



School Newsletter Friday 10th October 2025



Headteacher's insight

As we move into the final two weeks of this half term, I'd like to take a moment to share some exciting updates, important notices, and reflections on the wonderful things happening across Fen Ditton Primary.

Firstly, a heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported our **Book Fair** last week. Your enthusiasm and purchases have helped us generate valuable funds that will be used to purchase new books for both our library and classrooms. We're excited to continue building a rich and diverse reading culture at Fen Ditton, and your support plays a key role in making that possible.

We are thrilled to announce that our **new playground markings will be installed next week—on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday**. These vibrant and engaging designs will help enrich playtimes and outdoor learning experiences for all our children. To ensure the installation runs smoothly and safely, we kindly ask for your support in adjusting drop-off and pick-up arrangements on those days. All children should be dropped off via the main entrance doors, and collected from the car park between 3:15pm and 3:30pm. We really appreciate your flexibility and cooperation with this temporary change.

This exciting development has been made possible thanks to the generous donation from our PTFA, whose continued support plays a vital role in enhancing the school environment. We are incredibly grateful for their commitment to our children's experiences and wellbeing.

Next week, we will also be **celebrating Harvest in school**. As part of this, we are inviting families to **contribute to a donation drive for Abbey People FoodHub**, which supports local families in need. **We are collecting tinned, canned and dry goods, and a collection station will be set up in the school entrance all week.** We warmly encourage families to send in donations to be added to our collective contribution. Thank you in advance for your generosity and community spirit.



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Continued.....

We've been particularly impressed by the children's creative responses to **home learning this half term**. Their engagement with the activity menu has been thoughtful and imaginative, and it's been a pleasure to see how they've interpreted tasks in their own unique ways. **Thank you to all parents and carers for supporting this learning at home—it really does make a difference.**

Last week, we welcomed two headteachers from other schools across the Trust, along with our Director of Primary, for a **peer review visit**. Their feedback was **extremely positive, highlighting the calm and purposeful learning environments, the warm and respectful relationships between staff and children, and the focused classrooms where children feel safe, supported, and confident to take on challenges**. It was a proud moment for our school and a testament to the dedication of our staff and the enthusiasm of our pupils.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. Fen Ditton is a special place, and it's the strength of our community that helps it thrive.



Mrs Thompson

Mrs Emily Thompson
Executive Headteacher



Exciting Playground Update!

We are delighted to share that our playground will soon have brand-new markings installed on the newly surfaced area. This exciting development will take place from Monday 13th to Wednesday 15th October.

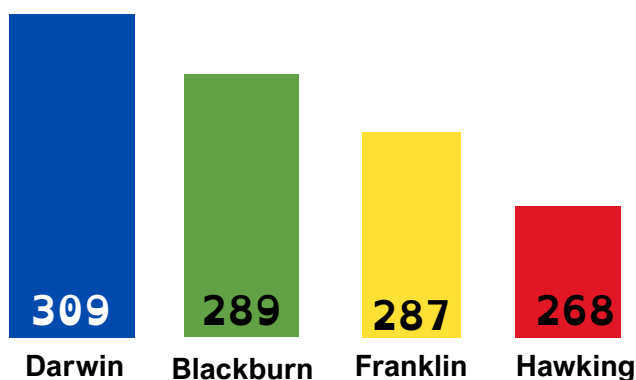
During this time, the front playground will be out of use. To ensure everything runs smoothly:

- Playtime and lunchtime will be organised in our other outdoor spaces
- Drop-off each morning will be through the main office entrance. Bikes will need to be left safely in the front car park until further notice.
- Collection will take place from the car park, beginning at 3:15pm (instead of the usual 3:30pm) to allow for a safe, staggered dismissal process.

We are so grateful to our PTFA for their incredible donation which has made these new markings possible. This improvement will benefit all our children and create a fun, engaging space for play and learning for years to come.



House Points





News from our classrooms



Dragonflies Class

We have had another fun filled, busy week in Dragonfly Class.

Everyone had an amazing time in history exploring the difference between toys and memories of different generations. Mrs Tabram and Miss Bicheno brought in a variety of memories from their childhoods which the children had a great time talking about and sorting into the correct groups.

PE has been a huge hit over the last two weeks, with a focus on dribbling and kicking balls with focus and control. All the children did a fantastic job of dribbling footballs and stopping them with their feet and played a variety of games to practise these skills.

During music we have been exploring dynamics (quiet and loud sounds) to create soundscapes of a seaside. This week everyone loved using a wide range of instruments to create the soundscape of a calm, relaxing ocean.

On top of all of this fabulous fun, the class have also been working hard to ensure they understand addition and number bonds to 10 and 20 in maths. Using lots of practical equipment to support them with this skill. During English we have focused closely on describing the colour monsters and have had fun using similes and a range of adjectives to make our writing exciting. Working towards writing a missing poster for our red colour monster who ran away!





Hedgehogs Class

On Wednesday, Hedgehogs class had a truly unforgettable day filled with creativity, collaboration, and community spirit!

Our day began with an inspiring trip to Stapleford Granary, where we joined other schools from the Anglian Learning Trust for a spectacular performance. The children took part in an immersive retelling of The Tin Man through expressive dance, rhythmic body percussion and singing. It was a joy to see our Year 4s embrace the challenge with such enthusiasm and confidence. Hedgehogs class truly rose to the occasion, captivating the audience with their energy and positive attitude!

After lunch, the excitement continued as we headed to a Tri-Golf event alongside Year 3 and students from Marleigh. The children showed fantastic sportsmanship, cheering each other on and celebrating every swing and putt. It was heartwarming to witness new friendships forming and encouragement flowing freely between teams.

Whether performing on stage or playing on the field, our Hedgehogs demonstrated resilience, creativity, and kindness. We're incredibly proud of how they represented our school.





Badgers Class



We are delighted to share an exciting update from Badgers Class! Over the past few weeks, the children have been exploring the fascinating world of Installation Art as part of our creative curriculum.

Working collaboratively in small groups, the children have designed and constructed small scale artworks that explore space and scale in imaginative and thought-provoking ways. This project has encouraged them to think beyond traditional art forms, using a variety of materials and techniques to transform our learning environment into a gallery of immersive experiences.

Through this process, pupils have developed key skills in:

- Teamwork and communication
- Creative problem-solving
- Spatial awareness and design thinking
- Reflective discussion and peer feedback

The children have shown great enthusiasm and creativity, and we are incredibly proud of their efforts.





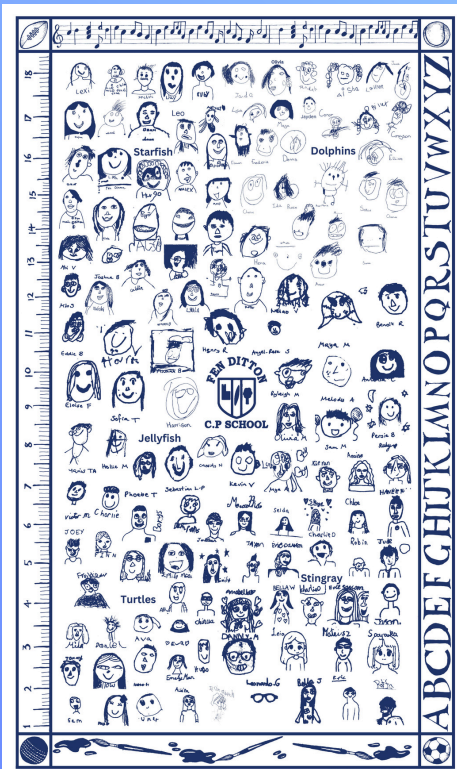
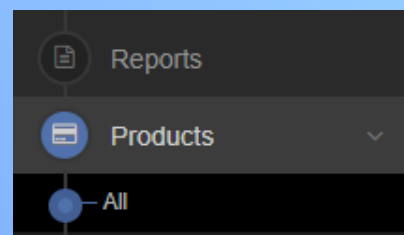
Pre-order Your 2025 Fen Ditton Tea Towel Keepsake

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!



**Order before the 22nd
October Deadline**



Key dates for your diary



- **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
- **Wednesday 22nd October:** Deadline for ordering school tea towel!
- **Friday 24th October:** PTFA Halloween Bake Sale - children invited to buy cake to enjoy at playtime, cash only
- **Friday 24th October** - Last day of Autumn 1 half term
- **Friday 31st October:** Deadline for Year 6 Secondary School Applications.



Calling All STEM Enthusiasts!
We are looking for parent volunteers to share their passion for Science, Technology, Engineering, or Maths by giving a short talk during a school assembly. If you work in a STEM field or have an interesting STEM hobby, we'd love for you to inspire our pupils! Please email office@fendittonprimary.org and put for the attention of Mrs McLachlan if you would like to take part or find out more.



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

Marleigh Primary Academy

Friday, 3rd October at 2pm

Friday, 17th October at 2pm

REGISTER NOW



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.



ANGLIAN LEARNING

The background of the poster is a vibrant, watercolor-style illustration. It features a central text area with a light blue and yellow background, surrounded by stacks of books on shelves at the top and bottom, and a large open book at the bottom center. The overall theme is educational and celebratory.

**Thank you for coming to our
book fair!**

**Every purchase you made
helped us to raise an
incredible
£508.36!**

**We plan to use the funds to
purchase new books for the
reading corners in each of
our classrooms.**



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

**You can now see our term dates
for 2026-2027 - click below!**

CLICK HERE