



School Newsletter Friday 5th December 2025

Headteacher's insight

As we enter this very special time of year with the beginning of Advent, the excitement is certainly growing across the school! Advent reminds us of the joy of anticipation, and we will be marking the season with activities that help the children reflect, celebrate, and prepare for the festive weeks ahead.

We have a wonderfully busy and exciting schedule planned as we move toward the end of term on 19th December. From performances and celebrations to special classroom events, there will be plenty of opportunities for our children to shine and for families to join in with the fun and connect. **Please do keep an eye out for key dates and messages so nothing is missed during this busy time.**

This week, all children have taken part in assessments to capture their attainment and progress so far this year. We have been very proud of the way they approached these tasks—showing resilience, effort, and a real desire to do their best. Their positive attitude and engagement reflect how much progress they have made already, and we look forward to sharing this with you soon.

On Wednesday, we were delighted to join four other schools in our sports alliance for a lower key stage 2 Yoga event. The selected children enjoyed exploring movement, balance, and relaxation in a different way, and they represented the school brilliantly with their enthusiasm and participation.

We are looking forward to our **PTFA Winter Warmer on Tuesday 16th December**. Have you seen there is going to be a giant inflatable snow globe? We can't wait for all the fun and connection this event will offer.

There is lots more to look forward to over the coming weeks as we count down to the holidays. We can't wait to share more special moments, achievements, and celebrations with you all as we continue this joyful Advent journey together!



Mrs Thompson

Mrs Emily Thompson
Executive Headteacher



Rocksteady Music School

Coming soon 'Rock and Pop' Music Lessons!

Exciting news! From December we will be welcoming Rocksteady Music School to school. It's an incredible opportunity for the children to learn to play their favourite songs in their very own bands with a choice of drums, keyboards, electric guitar, bass guitar or vocals.

As well as learning new musical skills, lessons also boost children's confidence, well-being, social skills, and teamwork. Lessons take place every week during school time.

These fun and inclusive lessons are taught by highly trained professional musicians who know how to inspire a life-long love of music. At the end of each term, the bands perform a concert for the school and their families, so you can see how far they have come!

Here's what you need to know:

- All instruments are provided.
- No musical experience necessary.
- Suitable for all ages.
- Lessons take place in school.
- All involved work towards an Ofqual qualification in Music.
- Your child will learn up to 300 instrument, band, and performance skills.
- You'll receive regular online parent timeline updates.
- There's a money-back guarantee for the first month.
- You can cancel at any time.

You can sign up for lessons online at www.rocksteadymusicschool.com.

If you have any questions about Rocksteady lessons, you can call 0330 113 0330 (local rate, office hours are Mon – Thurs 08:00 – 20:00, Fridays 08:00 – 18:00).'





News from our classrooms

Butterflies Class

As we move into this magical time of year, we are excited to begin our **Christmas preparations** in Butterflies. Over the next few weeks, the children will be taking part in a variety of festive activities designed to support their learning and creativity while celebrating the season together.



In **English**, this week we have been enjoying the story *Stick Man* by Julia Donaldson. The children have loved joining in with the repeated phrases and exploring Stick Man's exciting journey. We have been talking about how Stick Man feels as he tries to find his way home. The children have also taken part in related mark-making and creative activities, including designing their own Stick Man characters. It has been wonderful to see their imagination and storytelling skills growing throughout the week.

As part of our **Understanding the World learning**, the children made their own "snow" using baking soda and hair conditioner. They explored how the two ingredients change when mixed together and talked about the texture, temperature, and appearance of the snow they created. The children enjoyed squeezing, moulding, and building with the mixture, which supported their scientific curiosity, vocabulary development, and sensory exploration. It was wonderful to see them experimenting, predicting, and working together as they investigated this winter-themed activity





News from our classrooms

Butterflies Class



In **Maths** this week, we have been thinking about the concept of **zero and not zero**. The children explored what it means when there is nothing there by looking at empty sets, counting objects, and comparing groups that had “some” and groups that had “none.” Through practical activities such as sorting, matching, and using ten frames, the children developed their understanding that zero represents the absence of quantity. They enjoyed investigating this idea in playful ways, using manipulatives and problem-solving to build confidence with early number concepts

We have been continuing with our **Nativity rehearsals** this week and are looking forward to our Dress Rehearsal to the school this Friday and performing to you all next Tuesday and Wednesday!

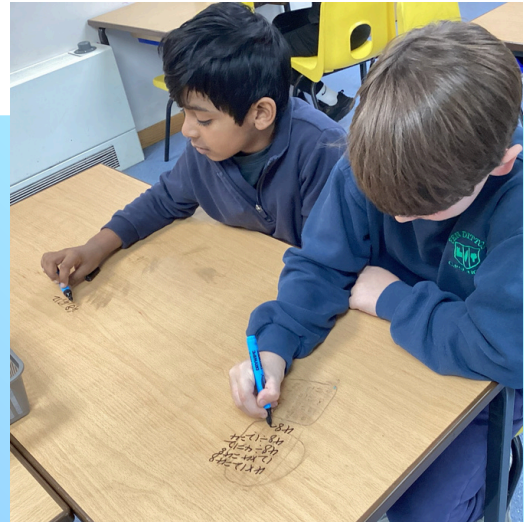
Thank you to those parents who have already offered to join us on our **trip to Barnwell Road library on Wednesday** 17th December; if you are available and would like to join us, please speak to a member of the Reception Team by Tuesday 9th December.

REMEMBER

As always, please remember to send your child's book bag and reading book into school each day so they can join in with group reading sessions. Don't forget to check the phonics and letter formation sheets in the red folders — these are updated weekly with our new sounds.



Squirrels Class



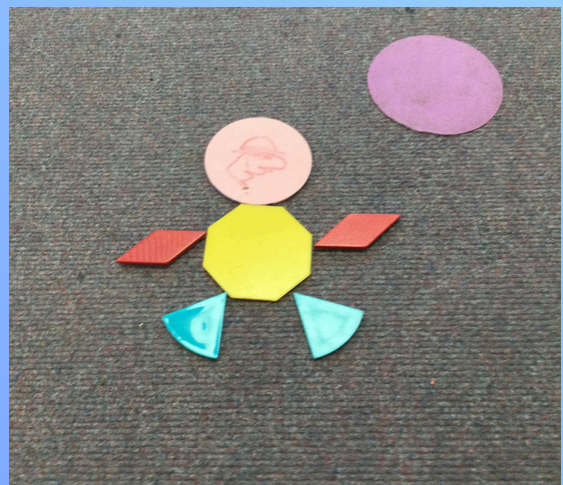
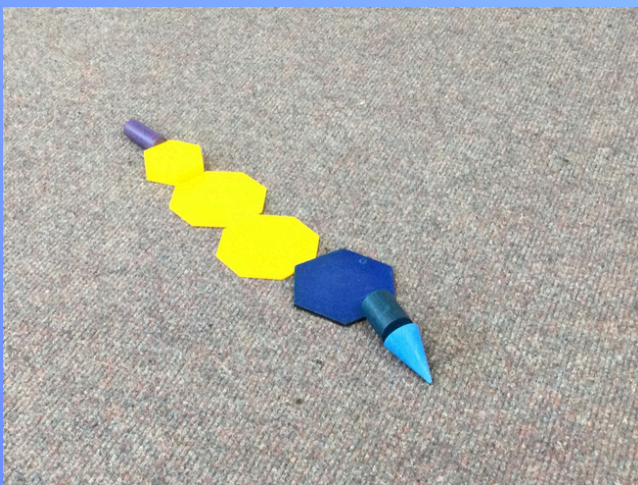
Squirrel Class have had a busy week in **English** writing poetry based on a short film 'For The Birds'. We've been being creative by thinking of expanded noun phrases and similes to use.

In **Maths**, we have enjoyed being active! We have been working in our table teams to practise our multiplication and related division facts.

In **DT**, we have been practising weaving by using different strips of paper. We had to be very patient to keep everything in place!

In **French**, we have enjoyed describing 2d shapes by their size and colour to create abstract pictures in the style of Henri Matisse.

We have also worked very hard on practising for our class assembly; Miss Norman and Mrs Tabram are very proud of how well we have done!





Owls Class

What an incredible two weeks it's been for Owls!

Last week, Owls had a fantastic opportunity to visit the **AstraZeneca Discovery Centre for an inspiring STEM morning**. They dived into the fascinating world of medicine-making, learning how medicines are created and even getting hands-on practice with pipettes! Our Owls were brilliant ambassadors for Fen Ditton, showing curiosity, respect and enthusiasm every step of the way.

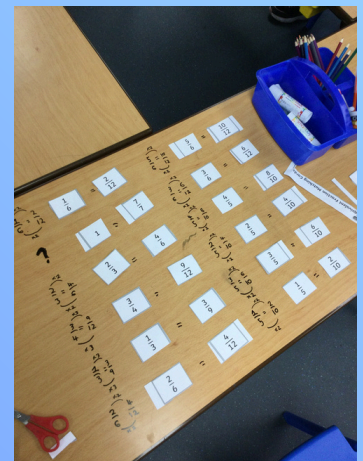


We also had our **class assembly last Thursday!** After lots of hard work rehearsing, Owls confidently shared their learning to everyone with clear and expressive voices, putting on a truly memorable performance.

In **Maths**, we've been sharpening up our fraction skills, focusing on adding and subtracting fractions. The children discovered just how important knowing their times tables is for finding equivalent fractions and have been working really hard to become experts in their times tables.

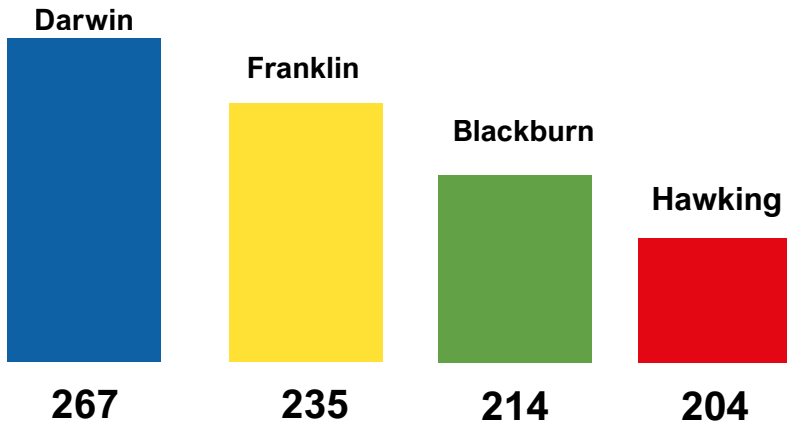
Owls have really enjoyed working on their Woolly Mammoth fact files in **English**. They worked together to learn facts about Woolly Mammoths and created a fact file with lots of facts and technical vocabulary under the subheadings: Diet, Habitat, Appearance, Behaviour and Fun Facts. Lots of great and informative fact files were written.

Science lessons this week brought some exciting experiments as we explored reversible changes. The Owls made predictions and observed what happened when we heated items like crayons, lollipop sticks, chocolate chips, and water. The experiment sparked lots of interest and discussion about changes in materials and how some can be reversed.





House Points



Pupil Premium Funding - Apply Now

We are encouraging you to check whether your child may be eligible for **Pupil Premium** funding. This is additional government funding provided to schools to support children's learning and wellbeing. It helps us to offer extra tuition, resources, and enrichment opportunities.

Eligibility is linked to certain benefits, including Universal Credit, Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, military families and others. Even if your child already receives free school meals (or has done in the last 6 years), applying for Pupil Premium ensures the school receives extra funding.

You can find full details of eligibility and apply online through the Cambridgeshire County Council website: [Pupil Premium – Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

If you think you may be eligible, we strongly encourage you to apply. This funding makes a real difference to the support we can provide for your child and others in our school community.

If you need any help with the application process, please contact the school office and we will be happy to assist.

Thank you for your continued support.

**APPLY
NOW**

Help us resource our setting!

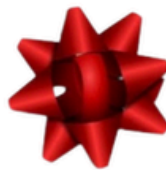
Christmas often brings extra recycling and 'junk'. Many of these items can be reused. If you have any of the following, please drop them off at the office. Thank you!



Cardboard gift boxes



Sweet tubs and tins



Ribbons and bows



Sweet/biscuit box inserts (plastic trays)



Cardboard sellotape rings, wrapping paper tubes, gift bags/boxes



Save the Children **Non-Uniform day**



**DON'T
FORGET!**

Friday 12th December, NEXT WEEK! Everyone is invited to wear their best Christmas/Winter jumpers and make donations to Save the Children via the Just Giving page by clicking on the image below. Thank you

Save the Children

Christmas Jumper Day

CLICK HERE

Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

Save the Children Fund is a charity registered in England & Wales (213890), Scotland (SC039570) and Isle of Man (199).



Christmas Dinner

Wednesday
17th December
BOOK NOW

We will be having a special Christmas lunch this year on **Wednesday 17th December**. Please see the attached Menus for what's on offer.

Book your child's Christmas lunch the usual way by logging on to the meal ordering website. If you do not have an account with them - please register at <https://innovate2020.cashlessschool.co.uk/gettingstarted.php>

To join in with this special lunch, the meal must be ordered by midnight on **Saturday 13th December**.



Fen Ditton: Growing Together

Referral Reward Programme, rewarding families for spreading the word

REWARDS



Referring Child Receives

- 20 x Breakfast Club sessions
- Logo school uniform Sweatshirt
- Logo school uniform Polo
- Logo school Showerproof Coat
- Family Cinema Gift Card

New Pupil Receives

- 20 x Breakfast Club sessions
- Logo school uniform Sweatshirt
- Logo school uniform Polo
- Logo school Showerproof Coat
- Extreme Climbing Experience gift card for Clip 'n Climb Cambridge

HOW IT WORKS

Refer a guardian to Fen Ditton



Pupil receives a place & guardian confirms referee



Both referrer's child and new pupil receive their rewards!

Contact Fen Ditton for more information office@fendittonprimary.org



ANGLIAN LEARNING



PTFA Winter Fayre

FEN DITTON CP SCHOOL PTFA

WINTER WARMER

Tuesday 16th December

~ 3.30 - 5pm ~

Fen Ditton CP School Hall

NEW
for
2025

Giant Inflatable Snowglobe

NEW
for
2025

Bumper Hamper Raffle

Tombola



Games

**Toys and
Gifts**

★ Refreshments ★

Hot Dogs, Cake
Hot Chocolate & Mulled Apple

**Festive
Crafts**



We will be operating a token system to pay for activities at the event. You can pre-buy tokens from 8th - 16th Dec at drop off and pick up, on the school playground. Tokens will be available to buy at the event. Cash and card payments taken.

All proceeds to benefit Fen Ditton CP School. Registered charity 1202353



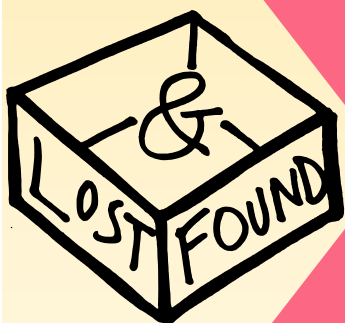
ANGLIAN LEARNING



Key dates for your diary



- **Tuesday 9th December 2.30pm: EYFS & Year 1** Nativity Performance 1 - Parents & Carers invited
- **Wednesday 10th December 9.15am: EYFS & Year 1** Nativity Performance 2 - Parents & Carers invited
- **Friday 12th December:** Save The Children Christmas Jumper Day - Non uniform day that includes a Christmas/Winter jumper. (Families invited to make a donation through Just Giving page).
- **Tuesday 16th December 2.15pm: KS2 (Years 3,4,5,6)** Church carol Concert - Parents & carers invited
- **Tuesday 16th December 3.30 - 5pm:** PTFA Winter Fayre
- **Wednesday 17th December 8:50-9:00am:** Active Learning family opportunity at drop off
- **Wednesday 17th December:** Christmas Lunch in School (must be pre-booked)
- **Wednesday 17th December 1:30-2:30pm:** Whole school santa dash
- **Friday 19th December 3.15pm:** Christmas Sing Along - Parents & Carers invited
- **Friday 19th December:** Last day of Term



We have a number of items in our lost property box at the moment. All named items have been returned to the rightful owners. Please do take a look if you know that your child has misplaced a jumper/cardigan/hat etc (Box is located in the front foyer area near the office).

All items left at the end of this term will be donated to the clothes bank. Thank you for your support with this.



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

**We are also now
on Instagram!
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follow us**



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ANGLIAN LEARNING