

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

*Summer Term 1 Value : Confidence, Self-Belief, and Endurance*

# **Newsletter 6 Summer Term**

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



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**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021**



**Dear Parents and Carers,**

### **Message from Mr Hart**

A little while ago we asked parents if they would respond to a questionnaire expressing their views on various aspects of school life. This is an extremely useful tool for Governors and the Leadership team to ascertain what aspects of school are successful and which areas we could work on to improve provision for our families.

Overwhelmingly, parents felt that their children were happy, safe and well behaved in school. Parents felt that the school had high expectations and that children did reach their full potential.

Responses showed that there is a good, broad curriculum supported by clubs and additional activities. A significant proportion of parents felt that school enhanced children's personal development.

Homework is a contentious issue in all schools as the ability to support children's learning at home varies enormously. Our move to Topic based homework sees the opinion of parents split with a significant proportion of parents enjoying this approach. As parents and pupils still have strong views on this subject we will continue to monitor the effectiveness of this provision and seek further views in order to get the best possible fit for all.

It is rewarding, after the hard work of our staff, that parents feel that support during the school closure was effective in maintaining some degree of learning during this difficult time.

We do try to provide succinct, pertinent communication to parents and carers and, overwhelmingly, this is reflected as a positive aspect of our school in the survey. There are a very small minority who do not feel our communication is effective, and that issues are not always dealt with effectively; this really does concern me as all our staff value the children and view their relationship with families as paramount. If you have specific issues around this area please do email me and we will do our utmost to address your concerns.

The Governors and staff are committed to continual improvement; thank you for the open and honest dialogue, which greatly supports our ethos.

## Class Activities

The **Tiddlers** and **Minnows** have had an amazing week to celebrate the end of term. They began the week by thinking of all the things they have done this term that has made them feel proud; the children thought of some really good ideas like working hard in Phonics, helping their friends when they were sad, or learning how to ride a bike.

They then had their Royal Ball, which the children and the adults all loved! They danced, played games, attended Knight School, and had a banquet fit for a king or queen. It was lovely to see the children dressed up in their royal outfits so thank you to all the parents for going above and beyond for their costumes - they all looked wonderful.



In between all the fun they have managed to squeeze in some Maths and Phonics; the Minnows have worked hard this week to recap all the learning they have done over this whole term to really deepen their understanding and the Tiddlers have been working hard on creating their own repeated patterns. They have ended the week with their Hexagon treat; the children were given a choice of activities for their Hexagon treat and they decided on going to the school field and playing a range of chasing games.

This week the **Sticklebacks** have been looking at poems about nature and focusing on rhyming and descriptive language. In PSHE, they thought about Harold and what he does to get ready for bed and then talked about their own bedtime routines.

On Thursday they enjoyed their hexagon treat when they watched 'Where The Wild Things Are', which linked in with previous English work.

## Class Activities (continued)

This week the **Seahorses** have been writing cinquain poems about the rainforest. They have also been exploring equivalent fractions in maths, and looking at the different parts of a flower and investigating how flowers get pollinated.

Mr Probert continues to be amazed by the talents of the **Stingrays** Brass Ensemble. Head over to the class page on the website to have a listen for yourselves!

In addition to producing a great sound in their music lessons, they produced some fantastic non-fiction writing based on the book 'Red Alert' and some great 'pictures' of endangered animals in their final Forest School session. They also loved making the clay tiles for the Bicester Art project, demonstrating superb concentration and attention to detail.

Their French is improving every session and now the children can name shops they might find in a French city. They have learnt a few French songs and enjoyed listening to La Chenille Qui Fait Des Trous (The Very Hungry Caterpillar).

This week **Sharks** have been reading *The Proudest Blue* by Olympic medallist Ibtihaj Muhammad. This lovely story about a girl wearing hijab has helped us to explore similes and metaphors, people who inspire us, and the importance of showing respect to other people. They used drama to explore the motivation behind bullying and the effect this may have on characters involved; this linked closely to their Project 10 PHSE work about hate crime.

Sharks have been enjoying active challenges and Mental Health workshops from the Youth Activators all term; this week was their final session discussing self-esteem.

Another highlight of the week was finding out about coral reefs for their clay tile art project. They were inspired by the coral in Miss Price's scuba diving videos... especially when they saw the sharks in her videos!

## Child of the Week

Well done to the following children for working extra hard this week :

|                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Tiddlers</b>     | Seth M                |
| <b>Minnows</b>      | Poppy S               |
| <b>Sticklebacks</b> | Oscar L and Oscar R   |
| <b>Seahorses</b>    | Zoe W and Harriet C-M |
| <b>Stingrays</b>    | Charlie B and Louie S |
| <b>Sharks</b>       | Ella S and Connor H-C |

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Super Sentence Heroes in Minnows</b>      | Elodie Z and Max Ma   |
| <b>Super Sentence Heroes in Sticklebacks</b> | Connie L and Oliver N |

**Family Group Points Winner** Phoenix

**Overall Attendance** 96.72%





## Clay Tiles

Throughout the week the Key Stage 2 classes spent hours making their extremely professional looking clay tiles. These will all be sent to be kiln-dried and returned next term to be painted and completed before submission to the festival in September. Well done to all the children for some amazing work!





## More Clay Tiles.....



## .....and Gardening with Mrs Blake!



## Information from FoFS

FoFS would like us all to know that they have signed up to the **amazon**smile list!

If you sign up and then shop through [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) 0.5% of every purchase (net price) will be donated to the charity; this excludes VAT, returns and shipping fees.

If you are using the browser version go to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1065768-o> and search 'The Friends of Fritwell School'.

On the app you go to 'Settings' then click 'Amazon Smile' and under 'Search Charities' you type in The Friends of Fritwell School and follow the steps.

So many people do purchase from Amazon and this is an ideal, and effortless, way to raise money for FoFS. Please do support!



Overcoming Anxiety & Depression Together



**Oxford Health**  
NHS Foundation Trust

Even with the lockdown easing, it is still really important to take the time to care for yourselves. TalkingSpace Plus is a free, confidential NHS service for adults in Oxfordshire, to help people when they're feeling stressed, anxious or low and they offer their treatments online for everyone's safety and convenience. If you feel you would benefit from support please contact their service directly on 01865 901222 or visit [www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/talkingspaceplus](https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/talkingspaceplus)

## Last Couple of Things

After half term we look forward to seeing the children in their Summer uniform (weather permitting!) - please do remember to send in hats/caps and sunscreen if it is hot and sunny.

The Year 6 children may wear their Leavers tops into school for their last term of primary school.

We wish you all a wonderful half term break – stay safe and enjoy the sunshine!

Kind regards,

**Jon Hart**  
Headteacher

