School Newsletter



FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2026

Headteacher's insight

What a fantastic first week back we have had across both schools! It has been wonderful to welcome the children back for Autumn 2, and we have certainly hit the ground running with a busy and exciting start to the half term.

This week, some of our Key Stage 2 classes have enjoyed memorable trips to the iconic Royal Albert Hall and the Cambridge Museum, bringing learning to life beyond the classroom. Our Year 5 pupils have also had the opportunity to take part in a matball sporting experience, developing their teamwork, skills and confidence. It has been lovely to see so many children embracing these opportunities with such enthusiasm.

I also wanted to say a huge thank you for all the lovely comments, support and feedback following our staff dance video, filmed during their lunch break on Monday's INSET day! It was a bit of fun, and we are delighted that it brought so many smiles. At the heart of what we do is a commitment to delivering excellent learning and a school experience that is sprinkled with fun, laughter and joy. I firmly believe that this should be reflected in our staff experience too. Happy, connected staff who enjoy being part of their school community help create exactly the kind of environment we want for our children. And sometimes, that means a little dancing at lunchtime!

As we head further into this busy and festive half term, there is plenty to look forward to! This week's newsletter is packed with important reminders, upcoming events and calls to action for families. Please do take a few moments to read through everything carefully so that you don't miss any key dates, deadlines or opportunities to get involved.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are looking forward to a wonderful half term filled with learning, celebration, community spirit and, of course, plenty of fun along the way!



Mrs Thompson

Mrs Emily Thompson
Executive Headteacher

NSPCC

LET'S TALK

Talking to your child about consent and body safety

It can feel like a difficult subject to talk about with your child, but there are a range of guides available on the NSPCC website for parents, parents of children with additional needs and versions in different languages, to help you feel confident to have this important conversation.



PANTS aims to help reduce the likelihood of a child being sexually abused by empowering them with simple safety rules.

- **P** – Privates are private: What is covered by underwear or swimwear belongs only to the child, and no one should ask to see or touch it.

- **A** – Always remember your body belongs to you: No one has the right to make a child feel uncomfortable or forced into unwanted physical contact.

- **N** – No means no: Children have the right to say "no" to touching, hugging, or kisses even from family members.

- **T** – Talk about secrets that upset you: Explain the difference between "good" surprises (like birthday presents) and "bad" secrets that cause worry, fear, or sadness, emphasizing that bad secrets should always be shared with a trusted adult.

- **S** – Speak up, someone can help: Assure children that they can tell a trusted adult and will not get in trouble for speaking out.

Where to get help

If you suspect any child is experiencing abuse or exploitation, or they disclose this to you, you can get confidential advice from the **NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000.** You can also contact Children's Social Care to report your concerns or contact the Police.

Safeguarding Mini Series - look out for more information and advice in next week's School Newsletter

ANGLIAN LEARNING

Learner Review Meetings

The Learner Review meetings will take place during the week beginning Monday **16th 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 are open on 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
***Monday 16th November**	Dragonflies (Year 1/2)	08.30-12.30
Tuesday 17h November	Owls (Year 5)	08.30- 16.00
Thursday 19th November	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
***Friday 20th November**	Dragonflies (Year 1/2)	12.30 - 16.00

***Please note the updated Dragonflies Class dates, a separate email went out to Parents/Carers with further information earlier today.**

Book Advent Calendar Raffle – A Festive Treat for Young Readers!

With 1st December fast approaching, we are delighted to bring back our **Book Advent Calendar Raffle** following its success last year!

We have prepared **three wonderful book advent calendars** for three lucky winners, with prizes tailored to different age groups:



Prize 1: EYFS and Year 1

Prize 2: Years 2 and 3

Prize 3: Years 4, 5 and 6

Each advent calendar contains **24 individually wrapped and numbered books,** ready for the lucky winner to unwrap and enjoy one each day throughout Advent. What better way to count down to Christmas than by discovering a new story every day?

Raffle entries cost just £2 each, and families are welcome to purchase as many entries as they wish. The more entries you buy, the greater your chances of winning!

How to enter:
Entries open: Today!
Where to enter: Through My Child At School (MCAS)
Closing date: Sunday 29th November
Prize draw: Monday 30th November

The draw will take place in plenty of time for our three lucky winners to receive their book advent calendars, ready to start opening them on **1st December.**

We hope lots of families will join in the festive fun and help us celebrate the joy of reading throughout December. Good luck, everyone!



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

All Things Christmas!



- **Monday 9th November** Deadline for ordering a school teatowel via MCAS
- **Friday 13th November** Non uniform Day with donations for the Christmas Fayre encouraged, bottles for the bottle tombola, or raffle/tombola prizes welcome
- **Sunday 29th November** Deadline for purchasing entries via MCAS in to the Book Advent Raffle



- **Wednesday 9th December** Christmas Lunch, book via school grid, by Friday 4th December
- **Thursday 10th December** Butterflies and Dragonflies Christmas performance 2:30pm, tickets to be purchased through MCAS
- **Thursday 10th December** Year 3 and 4 parent and child workshop TimesTables 3:15-3:45
- **Friday 11th December** Christmas Jumper Day (full non uniform day with Christmas Jumpers welcomed and donations to Save the Children encouraged.



- **Friday 11th December** Christmas Fayre 3:30-5pm



- **Wednesday 16th December** Santa Dash event (whole school-Santa hats encouraged!)
- **Thursday 17th December** Years 3,4,5 and 6 Christmas Service at Fen Ditton Church 2pm, family welcome to attend and should indicate their intention to attend here: Fill in form
- **Thursday 17th December** Last day of term, school closes at 3:15/3:30pm (please delete the wrong one) apart from Premier After School Club attendees



ANGLIAN LEARNING

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.

NEXT WEEK

- **Monday 9th 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



Poppies are now available to buy from the school office. We invite families to purchase a poppy as a simple way to show their support and remember all those who have served and sacrificed for our country Thank you for your support.

SAVE THE DATE

EXCITING NEWS



ANGLIAN LEARNING

FEN DITTON C.P SCHOOL

ANGLIAN LEARNING

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

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





Find the term dates for 2027-2028 here