

Fritwell School Newsletter

Autumn Term 1

Friday 24th October



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic term it has been. So much has been packed into these eight weeks and I am sure that everyone is looking forward to a rest next week.

Thank you to Seahorses for giving us a lovely harvest service and for Revd Kath for leading us. We loved the art work, readings and singing. Thank you parents for supporting the children – the church was absolutely packed! As a school we collected an impressive 129kg of food for the Bicester food bank.

Keeping on the harvest theme, Minnows were mightily impressive with their confidence and contributions to their Harvest show. Again, magnificent support from the parents and families and especially for joining in with the song actions! The children certainly made us all proud.

Other notable events include our girls 5/6 football tournament which they thoroughly enjoyed, while the firefighters' visit to our Early Years and Sticklebacks classes brought the Great Fire of London topic vividly to life.

The Hexagon awards have been particularly inspiring this term and the children have filled the hexagon wall in double quick time. Their collaborative efforts were rewarded with an hour of different activities across the classes, which was a huge amount of fun.

This week, Sharks class travelled to Oxford for a trip to the Natural History Museum which supported their learning and enriched their classroom experience. An incredibly worthwhile trip so a big thank you for all parent contributions, without which we would not be able to make these experiences happen. As always, the children's exceptional behaviour was a source of pride for the staff.

As we now look forward to the half-term break, I hope everyone can take time to rest and recharge.

Warmest regards,

Jon Jeffries
Executive Headteacher

Stingrays

It has been the most incredible start to the school year! The children have settled into Stingrays wonderfully, showing such kindness, enthusiasm and curiosity in all that they do. They have already begun to live out our school values through the Fritwell Footstep of Curiosity and our Hexagon of Respect and Compassion. We are so proud of their positive attitudes and what active participants they are being in their learning.

In English, the children have amazed us with their creativity and imagination. They began the term by writing their own short sequels to the illustrated book Journey and have since produced fantastic newspaper reports about a flood, linking beautifully to our topic of Water. In Science, we have completed the first half of our topic 'States of Matter', where the children have explored solids, liquids and gases. They have learned how this connects to Geography through the Water Cycle and even carried out a fun melting experiment using chocolate buttons to prove that the higher the temperature, the quicker the solid melts. We are already looking forward to our upcoming trip to Science Oxford after the holidays, where we will continue our scientific explorations even further.

Our Art and Forest School sessions have also been real highlights. In Art, the children have used a range of mediums from watercolours and acrylics to printing and sketching to create beautiful wave-inspired pieces that look like they're moving. At Forest School, they've enjoyed starting fires to boil their water for hot chocolate, using charcoal to paint warrior marks on their cheeks, journalling their nature discoveries, and whittling their own wands. It has been such a lovely term full of growth, creativity and togetherness. What a truly phenomenal start to our year of learning and adventure!

Thank you all for your continued support; it plays a vital role in creating a warm and enriching learning journey for the Stingrays!

Warm wishes,
Miss Winstone and the Stingrays Team

Stingrays



Sharks

Shark's part of the newsletter (please cut it if too long or let me know if you need more!):

What a fantastic first term it has been in Sharks Class! The children have shown such enthusiasm, curiosity and creativity in everything we've done.

In English, we've been diving into our class novel Darwin's Dragons, which has inspired some wonderful pieces of writing. The children have written heartfelt informal diary entries, persuasive formal letters, and beautifully detailed descriptions of the Galápagos Islands and the mysterious dragons that live there. Their imagination and use of language have been truly impressive!

In Science, we've been exploring evolution, inheritance and adaptation. The children have become budding biologists — researching an incredible range of animals and discovering how each has adapted to survive in its environment.

Our Topic lessons have continued this theme, as we've learned all about Charles Darwin, his famous voyage on the HMS Beagle, and compared the unique Galápagos Islands to our very own UK.

To round off our learning, we had a brilliant school trip to the Natural History Museum in Oxford. The children took part in the Adapt, Evolve and Survive workshop and explored the museum using an iPad trail. Their behaviour throughout the day was impeccable, and they represented our school with pride — it was a joy to see their excitement and curiosity in action!

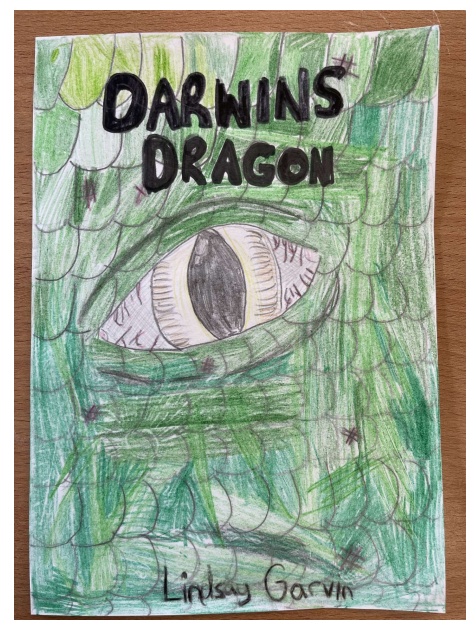
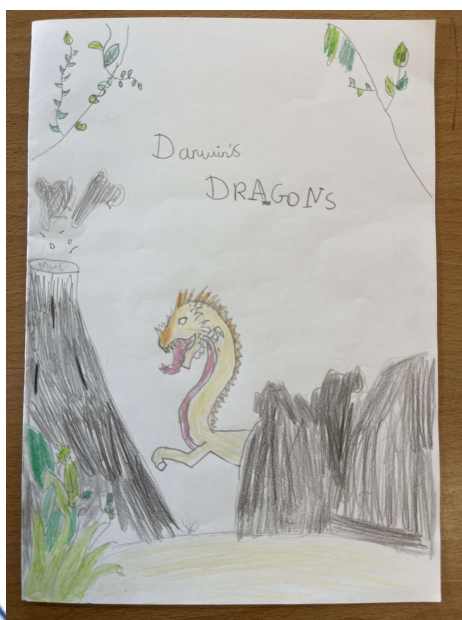
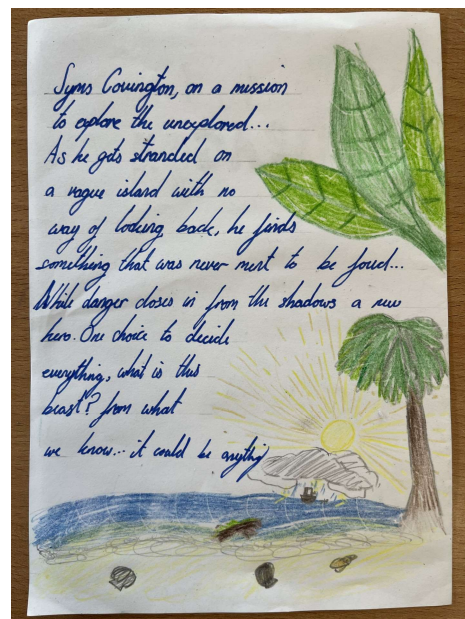
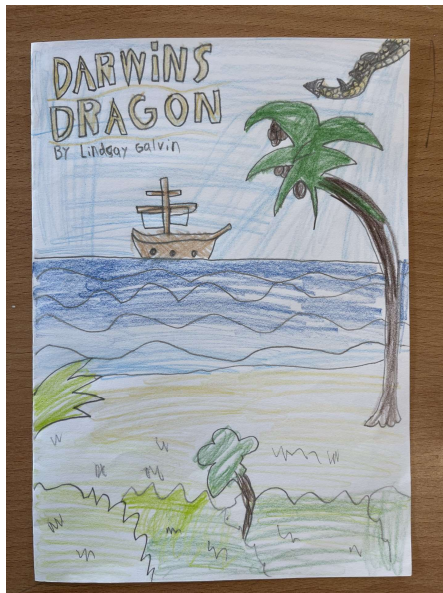
It's been such a pleasure to teach the Sharks this term — they've worked incredibly hard and made an excellent start to the year. I'm already looking forward to what's to come next term!



Sharks



Sharks



Upcoming events

Odd Sock Day, Monday 10th November 25

Odd Socks Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week. Odd Socks Day 2025 is taking place on Monday 10th November. It is supported by cBeebies presenter & ABA patron Andy Day and his band 'Andy and the Odd Socks'.

The louder the sock the better.

Celebration worship will be replaced by a special anti bullying assembly on this day.

Children in need:

For a donation of £1 wear spots to school on our non uniform day.

Donations can be made on Parent Pay.



FoFs

In aid of Fritwell CofE Primary School. OX27 7PX

FRITWELL SCHOOL FIREWORKS

Sat. 8th November

Gates open: 5pm | Fireworks: 6pm

FOOD | BAR | DJ: AUDIO VISUAL

TICKETS: £5.50

Under 3's: FREE

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL!



Scan for tickets

Get ticket link from: fofs@fritwell.oxon.sch.uk



BICESTER
MORTGAGE
INSURANCES



T V W S



POVEY
PAINTING & DECORATING

CHILMAN
FIRE & SECURITY

With thanks also to: Bakels, Bidfood & Brown's at Park Farm.

Dates for your diary

Brass lessons – Year 5 Fridays at 10.45am

October

Monday 27th-Friday 31st – Half Term school closed

November

Monday 3rd - Inset day – school closed

Monday 10th – Odd sock day

Saturday 8th – Fofs Fireworks

Friday 14th – Children in need



December

Monday 1st - Santa fun run/Christmas jumper day/
decorating afternoon

Tuesday 2nd & Thursday 4th – Parents evening

Tuesday 9th – Minnows Christmas Show – 2pm

Wednesday 10th – School Trip To the Panto (R-yr6)

Friday 12th – Secret present room

Monday 15th Community tea party – Stingrays

Tuesday 16th -Sticklebacks Christmas show 2.15pm

Wednesday 17th – School Christmas dinner

Thursday 18th – Irock concert 10am

Friday 19th – Church service 9.30am. **Last day of term.**

January

Monday 5th – Inset day

Tuesday 6th - Back to school