# School Newsletter

FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2026

## Headteacher's insight

What a wonderful week of learning, creativity and memorable experiences we have enjoyed across our schools!

Our Year 3 and 4 children enjoyed a trip to the cinema to see Paddington, a lovely opportunity to share the magic of storytelling beyond the classroom. Meanwhile, our Year 6 pupils delivered a fantastic class assembly, creatively sharing some important messages with our younger children and visiting adults. It was particularly special to see just how far they have come, both as individuals and as a collective. Their growing confidence, maturity and ability to work together were clear to see, and they should be incredibly proud of themselves.

Elsewhere, the laughter and excitement from our Nursery children during their Welly Wednesday adventures in the woodlands could be heard filtering across the school site! There is something rather wonderful about hearing children so thoroughly enjoying their learning and exploration. I also had the pleasure of seeing some excellent writing from Year 2 this week, with two very proud young writers sharing their work with me. Their ambitious vocabulary and enthusiasm for writing were a real highlight of my week.

Sporting success was also on the agenda, with a team of our Key Stage 2 children competing against four other schools at a Panathlon sporting event. We were delighted to come away victorious, but what mattered far more was the enjoyment, the development of new skills and the fantastic sportsmanship demonstrated throughout. Winning is always a lovely bonus, but the experiences and values developed along the way are what truly count.

Reflecting on the week, what stands out to me is the variety of opportunities our children have to shine. Whether through writing, performing, exploring, competing or simply sharing moments of laughter with their friends, every experience contributes to their growth. We want our schools to be places where children achieve, feel proud of themselves, develop confidence and, importantly, have fun along the way.

Thank you, as always, to our staff for creating these opportunities and to our families for your continued support. I hope you all have a lovely weekend!



Mrs Thompson

Mrs Emily Thompson
Executive Headteacher

NSPCC

LET'S TALK

## Safeguarding Mini Series - Recognising warning signs of sexual abuse

In this week's Safeguarding Mini-Series, we are looking at how to recognise signs that a child may be experiencing harm or exploitation. These may include the below:




### 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.

**Look out for more information and advice in next week's School Newsletter**

ANGLIAN LEARNING

# Learner Review Meetings

NEXT WEEK

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 |
| **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.**

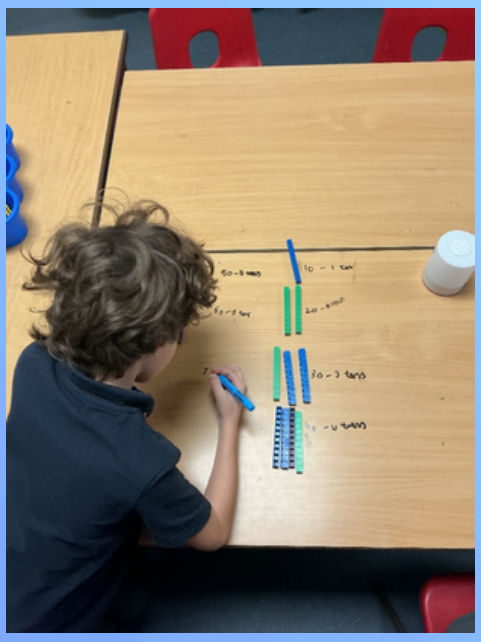
ANGLIAN LEARNING

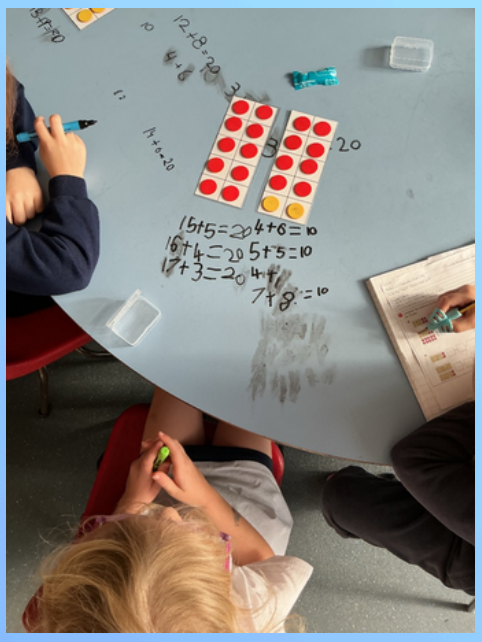
# News from our classrooms

## Dragonflies Class

It has been another busy and exciting few weeks in class! Here's a snapshot of what we have been learning:

**Maths**
We have started exploring numbers to 100, developing our understanding of place value. The children have been learning how numbers are made up of tens and ones, using practical resources and visual representations to help deepen their understanding.






**English**
Our learning has been inspired by the beautiful book We Are Water Protectors. We have been exploring issues surrounding water pollution in America and discussing why protecting our environment is so important. The children are becoming increasingly enthusiastic about persuasive writing and non-chronological reports, using facts and powerful language to share their ideas.

**Geography**
We have begun learning about the United Kingdom, identifying the four countries that make up the UK and exploring their locations and key features.

**PSHE**
In PSHE, we have been learning about the needs of different animals and their babies. We have also been discussing how to care for pets responsibly and what they need to stay healthy and happy.

DON'T FORGET!

Remember to get your tickets for the Butterflies/Dragonflies Nativity Performance, available now on MCAS

## Dragonflies Class continued....

**Art**

The children have been experimenting with a range of painting techniques, styles and brush types. This has helped them develop greater control when using paint while encouraging creativity and self-expression.





**RE**

We have started practising for our Nativity performance, which the children are thoroughly enjoying! Alongside this, we have been exploring creation stories from different religious viewpoints and considering what these stories teach believers.

**Science**

Our new topic focuses on materials. We have been investigating what materials everyday objects are made from and discussing the properties that make materials suitable for different purposes.

**PE**

Yoga continues to be a firm favourite in PE! The children have been developing their balance, flexibility and mindfulness while enjoying a range of fun poses and challenges.

**Music**

We have started learning to play the ocarina. The children have enjoyed learning how to hold and play the instrument correctly and are already beginning to develop their musical skills. Well done to everyone for their hard work and enthusiasm this half term. We are looking forward to seeing the children continue to grow in confidence and independence across all areas of their 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 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**

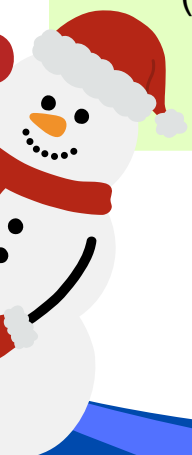
- **Thursday 10th December:** Parent and Child Workshop Year 3 and 4 - Times Tables 3:30-4pm
- **Friday 11th December:** Christmas Fair 3:30-4:45pm
- **Friday 11th December:** Christmas Jumper Day Donate to Save The Children
- **Thursday 17th December:** Last Day of Term - School closes for Christmas





# All Things Christmas!

- **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. Donate to Save the Children
- **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



# 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!




**Deadline for entries: 29th November!**

Fen Ditton Primary School PTFA

# PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SALE

**Affordable, sustainable and a great way to pass on good-quality school clothing.**

- Lots of sizes available
- Some items feature the school logo
- A more sustainable choice for our school community




## Every 2nd Wednesday of each month - after school

11th November 2026
9th December 2026
13th January 2027
10th February 2027
10th March 2027
14th April 2027
12th May 2027
9th June 2027
14th July 2027

**Donation to the PTFA**

Scan me

Pre-loved today a brighter tomorrow

**We also welcome donations of old uniform!**

## 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