These events are always a wonderful way to inspire a love of reading, and every purchase you make helps us to earn commission which we can spend on new books for our school. Thank you in advance for your support – it really does benefit all of our children.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Mrs Emily Thompson Executive Headteacher





Fen Ditton! 2nd -7th October 3.30pm-4pm

We are so excited to let you know that the **Scholastic Book Fair** will soon be arriving at Fen Ditton! This is a fantastic opportunity for children to explore a wide range of books and discover new authors and stories that will inspire a lifelong love of reading.

By supporting the fair, you'll be **helping every class in our school** – for every book purchased, we will receive rewards to spend on a brand-new set of reading books for each classroom's reading corner. Your support will directly benefit all our children and keep our school reading areas fresh, exciting, and

full of choice.



■ Please note: the fair is completely cashless this year.

All purchases will be made through a simple and secure QR code payment system directly to Scholastic





News from our classrooms

Dragonflies Class





Dragonflies have had a fun packed couple of weeks! They have been working hard on their fabulous learning behaviours and working together.

In English, we have been working towards writing a diary entry in the character of 'The Colour Monster'. We have worked together to talk about what would happen in the day of The Colour Monster, discussed vocabulary and even acted out our characters.

Art was a huge highlight for all this week, our focus was on creating lines while listening to music. There was so much focus and engagement throughout the classroom as the children 'took their pencil for a walk' and created lines that matched the style of music we were listening to. In computing, everyone enjoyed exploring programming beebots with instructions to move around the classroom!

A huge highlight for our week was reading with the Year 6 reading buddies! They all came to our classroom, and the children used their best story telling voices to read our phonics books to them.









Hedgehogs Class







What a busy and exciting week it has been in Year 4!

In Maths, we have been exploring number lines up to 10,000. The children particularly enjoyed taking their learning outside, using chalk to create giant number lines in the playground – a fun way to practise and challenge their understanding.

In English, our writing has been inspired by our class book Who Let the Gods Out. The children produced imaginative setting descriptions, focusing on a comet landing dramatically on Earth. Their writing was filled with fantastic vocabulary, painting vivid pictures for the reader.

We've also been busy getting creative in preparation for our performance of The Tin Man. The Hedgehogs have been making colourful flowers to decorate the set and have started learning the dance routine. The excitement is certainly building!

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Badgers Class



What an amazing week it has been in Badger Class!

We started the week by taking our English learning outdoors, opening up Forest School to explore the wonders of nature. Surrounded by trees, plants, and birdsong, we collected rich and exciting vocabulary to use in our work on The Lost Words. The children loved finding inspiration in the natural world and are already weaving these discoveries into their writing.

In history, our focus has been on the Vikings. Using both primary and secondary sources, we became historians, weighing up the evidence to decide whether the Vikings were raiders, traders, invaders or settlers. There were some fantastic debates in class, with everyone sharing thoughtful ideas and backing them up with evidence.

It's also been a very sporty week! Alongside our regular PE lessons, some children represented the school in football. They played with determination, skill, and—most importantly—brilliant teamwork. Back in class, we've been discussing respect, especially how we can show it in our online lives. The children had mature and sensible conversations about staying safe and kind when using the internet.

To finish off the week, Badger Class became storytellers and illustrators. We created stories and comics which we shared with our reading buddies in younger year groups. The children were so proud to see the younger ones enjoying their work—it was a lovely way to celebrate reading and creativity together.











Music Opportunities at Premier After School Club

We are excited to share that children attending **Premier After School Club on Thursdays** now have the opportunity to take part in guitar or piano lessons during the session. Lessons are delivered by one of the Premier staff and are a fantastic way for children to enjoy a combination of music learning and after school fun.

Children wishing to learn the guitar will need to bring their own instrument. To take part, simply book your child into the Thursday after school session and let the staff know you'd like them to have a music lesson. They can then enjoy both the club and their music tuition at the same time.





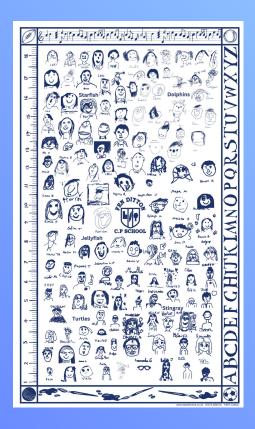




Pre-order Your 2025 Fen Ditton Tea Towel Keepsake

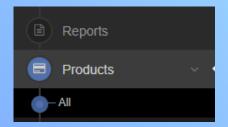
Following on from the success of last year's tea towels, we're pleased to announce your child will be drawing their self-portrait again for this year's edition! The tea towel will feature self-portraits from all children across every class, making it a wonderful gift and keepsake of their time at Fen Ditton.

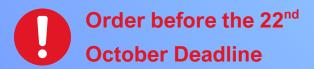
Tea towels are available for just £8 each, and you can order as many as you like via My Child At School > Products. Orders will be delivered to the school and distributed to children before the end of the Autumn Term—just in time for Christmas!



How to order

- Log into My Child At School
- Find Products > Tea Towels
- Add to basket!









Key dates for your diary



- Tuesday 30th September 7pm-9pm: PTFA AGM (All welcome)
- Thursday 2nd Tuesday 7th October: Book Fair
- Monday 13th & Tuesday 14th October: Harvest Donations for local food hub to be bought into school
- Tuesday 21st October: Individual school photographs Whole School
- Thursday 23rd October: Parent Workshop Children being active online- 5pm at Marleigh - open to all Fen Ditton and Marleigh parents, carers and friends, run by an external provider Eduthing and funded by the PTFA
- Friday 24th October: Parent Workshop Children being active online- 9am at Fen Ditton - open to all Fen Ditton and Marleigh parents, carers and friends, run by an external provider Eduthing and funded by the PTFA
- Friday 24th October: PTFA Halloween Bake Sale children invited to buy cake to enjoy at playtime, <u>cash only</u>
- Friday 24th October Last day of Autumn 1 half term





Reception Intake 2026 Open Days



Reception Open Day 2026

We invite you to visit our sister schools-Marleigh Primary Academy and Fen Ditton Community Primary to help you choose the best fit for your family.

Register today for a group tour:

Fen Ditton

Friday, 10th October at 2pm Thursday, 23rd October at 2pm Friday, 17th October at 2pm

Marleigh Primary Academy Friday, 3rd October at 2pm

If your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 you need to apply for Reception for September 2026.

Deadline for applications is 15th January 2026.

REGISTER NOW









Term Dates 2025-2026

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Inset Day – Monday 1 September
Inset Day – Tuesday 2 September
Inset Day – Wednesday 3 September
Autumn Term Starts – Thursday 4 September
School Ends – Friday 24 October
Half Term - 27 October - 31 October
Inset Day – Monday 3 November
School Starts – Tuesday 4 November
Autumn Term Ends – Friday 19 December

SPRING TERM 2026

Inset Day – Monday 5 January
Spring Term Starts – Tuesday 6 January
School Ends – Friday 13 February
Half Term - 16 February - 20 February
School Starts – Monday 23 February
Spring Term Ends – Friday 27 March

SUMMER TERM 2026

Summer Term Starts – Monday 13 April May Bank Holiday – Monday 4 May School Ends – Friday 22 May Half Term - 25 May – 29 May School Starts – Monday 1 June Summer Term Ends – Friday 17 July Inset Day – Monday 20 July







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