School Newsletter

FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2026

Headteacher's insight

It has been another busy and enjoyable week across our schools. I have particularly enjoyed watching our Owls class assemblies and seeing the children confidently share important messages with their peers and visiting adults.

It has also been Maths Week, and we have enjoyed marking this together through a range of activities and opportunities to celebrate mathematics. I would encourage families to keep mathematical talk alive at home, whether through cooking, shopping, telling the time or simply practising number facts together. Developing strong mental arithmetic skills provides an important foundation for future mathematical learning, and little and often can make a real difference to children's confidence and fluency.

Christmas performance preparations are now in full swing, with the sounds of festive songs and rehearsals increasingly filling our schools. We are also looking forward to our upcoming Christmas fairs and the opportunity to bring our school communities together to enjoy some festive fun.

Our Learner Reviews are now complete across both schools. Thank you to all of our parents and carers for your engagement with these important conversations. The partnership between home and school plays such a valuable role in supporting our children to achieve their potential.

As we move through the colder months, I would also like to reinforce the importance of good attendance. Inevitably, at this time of year, we will see an increase in coughs, colds and sniffles. However, there is a difference between being unwell and being too unwell to attend school. Encouraging children to develop resilience and continue with their usual routines when experiencing mild symptoms is important. If your child has a slight cold or sniffle but is otherwise well and does not have a high temperature, please continue to send them to school. Our staff will always contact you if your child becomes too unwell to remain with us.

With so many exciting learning experiences and festive opportunities still to come this term, we want every child to be here to enjoy and benefit from them. As always, please let us know if there are any barriers to this.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.



Mrs Thompson

Mrs Emily Thompson
Executive Headteacher

NSPCC

LET'S TALK

What to do if a child tells you they have experienced sexual abuse

In last week's Safeguarding Mini-Series we explained some of the signs that a child may have been sexually abused. This week we move on to how you can help a child if they disclose that they have been abused.



- Take action: Contact the NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000, Children's Social Care or the Police promptly, and don't confront the person suspected of abuse. If the child is in immediate danger, call 999.

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.

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 entires: 29th November!

ANGLIAN LEARNING

News from our classrooms



Owls Class

Owls class has had a busy and exciting few weeks of learning!

In **Maths,** we have begun our multiplication unit, developing our confidence when multiplying 4-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers and 2-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers. The children have shown great determination as they tackle increasingly challenging calculations.

In **English**, we have started our new class text, The Mermaid of Zennor. The children have enjoyed exploring the story so far and have been writing thoughtful love letters to the mermaid, using a range of conjunctions to extend and improve their sentences.
We have also started learning the ukulele in Music, and the children have been enthusiastic about developing their musical skills. It has been wonderful to hear their progress already!

A particular highlight was our trip to the **Museum of Cambridge**, where we took part in a fascinating Victorian workshop. The children were fully engaged throughout the day and gained a valuable insight into what life was like during Victorian times.

We also enjoyed taking part in a **sports event with Marleigh**, where the children competed in matball activities. They showed excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the event and were fantastic ambassadors for the school.

Finally, we were incredibly proud to present our **class assembly** on kindness. Kindness is a major focus for us this term, and the children did an amazing job sharing this important message with confidence and enthusiasm. They represented the class brilliantly, and we could not be prouder of their efforts. Keep it up, Owls







News from our classrooms

Badgers Class

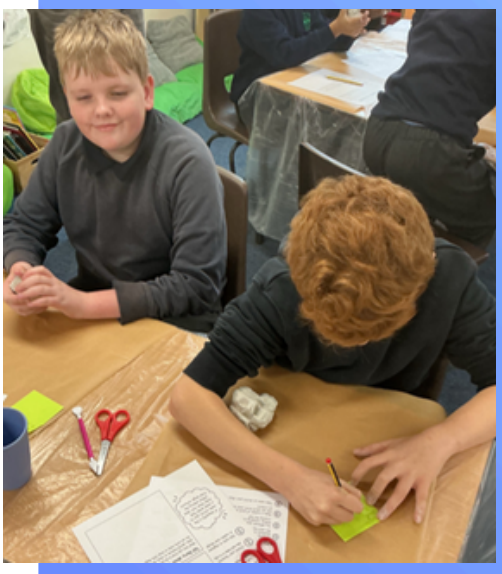


What an exciting and inspiring week it has been in Badgers!

This week, we took part in a fantastic art **workshop at St John's Innovation Park.** Working alongside artist Kerry, we used clay to design and create benches that would be suitable for the local area. We carefully considered how our designs could enhance the space while meeting the needs of the community.

During our visit, we also learned about a wide range of careers within the local council, particularly those connected to the environment and architecture. It was fascinating to discover how different professionals work together to design, improve and care for the places where we live.

We also had the incredible opportunity to participate in a **Learning with the Lords workshop.** As part of this experience, we met Lord Stansgate, who generously answered our thoughtful questions and shared his knowledge about Parliament and the House of Lords. We learned about how laws are made, the role of the Lords, and the importance of democracy in the United Kingdom. It was a memorable experience and gave us a real insight into how our country's government works.



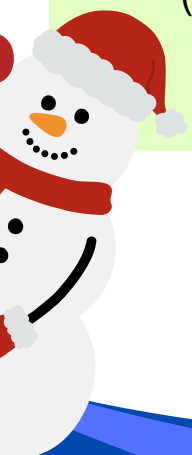




All Things Christmas!



- **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



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!

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

- **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

DECEMBER

- **Monday 30th November:** Winners of Book Advent Calendar Raffle announced and prizes given
- **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



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