

**"Growing and Learning Together with God"**

*Spring Term 1 Value : Inspired Minds and Wisdom*



## **Fritwell Church of England Primary School**

**Headteacher:** Mr Jonathan Hart

East Street, Fritwell, Oxfordshire, OX27 7PX

Telephone: 01869 345283

email: office.3065@fritwell.oxon.sch.uk

# **Newsletter 1 Spring Term**

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

### **Message from Mr Hart**



It has been a busy week in school with lots of activities and hard work. Congratulations to the new members of our school family who have completed their first full week in their new setting.

I have carried out pupil progress meetings with all staff this week and we still have a way to go to address the learning lost through Covid and to ensure that children are ready for their next stage of learning. This is a crucial time of the year and, to give our children the best possible chance, we will be using additional staff with our Year 6 children to support them as fully as we can. This group, along with others, are particularly suffering because of the Covid deficit and I wish to do all we can to address this. Parents can certainly help by ensuring that children read as much as possible and run through their times tables daily.

It was a pleasure to meet our new Diocesan Advisor during the week and I look forward to inviting her into school in a few weeks' time.

### ***Covid Update***

From Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January people who are self-isolating with Covid will be able to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device on both Day 5 and Day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if your child tests negative on the morning of Day 5 and the morning of Day 6, he/she can return to school immediately on Day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than Day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second the following day.

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they receive negative results from two lateral flow tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone who is unable to take lateral flow tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete a full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Further [information on self-isolation for those with COVID-19](#) is available.

#### How five-day isolation rule works in England



## Class Activities

### Tiddlers & Minnows

It has been a busy start to the term for the Early Years. The new Tiddlers have settled into the routines of the school well and are really enjoying their new classroom; the Minnows have been super helpful with the new children.

This week the Tiddlers and Minnows have started their new Topic work of Our Wonderful World by reading their key text 'Handa's Surprise' and learning about life in Africa. They know that it is the hottest continent and has many safari animals.

The Minnows have also been recapping their Phonics sounds from last year and learning how to measure weight using a balance scale in Maths.



### Sticklebacks

This week Sticklebacks have been naming, sorting and making patterns out of 2d and 3d shapes. They have looked at prepositions in English and written poems about their homes, using them to show where things are in their houses.

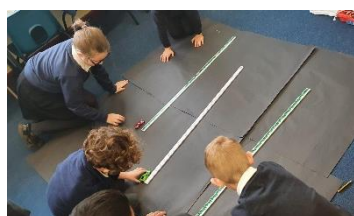
In PE, in the gymnastics unit, the children practised using big parts of their bodies to move and balance on; they did this on the floor and then on the apparatus.

Yesterday they went out for a bug hunt to try and find the habitats that minibeasts like to live in.



### Seahorses

Last week the Fritwell bear returned from his trip to New York and began telling the class about America, ready for their new topic. They helped him to proofread his story about his journey through the airport and they then looked at which countries are in North and South America. They also started investigating the effect of friction on a moving object and exploring magnetic and non-magnetic materials.



## Class Activities (continued)

### Seahorses (continued)

During this week Seahorses have been writing instructions on how to survive a zombie attack, using some imperative verbs and rhetorical questions to excite the reader. The year 2s have been exploring money and making correct amounts of money while the year 3s have been developing their confidence on the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

### Stingrays

Stingrays had a different start to the term last week with a virtual plane journey to an unknown destination. After completing their passports and having their bags checked, they all found their seats and prepared for take-off. Although the initial part of the journey was smooth, the flight ran into turbulence just beyond Rome and fell into a time warp, crash landing in Ancient Rome. The children then spent the day learning about Roman mosaics and started creating their own designs using block printing. They have continued work on their mosaics this week, showing some excellent examples of inspired minds in creating their designs and resilience to complete them.



In English they are using the book 'Escape from Pompeii' as the 'inspiration' for reading and writing activities and they have enjoyed creating poems using synonyms for shake to describe the start of the eruption of Vesuvius.



### Sharks

Sharks also had an unusual start to the term when, along with Stingrays, they boarded an airplane at Fritwell International Airport! Just after flying over Rome, the plane entered an electrical storm which somehow sent them flying through time and space until they landed in Ancient Greece!



They have therefore been busy undertaking lots of Greek activities: making pots and masks, preparing a Greek salad and training for the Ancient Greek Olympics!



## Class Activities (continued)

### Sharks (continued)



They have also started reading lots of Greek myths, focusing on the Labours of Heracles. Having read some different versions of the task where Heracles must face the Nemean Lion, Sharks wrote information texts to help Heracles find out about the creature so he would find it easier to defeat.



### 'Child of the Week'

Tiddlers	Barnaby WJ
Minnows	Luna K
Sticklebacks	Aria R-B and Max M
Seahorses	George H and Olivia K-M
Stingrays	Jack W and Sam O'G
Sharks	Charlie N and Riley P



### Super Sentence Writers :

Minnows	Thomas A and Izzy P
Sticklebacks	No time for Super Sentence writers this week!

Family Group Points : [Pegasus](#)

Whole School Attendance : [97.16%](#)

### Book Bag Books

Please note that not every child in Year 3 will have brought home a Book Bag Book; this is only for those in the phonics groups doing Read, Write, Inc. If your child has not brought one home he/she does not take part in these phonics sessions and must continue with the normal reading books. Teachers have asked that parents please comment on the reading of the Book Bag Books, as you would do for any reading.

### Volunteer Readers

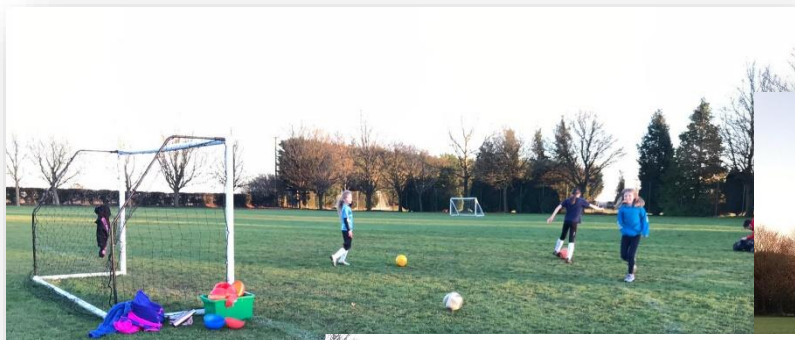
We are always looking for volunteer readers in school; someone who is able and willing to come in for an hour each week to read with the children. If this is something that you could and would like to do please come in and speak to Julie in the office. You will require a DBS and a couple of references but we can help you with these. Reading is so important and there is just not enough time to hear every child read in each class so we would appreciate any offers.



## After School Clubs

We were very pleased to start all clubs this week and it was good to see the cheerful participants. We hope that all the children enjoyed themselves, despite the chilly weather outdoors.

The Girls Football Club, started by Miss Williams and Mr Harris, went very well and the girls already look capable of playing a few matches!



## School Calendar

Please note the slight changes to the school calendar sent with this newsletter; the Bank Holiday on the 30<sup>th</sup> May has now been moved to Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June for the Queen's Jubilee. Since Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> fall within our half term, schools have been advised that we can add an extra day's holiday to our calendar. Therefore we will be finishing the Summer Term on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July**, instead of Wednesday.

## News from FoFS

### 100 Club

Would you like to support FoFS and have the chance of winning a cash prize each month?

The 100 Club is a Small Society Lottery registered with Cherwell District Council under the Gambling Act 2005

It is open to parents, carers, family and friends of the school

It costs £2 a month, £24 for the year; since this year has started it will be £2 per month for the rest of the relevant months.

The prize is 50% of the funds raised. If all the numbers are sold this is a prize of £100 a month!!

The other 50% goes towards funding equipment and resources and providing opportunities for the children of Fritwell C of E Primary School.

*A form will be coming home in bookbags soon; if you would like to join the 100 Club, please complete the form and hand to your class teacher or chat to a FOFS member and we can allocate you a number.*

## Message from Breakfast Club

Emma would like to thank everyone who donated toys and games to Breakfast Club after the appeal last term. They have certainly brightened up the children's morning activities!

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

**Jon Hart**

*Headteacher*



*Tuesdays – 3.30 to 4.30pm*

Football Club (Adam Bradley)

Years 2 - 6

*Wednesdays – 3.30 to 4.15pm*

Sewing Circle Club

Years 4 - 6

*Thursdays – 3.30 to 4.15pm*

MultiSports Club (Premier)

Years 1 - 3

*Thursdays – 3.30 to 4.30pm*

Girls' Football Club

Years 4 - 6

*Friday – 1.00pm*

Stingrays – Swimming

*Friday – 1.15pm*

Sharks – Forest School

*Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February*

Vision Screening in Reception

*Mon 21<sup>st</sup> to Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> March*

Year 5 Bikeability Training

*Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March*

NCMP Weights & Heights – Reception and Year 6