

# Fritwell School Newsletter

Autumn Term 2

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November



Dear Parents and Carers,

There is lots going on at school as we enter our last three weeks before the Christmas holidays. On Thursday, Stingrays went to the Science Oxford Centre, where the children explored science in lots of fun and practical ways. The children showed exemplary behaviour and engaged fully in the experience. Thank you for your parental contributions which helped to make this trip happen.

Next week we start the build up towards Christmas starting with the Santa Fun Run on Monday with funds raised going towards Kathryn House Hospice. It will also be Christmas Jumper Day – don't forget yours! Also, next week we have the Big Sing event at the Oxford Music Centre which is a fantastic chance for the Stingrays children to be a part of a large music event with professional musicians working with them. Huge thanks to Mrs Ejiogu and Miss Winstone for all the practice organisation behind the scenes to make this work for the children.

We are underway with the memorial for Di Lake and Julie Scott, with the children this week starting to plant daffodils, which Di always loved. We have ordered an apple tree in honour of Julie who used to work in the office and this will be planted in due course. For those of you who are new to the school, Di worked as a cleaner at the school for 25 years and Julie was the administrator for 6 years. Both sadly passed away last academic year.

On a safeguarding theme, in the newsletter you will see a summary of the changes to Keeping Children Safe In Education (KCSIE). This is one of the primary pieces of legislation that all schools follow and we update our training annually to take account of any changes. A summary of these changes are provided in this newsletter for your information.

Wishing you a peaceful weekend,

Jon Jeffries  
Executive Headteacher

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## Sticklebacks

What a brilliant and busy term it has been in Sticklebacks! The children have tackled their learning with buckets of enthusiasm, and we are so proud of everything they have achieved so far.

In Maths, we've been diving into addition and subtraction, using part-whole models and number lines to help us master new strategies. The children have really impressed us with their problem-solving skills. We're now getting ready to launch our brand-new unit on Shape, and excitement is already building—prepare for plenty of talk about sides, vertices and patterns!

In English, the class has produced some truly beautiful stories about the journey of a snowflake. Each piece of writing is unique, imaginative and carefully crafted; we couldn't be prouder of the incredible effort they have put in.

Our History topic on Ernest Shackleton has captured everyone's curiosity. The children have loved learning about his daring expeditions and have asked fantastic questions along the way.

Rehearsals for our Nativity performance are also well underway. The children have been practising their songs and lines with great enthusiasm. Keep an eye on book bags this week—lines are coming home for a little extra practice!

In Science, we've been exploring the seasons, day length and weather. The children have particularly enjoyed spotting changes around us and discussing their observations.

As part of Assessment Week, the class also completed a 20-question maths fluency test—and we are thrilled to say we had some amazing results. Well done, Sticklebacks, for all your hard work and determination!

Thank you for your ongoing support.  
From the Sticklebacks Team

# Seahorses

## Seahorses Newsletter

### English

We have completed our work on the World War 1 book **Flo of the Somme**, so our guest Flo will be leaving class this weekend. The children have enjoyed learning about animals in the First World War, poppies and using descriptive language to write paragraphs around a theme. We will be plunging back into the final book of our Stone Age topic - **How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth**, although a mammoth will NOT be coming into school! The children who have completed Read Write Inc have also been using new comprehension modules to help us level up our understanding and fluency of familiar texts.

### Maths

Following our PiXL assessments, the class have been learning strategies to explain answers and recapping key learning in our Fluency. We are busy learning multiplication and division strategies and we have all completed a gig in school are using TTRS to recite at a quicker pace. Continue to regularly work on times tables (including those already learnt) as this helps with our arithmetic and calculation strategies.

### History/ Topic

Seahorses have met the Celts over the last few weeks. We have created shields with Celtic patterns emblazoned and they will soon be on display for all to see. There is much excitement for the project homework sharing sessions and many of the children are chatting about what they have learnt or informed their families about the Stone Age.

### Music

During our Music lessons we have been learning how to play the glockenspiel. At the moment we are using E and D and have managed to play along with a steady beat. We have learnt about staves, treble clef and the pulse of music.

Caroline Allen  
Senior Mental Health Lead

## Stingrays

What an incredible term it has been for our wonderful Stingrays. I am so proud of each and every child for everything they have achieved over the past few months. Their personal growth has been inspiring to see and their academic progress has been equally impressive. One of the highlights for me has been reading their beautiful sea themed poems. The children worked so thoughtfully and creatively, and I cannot wait to share these with you at parents 'evening next week.

Our greatest highlight of the term, however, was our fantastic trip to Science Oxford. From the moment we arrived the children showed such maturity, enthusiasm and curiosity. We began our day with a planetarium show that was truly breathtaking. The children were absolutely captivated and they had so many thoughtful questions that they were eager to ask and explore.

We then enjoyed time in the exploration zone where the children were able to investigate a whole range of exciting hands on activities. They explored electrical circuits, experimented with microscopes and engaged with so many fascinating scientific ideas. It was wonderful to see them so confident and curious.

Our final activity was a workshop all about changing states. I could not have been more proud of how confidently the children applied what they had learned in our states of matter unit. They impressed the workshop leader with their understanding of evaporation, condensation and so much more. The children then had the chance to heat a variety of mysterious substances and use their observations to work out what each one might be. Their teamwork, focus and scientific thinking were fantastic.

Overall, I could not be more proud of how beautifully the children represented the school. Their responsibility, their enthusiasm and their incredible knowledge shone throughout the entire day. It truly was a memorable experience and a wonderful celebration of everything they have achieved this term.

I am incredibly grateful for the continued support from our parents and families this term. Your encouragement makes such a difference and helps the children to shine every day.

Warm wishes,  
Miss Winstone and the Stingrays Tea





# FoFs

Fritwell C of E Primary School



## *Secret Present Room*

12th December 2025 from 9am

Children select up to two gifts each for parents/carers

*Donations Welcome*

Please drop at school in the donation bin

Fritwell C of E Primary School

## *Secret Present Room*

### *What is it about?*

This is an opportunity for the children of Fritwell School to buy presents for their parents, carers or important adults in their life to open on Christmas Day. The best part is the gifts will be a surprise on the day.

### *What do I need to do?*

If you have any good quality items you have received that you don't want, or want to donate some gifts (brand new, suitable for adults, no alcohol) please could you place them in the black donation bin in the main playground. This should be out from W/C 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. Thank you.

### *What happens next?*

Please send your child in with some money and a carrier bag on the day. They will be able to purchase two gifts for their loved ones. They will need a maximum of £10. Gifts will be priced between £1.50 - £5.00 each. Once they have chosen their gifts, they will be given help to wrap them up and write tags to their chosen recipient.

All money raised goes to  
Fritwell CofE Primary School



★ Friends of Fritwell School

# CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

£1 a ticket. Buy tickets from:  
[www.fofs.co.uk/christmas-raffle](http://www.fofs.co.uk/christmas-raffle)



★ **The fabulous festive prizes:** ★

- £50 Voucher for Bicester Village
- Xmas Foodie Hamper ★ David Lloyd Guest Pass (for 2)
- 2 x Family Pass for Fairytale Farm
- Kirtlington Golf Club (Golf for 2)
- Bowling (for 4) at The Heyford
- Chipping Norton Theatre (Voucher for 2)
- £30 Voucher for Brackley Leisure Centre
- Crocs of the World Tickets ★ Olivia Gray Beauty Voucher
- ACP Quality Produce: Fruit & Veg Hamper
- National Trust Family Pass at Upton House
- Family Pass at Birdland ★ Cotswold Wildlife Park Tickets
- ★ £75 Aesthetics Voucher & more..... ★

Winning numbers to be drawn during the last week of term.  
All proceeds go to Fritwell CofE Primary School. Charity no: 1065768.

Please use the QR code to buy your tickets

## Upcoming events



KATHARINE  
HOUSE  
HOSPICE

# We're doing the Schools Santa Run!

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December – 9am

The children will take it in turns to run a lap or 2 around the field.

We would love for the parents to get involved this year so we will also be selling hot drinks and bacon sandwiches from 8.40am to keep you warm while you wait.

(Parents - if you have your own santa hat please bring it along.)

The parents participating will be the first to run a lap with their children. Then, each class will run their lap and hand the baton to the next class by singing a Christmas carol.

Every entry (child and parent) is £2 and will be collected in cash on the day. Any extra donations are of course welcome.

**Parents please bring your own  
santa hat.**



## Dates for your diary

Brass lessons – Year 5 Fridays at 10.45am  
Forest School – Sharks – Thursday afternoons

### **December**

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

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> & Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> – Parents evening

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> – Minnows Christmas Show – 2pm

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> – School Trip To the Panto (R-yr6)

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> – Secret present room - FoFs

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Community tea party – Stingrays

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> -Sticklebacks Christmas show 2.15pm

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> – School Christmas dinner

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> – Irock concert 10am

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> – Church service 9.30am. **Last day of term.**

### **January**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – Inset day

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> - Back to school

# Guidance Changes in KCSIE 2025

## **Online safety (AI and Misinformation)**

The digital world is a place of increased challenges and multiple difficulties for anyone working with children and young people. The DfE have responded to this by expanding on the 'Four C's of online safeguarding' (content, contact, conduct and commerce) to stress the importance of challenging not just extremism, but also "misinformation, disinformation, fake news and conspiracy theories."

The guidance refers to the new Generative artificial intelligence (AI) in education policy paper which was recently published; and a reference to the Cyber Security Standards for Schools. The paper talks about how schools can use generative artificial intelligence safely and explains how filtering and monitoring requirements apply to the use of generative AI in education.

In the wake of significant malicious cyber-attacks on various institutions, KSIE 2025 also says that schools should now consider "taking appropriate action" to meet the Cyber Security Standards, which were designed to help them improve their resilience against cyber-attacks.

## **Filtering and Monitoring**

DSL's are reminded that they can use the DfE's 'plan technology for your school service'. This tool can be used to self-assess against the filtering and monitoring standards and receive customised recommendations on how to meet these standards. DSL's and governors should examine this information and use it to check whether their school security standards are currently fit for purpose.

## **Oversight of Alternative Provisions**

The 2025 guidance makes it clear that schools are responsible for ensuring that all safeguarding checks that would have been made on staff directly employed by a school, have also been made on staff working at any alternative provision used by them. This

includes getting written confirmation from the alternative provider that they will inform the school of any staff changes and that suitable checks have been made on them.

If a child is placed with an alternative education provider, then the school must know where the child who is placed with them is during school hours. The school must keep records of all locations that the alternative education provider uses.

Alternative provisions must be reviewed at least half termly to ensure the setting meets the child's needs and that the child is attending regularly. When safeguarding concerns arise the placement should be immediately terminated if necessary.

### **Harmful Sexual Behaviour**

Although the Lucy Faithfull Foundation's HSB toolkit has been referenced in the guidance for several years, KCSIE now links to the Shore Space online resource. This resource offers a space for teenagers worried about the sexual behaviour of others, or their own thoughts and actions, to chat confidentially and get crucial advice.

### **Other changes**

The term 'autism spectrum disorder' has been replaced with 'Autism' throughout the guidance. This is to bring it in line with other statutory guidance and to remove the pejorative term 'disorder'.

The updated KCSIE 2025 reminds us that the role of the virtual school head was extended in March 2024. It now includes a non-statutory responsibility to promote the educational achievement of all children in kinship care. This would include children subject to special guardianship orders and child arrangement orders, not just children under care orders.