



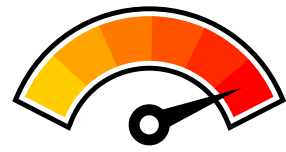
School Newsletter

FRIDAY 26TH JUNE 2026



Headteacher's insight

As we reach the end of another busy and successful week, I would like to begin by thanking our entire school community for the way everyone has responded to this week's exceptional heatwave. Whilst many schools made the difficult decision to close, we remained open throughout to provide consistency for our children and support for our families. I am incredibly proud of our staff, who adapted routines, kept learning engaging despite the challenging conditions and, as always, put the needs of our children first. Equally, our pupils have been fantastic—showing resilience, maturity and positivity throughout the week.



Although the weather meant we had to postpone our Summer Fayre, we look forward to welcoming everyone on **Friday 10th July**, when we hope for much kinder conditions. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility.



This week has also brought some excellent news with the release of our Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check outcomes. I am delighted to share that we have performed strongly compared to the national picture, but what pleases me most is the progress we have made since last year. Fen Ditton Primary has achieved an outstanding **five-point improvement**. These results reflect the hard work of our pupils, staff and families. Rapid recall of multiplication facts is a fundamental building block for future mathematical success, enabling children to tackle increasingly complex calculations with confidence and freeing up their thinking for problem solving and reasoning.

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
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| 2 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 20 |
| 3 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 15 | 18 | 21 | 24 | 27 | 30 |
| 4 | 4 | 8 | 12 | 16 | 20 | 24 | 28 | 32 | 36 | 40 |
| 5 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 25 | 30 | 35 | 40 | 45 | 50 |
| 6 | 6 | 12 | 18 | 24 | 30 | 36 | 42 | 48 | 54 | 60 |
| 7 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | 35 | 42 | 49 | 56 | 63 | 70 |
| 8 | 8 | 16 | 24 | 32 | 40 | 48 | 56 | 64 | 72 | 80 |
| 9 | 9 | 18 | 27 | 36 | 45 | 54 | 63 | 72 | 81 | 90 |
| 10 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 |

Our Key Stage 2 golf team also enjoyed a fantastic afternoon competing against three other local schools in a closely contested tournament. The event was full of teamwork, encouragement and enjoyment. Well done to all of the children for representing our school so brilliantly.





Continued....

Finally, a huge congratulations to Butterflies Class, who confidently led their very first class assembly this week. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate their learning and achievements, and it also highlighted just how much they have grown in confidence since they first joined us in September. We were incredibly proud of every child.



Looking ahead, next week is the penultimate week that children will spend in their current classes before our exciting Transition Week begins on **Monday 13th July**. It is always an important milestone as pupils prepare for the next stage of their learning journey. We are busy in the background planning our whole school trip to Milton Country Park on Tuesday 14th July. Have you completed your consent and made your contribution payment yet? We are looking forward to an excellent day together.



Enjoy your weekend-keep cool!



Mrs Thompson

Mrs Emily Thompson
Executive Headteacher



News from our classrooms

Butterflies Class

As the hot weather continues, we are taking extra care to ensure the children stay cool, comfortable, and safe while enjoying their learning. We will be spending time inside or in shaded areas, encouraging regular drinks of water, and providing opportunities for calm, quiet activities during the warmest parts of the day. Please remember to send your child with a named sun hat and apply sun cream before school.



During the **Tagtivate session**, children engaged in a fun and interactive activity where they generated animal names starting with specific prompts. The session began with familiar animals like **cat** and **dog**, encouraging learners to think of other animals that start with the same initial sounds, such as cow, camel, duck, and deer. As the activity progressed, new prompts were introduced, including **hamster, elephant, and leopard**, helping children expand their vocabulary and confidence. This structured yet playful approach supported phonics development, quick thinking, and active participation, making the learning experience both engaging and enjoyable.

As the end of the school year approaches, we are looking forward to many exciting moments ahead. We have our farm trip on **1st July**, which promises to be a entertaining and memorable experience for everyone, giving children the opportunity to learn, explore and enjoy time together outside the classroom. It is a lovely way to celebrate all the hard work and progress made throughout the year, and we look forward to ending the term on a positive and joyful note.

The children had great fun taking part in our **“Speed Kick Challenge”!** They showed fantastic enthusiasm as they practised kicking a ball with control and increasing their speed. We talked about how to use our feet safely and worked on coordination, balance and taking turns. It was wonderful to see the children encouraging each other and celebrating their efforts. Well done to everyone for trying their best and building their confidence in physical activities!





Squirrels Class

This week in **English**, Squirrel Class have continued reading *The Firework Maker's Daughter*. In the story, Lila leaves her Father a note explaining that she is leaving to visit Mount Merapi in her quest to become a firework maker herself. We have written persuasive letters as Lila to her Father, asking for his support with this quest.

In **RE**, we have been learning about the different languages that religious texts are written in. We learned that some languages are written and read from right to left, not like in English, and had a try at this for ourselves.

In **DT**, we loved the challenge of building Eiffel Towers out of newspaper! We had to carefully consider how to give our newspaper the best structural integrity and then work with a partner to make it stand up.

In **PE**, due to the hot weather, we paused our Rounders lessons this week. Instead, we participated in a calming Yoga session to develop our strength and flexibility, which will be useful when we return to Rounders.

We also enjoyed a special **Tagtiv8 workshop** this week, where we were active but applying our Maths skills to times tables questions.

Finally, we loved a special **World Cup Day** run by Miss Ridd and Miss Joynes on Friday! We participated in a carousel of activities with Year 4 and 5, which used our Art, Drama, Music and PE skills.





Owls Class

What a fabulous two weeks we've had in Owls Class! The children have been busy, enthusiastic and full of creativity across all areas of learning.

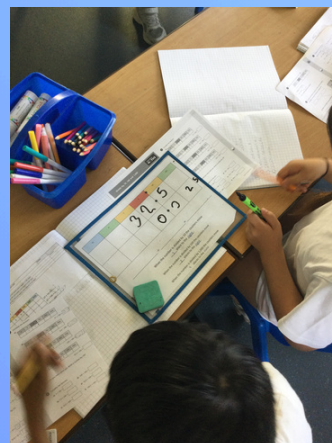
In **English**, we explored poetry and created our own rounders-inspired poems after enjoying our PE lessons with Mr Parker. The children used onomatopoeia, repetition and rhyming to bring their writing to life, and their performances were full of expression and confidence.

In **Maths**, we have been working with decimal sequences and learning how to multiply and divide decimals by 10, 100 and 1,000. Owls have been practicing how the digits move when the number gets bigger or smaller, and they now understand that it's not just a case of adding zeros.

In **Science**, we carried out an investigation to answer the question "How reflective are space blankets?" We wrapped plastic bottles in space blankets and compared their temperatures to an unwrapped control bottle. The results showed that the space blanket retained heat much more effectively, helping us understand insulation and reflection in a real-world context.

In **PE**, we continued developing our rounders skills and practiced different throwing techniques. Using beanbags, the children worked on javelin-style throws and produced some impressively powerful results. We also tried run-up throws and discovered how much extra force they can generate.

Finally, in **PSHE**, we explored Economic Wellbeing. The children discussed the difference between needs and wants and learned about the importance of setting a weekly budget. Their thoughtful ideas showed real maturity and understanding.





Year 6 Residential Trip to Grafham Water Centre



Last week, our Year 6 pupils enjoyed an unforgettable residential trip to Grafham Water Centre. The children had a fantastic time and represented our school exceptionally well throughout the visit.

During the trip, the children embraced a wide range of exciting activities, including archery, sailing, raft building, team-building challenges, the Grafham Challenge, high ropes and orienteering. They approached every activity with enthusiasm, determination and a positive attitude, often stepping outside their comfort zones and supporting one another along the way.

Evenings were spent around the campfire, where we sang songs, toasted marshmallows and shared lots of laughter. The staff at Grafham Water Centre kept us very well fed, ensuring everyone had plenty of energy for the busy days ahead!

As expected, very little sleep happened on the first night as the excitement of sleeping in tents proved too much for some! However, by the second night, everyone was sound asleep much earlier after their action-packed adventures.



We were particularly proud of the fantastic teamwork, resilience and encouragement shown throughout the trip. The children were excellent ambassadors for our school, demonstrating our values at all times and creating memories that will last for years to come.

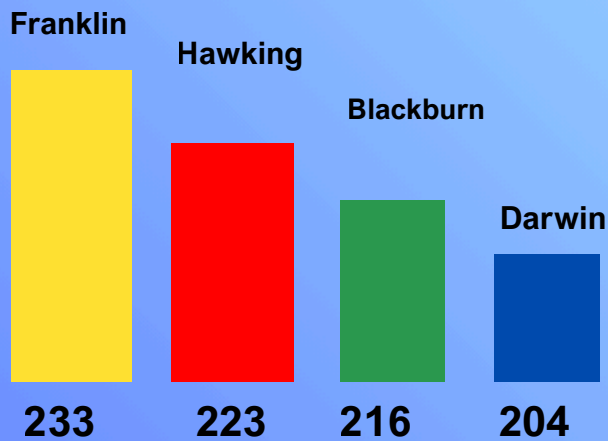


Well done, Year 6 – we are incredibly proud of you all!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

This Week's House Points



Melody, Owls Class

Alex, Dragonflies Class

Lydia, Squirrels Class



REMINDER



The excitement is building as children across the school continue to plan and discuss their Science Fair projects. We have heard some fantastic ideas already and are looking forward to seeing the children's curiosity and creativity come to life.

A reminder that all Science Fair projects should be brought into school on Friday 3rd July to be shared in classes.

Our Fen Ditton Science Fair Showcase will take place on Thursday 9th July, when we will celebrate the hard work, investigations and discoveries of our young scientists. All projects will be displayed, and a selection of children will be invited to share and present their projects during the showcase.

Whether your child is carrying out an experiment, creating a model, researching a question or designing an invention, we encourage them to get involved and share their learning. We can't wait to see what they create!



FEN DITTON PTFA

SUMMER FAIR

Free Entry

FRIDAY 10TH JULY
3.30PM - 5.30PM
FEN DITTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
.....
BOUNCY CASTLE
.....

Tokens available

SUMMER RAFFLE ★ TOMBOLA

| | | |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|
| GLITTER FACE & TATTOOS | REFRESHMENTS Hot Dogs, Cakes, Ice Lollies & Drinks PLUS LOTS MORE | GAMES & ACTIVITIES |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|

Tokens
We will be operating a token system to pay for activities at the event. You can pre-buy tokens from 6th - 10th July 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 A Registered charity 1202353



THANK YOU

A huge thank you to our wonderful PTFA for their generosity this week. With temperatures soaring during the heatwave, they kindly provided ice pops for every child over all three days, helping everyone stay cool and refreshed. The children were absolutely delighted, and we are incredibly grateful for the PTFA's continued support and commitment to making school such a positive place for our pupils. Thank you for another thoughtful and much-appreciated gesture!





Summer Term - Key Dates

- **Friday 26th June:** Year 5 Music Performance, 3pm - Parents/Carers Invited
- **Wednesday 1st July:** Owls Class Assembly 9.15am, Parents & Carers Invited
- **Wednesday 1st July:** Butterflies trip to South Angle Farm
- **Wednesday 1st July:** Year 6 Sport Event afternoon with Marleigh Primary - all children
- **Friday 3rd July:** Science Fair project presentations in school
- **Wednesday 8th July:** Sports Day - morning
- **Wednesday 8th July:** Sports Alliance Year 1 and 2 event - selected teams
- **Thursday 9th July:** Science Fair event - 3:30-4pm - Parents & Carers Invited
- **Friday 10th July:** Year 6 Play in a Week performance 1:45pm
- **Friday 10th July:** Summer Fayre - after school
- **Wednesday 15th July:** Sports Alliance Year 3-6 Athletics event - selected teams
- **Wednesday 15th July:** End of Year Disco - after school
- **Thursday 16th July:** Year 6 Leavers assembly 2.45pm - parents and carers invited to attend
- **Friday 17th July:** Last day of the academic year



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

AUTUMN TERM 2026

Inset Day – Tuesday 1 September
Inset Day – Wednesday 2 September
Inset Day – Thursday 3 September
(Transition session (pm) & meet the teacher meetings)
Autumn 1 Term Starts – Friday 4 September
Autumn 1 Term Ends – Friday 23 October
Half Term - 26 October - 30 October
Inset Day – Monday 2 November
Autumn 2 Term Starts– Tuesday 3 November
Autumn 2 Term Ends – Thursday 17 December
Inset Day – Friday 18 December
21 December – 1 January – Christmas Holidays

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