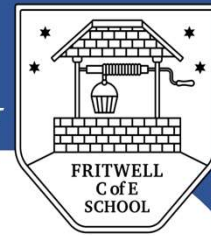


Fritwell School Newsletter

Autumn Term 1

Friday 25th September



Dear Parents and Carers,

We can't believe we are already halfway through the first half term. It has been wonderful to see how hard all of our children are working and the enthusiasm they are showing towards their learning.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Parent Information Evening last week, as well as the Friends of Fritwell (FoFS) AGM. We were incredibly impressed to hear that over **£13,000** was raised during the last academic year. This is a fantastic achievement and will make a significant difference to the opportunities we can provide for our children. We are extremely grateful for the dedication, time, and effort that goes into organising these fundraising events.

Thank you to the parents of children in Minnows who attended the phonics talk on Tuesday morning delivered by Mrs Haselgrove. It is so important for families to understand how children learn in school, and your continued support will help set the children off to a great start on their school journey.

Thank you also to those families who have supported our Book Fair this week. Your purchases help us to raise additional funds for books and resources for the school. This week we have been looking at children's books in Maths, English, Science, RE and Topic. We are impressed with how hard the children are working on their presentation. We have recently adopted a new Handwriting scheme which has been produced by the EPA trust. Our new handwriting handbook can be found on the school website under curriculum. In addition, you will also find our RE curriculum handbook which details an overview of our new RE scheme.

Next week, Seahorses Class will be enjoying a local walk around the village to support their Local History unit. We look forward to hearing all about their discoveries and learning.

Children have also had the opportunity to apply for a range of Pupil Leadership roles. These roles provide valuable opportunities for children to develop their confidence, responsibility, and leadership skills. Applications should be submitted by Friday 25th September and we have already received a huge amount of interest.

Harvest Festival

Our annual Harvest Festival Service will take place on **Tuesday 20th October at St Olave's Church at 9.30am**. Seahorses will be leading this service along with Reverend Rob. Over the next few weeks, we will be collecting donations for our local food bank. If you are able to contribute any non-perishable food items or household essentials, we would be very grateful. Your generosity will help support families within our local community.

Thank you for your continued support.

Tiddlers.

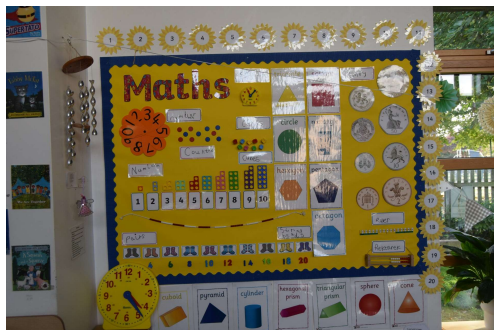
This week in Tiddlers, we have been noticing the changing season by observing the weather and exploring the changes we can see in our environment. The children have enjoyed investigating autumn materials through sensory play, using their senses to explore different resources.

We have also been discovering new ways to move our bodies, developing our coordination and balance while having lots of fun along the way.



Minnows.

The Minnows have been working hard this week. Sooty is helping the children with their 'Mastering Number' sessions. The children are loving their 'Maths Play' sessions too, where they are ordering numbers to ten as well as drawing shape pictures. The children are looking closely at our school value for the term 'Respect and compassion' and showing that in the school environment. The topic of 'Myself and Community' is helping us find out about the children's family units. Well done, Minnows.



Sticklebacks.

What a busy and exciting week we have had in Sticklebacks! In English, we have been working incredibly hard on writing our sentences, with lots of practice using finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. In Maths, we have been developing our counting skills, exploring one more and one less, and learning how to count backwards! In RE, we ventured out into our fields to collect natural resources, which we used to create some wonderful pictures and models after learning that Christians believe God is the creator of all things. We also got creative in Art, learning how to use watercolours and mix paints to make different colours. We are so proud of all the hard work, enthusiasm and creativity the children have shown this week. Keep up the fantastic work, Sticklebacks!

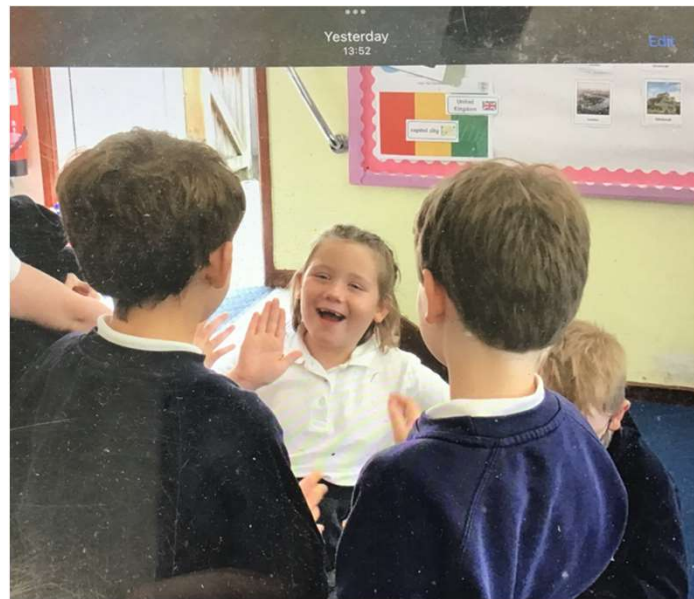
Thank you for your continued work and support at home,
Mrs Wheatley + The Sticklebacks Team



Seahorses.

Seahorses had a fabulous Friday testing surfaces to find out which of them were the best for a brand new race track. We had to make sure the ramps were the same height, same type of car and the same amount of surface tested. Did you know that newspaper is one of the best for a race track surface? Unfortunately, bubble wrap made the cars come to a sudden stop. Any more queries please ask a Seahorse!

In our new RE, Sofia the owl wanted to know how kind the Seahorses could be. We acted out a few different scenarios to show that we are kind and we can show an equal amount of kindness to others. This has helped us to explore The Good Samaritan and discuss the kindness shown in this Bible story.



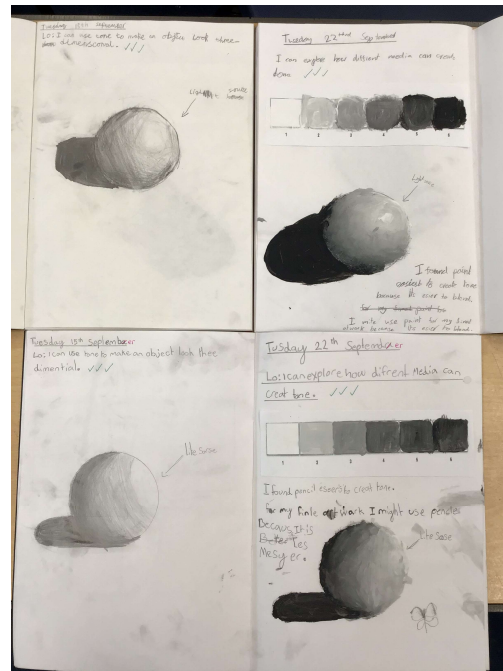
Stingrays.

Stingrays have had an excellent first few weeks of school and have settled into the new academic year brilliantly!

In PE this week, learners have been developing their problem-solving and teamwork skills as they worked together to complete a number of different challenges. In Art, we have been exploring how to use light and dark tones to create 3D images using both pencil and paint.

In Science, we have been learning about different sources of light and exploring how we use light to see the world around us. In our topic lessons, learners have been developing their knowledge of the world. They have been able to identify and locate the continents and oceans on a world map, as well as describe the different biomes found across our planet.

A fantastic start to the year, Stingrays – keep up the great work!



Sharks.

It has been another fantastic week for our Sharks, and I have been so proud to see the care, enthusiasm and pride they continue to put into everything they do.

We have completed our first English unit, writing our own suspense stories set in a world where the lights suddenly go out. These have now been published in the children's portfolios and are of an incredible standard. Every child should feel so proud of what they have achieved and how beautifully they have applied our learning, from expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials to sentence structure and effective punctuation. We are now excited to begin our new unit exploring explanation texts and discovering how we can use our writing skills in a new way.

We have also loved exploring the Anglo-Saxons in History, Sikhism in RE and electricity in Science, where we have been practising scientific circuit diagrams ready to get hands on and build our own circuits.

Forest School has been another highlight, from creating story sticks to lighting our own fire and watching the children's imaginations come alive as they build dens, forts and swings.

It is so lovely to see the Sharks growing in confidence and becoming responsible and respectful role models who truly embody our school's vision and values. I am incredibly proud of each and every one of them and all that they are achieving.

Warmest wishes,
Miss Winstone & The Sharks Team



Music lessons in school



**JOIN AN
iROCK BAND
THIS SEPTEMBER**

**New spaces now open!
Choose your
instrument today.**

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We're here to help
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iRock

As our iRocker school leavers move on to their next adventure, new places are opening for children to start band lessons from September.

About iRock Lessons

- 30-minute band-based music lessons taught by a professional Band Coach
- Lessons take place during school hours
- Easy subscription: cancel at any time, with a first lesson money-back guarantee.
- Open to children aged 4 to 11, regardless of ability or experience
- Children learn popular music while building confidence, teamwork and listening skills
- Pupils can work towards an exam-free RSL Awards music qualification as part of their iRock journey.

**We have spaces available for music lessons starting
in September.**

Music Lessons at School with Musical Minds (Independent Tutor)

Musical Minds is offering *in-school music lessons* for a range of instruments, including **woodwind** (recorder, clarinet, flute and saxophone), **piano**, and **trumpet/cornet**. Lessons are suitable for beginners through to more advanced students and are tailored to support musical enjoyment, confidence, and progress.

For more information or to enquire about availability, please contact:

magic_flute@yahoo.com

Please contact Ms Fulopp-Herman
directly magic_flute@yahoo.com

Dates for your diary

Please see changes to calendar highlighted in red.

Tuesday 23 rd to Friday 26 th Sept:	Book Fair in the hall after school
Wednesday 7 th Oct	Open Morning for prospective Parents (Early Years)
Friday 9 th October:	Hello Yellow Mental Health Day
Wednesday 14th Oct	Individual school photos – am
Tuesday 20th Oct	Harvest festival at Church. 9.30am – Led by Seahorses
Tuesday 20 th October:	Parents' Evening: 3:30-6:30pm
Thursday 22 nd October:	Parents' Evening: 3:30-6:30pm
Friday 23 rd October:	Last day of half term
Monday 2nd November:	INSET Day 2
Tuesday 3 rd November :	Term 1 (2nd half) commences
Wednesday 4th November	Yenworthy parents meeting 3.30pm
Saturday 7th November	FoFs Fireworks Night at 5:00pm
Monday 16 th November:	Anti-Bullying week - Odd Socks Day
Wednesday 25th November	Morning for prospective Parents (EYFS)
Monday 30th November	Christmas Big Sing - Sharks
Tuesday 1 st December	Christmas decorating day
Wednesday 2 nd December:	Whole School trip to Pantomime
<i>Monday 7th December</i>	<i>Minnows Nativity to school: 1:45pm</i>
<i>Tuesday 8th December:</i>	<i>Minnows Nativity to parents: 1:45pm</i>
Friday 11 th December:	FoFs Secret Present Room
<i>Monday 14th Dec:</i>	<i>Sticklebacks Christmas</i>
<i>Tuesday 15th Dec</i>	<i>Production to School 1:45pm</i>
<i>Tuesday 15th December</i>	<i>Sticklebacks Christmas performance to parents 9.30am</i>
	<i>Irock End of term Concert pm</i>
Wednesday 16 th December :	Community Christmas Tea Party at 1:30pm (Stingrays)
Friday 18 th December:	End of Term (Finish at 1:15pm)
Monday 4th January:	INSET Day 3
Tuesday 5th January:	Term 2 (First half begins)
Monday 25th January-	Year5/6 Residential to Yenworthy
Friday 29th January:	
Tuesday 9 th February:	Parents' Evening: 3:30-6:30pm
Tuesday 9 th February:	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 11 th February:	Parents' Evening: 3:30-6:30pm
Friday 12 th February:	Last day of half term
Monday 22 nd February:	Term 2 (second half begins)
Thursday 4 th March:	World Book Day
Monday 8 th March-	Year 5 Bikeability
Thursday 11 th March	
Monday 23 rd March:	Seahorses & Stingrays production to whole school at 1:45pm
Tuesday 24 th March:	Seahorses & Stingrays Production to Parents at 1:45pm
Wednesday 25 th March:	Seahorses & Stingrays Production to Parents at 1:45pm
Thursday 25 th March	End of Term (Finish at 1:15pm)
Monday 12 th April:	Term 3 (First half begins)

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 14 th April:	Swimming for Year 3 begins
Monday 10 th May-	Year 6 SATs week
Thursday 13 th May	
Thursday 27 th May:	May Day Celebrations at 1:30pm
Thursday 27 th May:	Term 3 (First half finishes)
Friday 28th May:	INSET Day 4
Monday 7th June:	Term 3 (Second half begins)
Monday 7 th – Friday 18 th June	Year 4 Multiplication Check
Monday 14 th – Friday 18 th June	Year 1 Phonics screening
Thursday 1 st July:	Sports Day
Monday 12 th July:	Sharks Production to whole school
Tuesday 13 th July:	Sharks Production to whole School
Wednesday 14 th July:	Sharks Production to whole school
Tuesday 20 th July:	Year 6 Leavers' Service at 9:30am
Tuesday 20 th July:	End of Term (Finish at 1:15pm)

Brass lessons – Year 5 Fridays at 10.45am

Forest School is on Monday afternoons: 1-3pm

Term 1 - Sharks

Term 2 - Stingrays

Term 3 - Seahorses

Term 4 - Sticklebacks

Term 5 - Minnows

Term 6 - TBC

These dates and times are subject to change but should give you an idea of our structure for the year.