



School Newsletter

FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2026

Headteacher's insight

This week, we have been celebrating the wonderful world of reading! On Thursday 8th October, our children took part in the National Literacy Trust's **Take 10 to Read campaign**, joining thousands of children across the country in a celebration of books, stories and the joy of reading.



Throughout the day, children participated in online reading sessions, each including 10 minutes dedicated to simply enjoying a book. We also logged our reading as part of an exciting Guinness World Records™ attempt for the most people reading online in 12 hours!

We know that reading is so much more than learning to recognise words on a page. It develops imagination, builds vocabulary, sparks curiosity and opens doors to new experiences. It also provides precious opportunities for children to slow down, relax and become immersed in another world.



The campaign was a lovely reminder that **just 10 minutes of reading a day can make a real difference**. Whether it is sharing a bedtime story, reading together on the sofa or enjoying a favourite book independently, these small moments help to build positive habits and a lifelong love of reading. After all, **10 minutes of reading can take you anywhere!**

I would also like to say a heartfelt thank you to all our parents and carers who supported our Harvest Festival collection by donating items for our local foodbank. Your generosity and kindness are greatly appreciated, and it has been lovely to see our school community coming together to support families who may be experiencing difficult times. This is a wonderful example of our school values in action, particularly kindness and respect, and an important reminder to our children of the difference we can make when we look out for one another.





Continued.....

Finally, **our school photographs were taken this week**, and all children should have brought home a slip of paper containing a QR code which you can use to view and order their photographs online. Please do look out for this in your child's belongings if you haven't already seen it.

Tomorrow, Saturday 10th October, is **World Mental Health Day**, an important reminder that looking after our mental health is just as important as looking after our physical health. In our busy lives, it can be easy to overlook how we are feeling or to assume that those around us are doing okay. This weekend, I would encourage everyone to take a moment to check in with a friend, family member or neighbour. A simple conversation, a kind message or taking the time to really listen can make a meaningful difference. Equally, please make some time for your own wellbeing, whether that means getting outside for some fresh air, enjoying a favourite activity, spending time with loved ones or simply giving yourself permission to rest. **Looking after ourselves and looking out for one another are small but powerful ways of strengthening our sense of connection and belonging.**

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our school community. Wishing you all a lovely weekend.



Mrs Thompson
Mrs Emily Thompson
Executive Headteacher



Learner Review Meetings

The Learner Review meetings will take place during the week beginning Monday **17th November**.

Each class teacher will offer a **10-minute appointment for each child**, where the parent/carer and the child (where appropriate) will have the opportunity to review their learning and progress so far this academic year. For our youngest children, it may not be appropriate for them to attend, and teachers will advise accordingly.

Appointments will be available between **08.30 - 16.00 (please see the table below)**
If you require more flexibility, please do contact us so we can see what we can do to support.

Bookings will open at 6pm today via My Child at School (MCAS). If you experience any difficulties accessing the system or booking your slot, please contact the school office who will be happy to help.

We look forward to welcoming you to these valuable conversations about your child's learning journey.

Date	Class	Times
Tuesday 17th November	Owls (Year 5)	08.30- 16.00
Thursday 19th November	Dragonflies (Year 1/2) Squirrels (Year 3/4)	08.30 - 16.00
Friday 20th November	Butterflies (Reception)	08.30 - 11.30
Friday 20th November	Badgers (Year 6)	08.30 - 12.00



News from our classrooms

Butterflies Class

The children have continued to settle into our class routines brilliantly and are growing in confidence each day. We are so proud of how positively they are approaching their learning, showing enthusiasm, curiosity and a willingness to try new things. It has been wonderful to see them becoming more independent, developing friendships and engaging so well in both adult-led and child-initiated activities.

In our outdoor learning, the children have been investigating colour by mixing coloured water in the outside area. They enjoyed exploring what happened when different colours were combined and made predictions about the new colours they might create. The children showed great curiosity as they experimented, observed changes and talked about their discoveries with their friends. This hands-on activity helped to develop their understanding of colour, encouraged scientific thinking and provided lots of opportunities for collaborative play and language development.

In Understanding the World and Expressive Arts, the children have been developing their observational drawing skills by carefully looking at and drawing a variety of plants. They explored the different shapes, colours and patterns they could see, taking time to notice small details such as petals, leaves and stems. The children showed great concentration as they used pencils and other materials to represent what they observed. This activity encouraged them to look closely at the natural world around them while developing their creativity, fine motor skills and confidence as young artists.

As we move further into the term, we would like to thank you for your continued support. A reminder that a Tapestry Memo has been sent with a link to the Jessie & Friends online safety video from CEOP. We would be grateful if you could watch this with your child and share your feedback with us. Supporting children to stay safe online is an important part of their learning, and we appreciate your partnership in reinforcing these messages at home. We look forward to another exciting month of learning and discovery in Butterflies





500ml Plastic Bottle Donations – Squirrels Class

Squirrels class will be taking part in a workshop on 17th November, where they will be turning plastic bottles into bird feeders.

We would be very grateful for any donations of empty 500ml plastic bottles.

Please could any bottles be brought to the school office or handed directly to Squirrels class teacher.

Thank you for your support!



This Week's House Points

Franklin



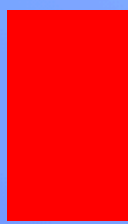
137

Darwin



116

Hawking



90

Blackburn



65

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Micaiah, Owls Class

Alfie, Squirrels Class





Key Dates/Events

Events - Autumn term

There are several curriculum events being held during school time that your child will be able to tell you about and we will share in the newsletter and on social media. Below are a list of only dates that we feel are most important for parents to be aware of or may require some support/action. We hope it is helpful to have these dates in advance.

OCTOBER

- **Monday 19th October:** Parent and Child Workshop Reception and Year 1 - Phonics 3:30-4pm
- **Friday 23rd October:** PTFA Halloween Bake Sale
- **October half term:** 26th - 30th October

NOVEMBER

- **Monday 2nd November:** INSET Day - School not open for children
- **Monday 2nd November:** Book Advent Calendar Raffle tickets go on sale
- **Tuesday 3rd November:** Tea towel order deadline for parents and carers
- **Tuesday 10th November, 3pm - 3.20pm:** **Badgers** class assembly (Parents/Carers invited)
- **Friday 13th November:** Non uniform day - donations welcomed to support the Christmas Fair
- **Monday 16th to Friday 20th November:** Learner Review meetings for each pupil and parent/carer from Reception to Year 6. Each family will make a 10 minute appointment and attend in person or online to review their child's learning with the class teacher.
- **Tuesday 17th November, 3pm - 3.20pm:** **Owls** class assembly (Parents/Carers invited)
- **Tuesday 24th November, 3pm - 3.20pm:** **Squirrels** class assembly (Parents/Carers invited)
- **Friday 27th November:** Confirmation of Spring term clubs schedule and arrangements for securing places to be shared with parents and carers
- **Sunday 29th November:** Deadline for Book Advent Calendar Raffle tickets purchasing
- **Monday 30th November:** Winners of Book Advent Calendar Raffle announced and prizes given

DECEMBER

- **Thursday 10th December:** Parent and Child Workshop Year 3 and 4 - Times Tables 3:30-4pm
- **Friday 11th December:** Christmas Fair 3:30-4:45pm
- **Friday 11th December:** Christmas Jumper Day
- **Thursday 17th December:** Last Day of Term - School closes for Christmas

Reception Open Day 2027

We invite you to visit **Fen Ditton Community Primary School**, register today for a group tour.

Group Tour Dates & Times

Monday 5 Oct, 11am - 11:45am

Monday 12 Oct, 2pm - 2:45pm

Monday 19 Oct, 4pm - 4:45pm

Monday 9 Nov, 11am - 11:45am

Monday 16 Nov, 2pm - 2:45pm



REGISTER NOW



If your child was born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023 you need to apply for Reception for September 2027.

Deadline for applications is 15th January 2027



FOLLOW US



AUTUMN TERM 2026

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

SPRING TERM 2027

Inset Day – Monday 4 January
Spring Term 1 Starts – Tuesday 5 January
Spring Term 1 Ends – Friday 12 February
Half Term - 15 February - 19 February
Spring Term 2 Starts – Monday 22 February
Spring Term 2 Ends – Thursday 25 March
Friday 26 March – Friday 10 April – Easter Holidays

SUMMER TERM 2027

Summer Term 1 Starts – Monday 12 April
May Bank Holiday – Monday 3 May
Summer Term 1 Ends – Friday 28 May
Half Term - 31 May – 4 June
Summer Term 2 Starts – Monday 7 June
Inset Day – Friday 2 July
Summer Term 2 Ends – Wednesday 21 July

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