

Fritwell School Newsletter

Autumn Term 1

Friday 9th October



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move into October, the children are now fully immersed in their topics and are enjoying a wide range of exciting, hands-on learning experiences across the school. This week, Mrs Ejiogu was treated to a fantastic light show by our Year 3 and 4 pupils, who confidently demonstrated their understanding of different light sources and how light helps us to see. The children impressed us with their enthusiasm, creativity and scientific knowledge throughout the activity. A big thank you to all the parents and carers who provided resources to support this learning experience. Your generosity helped make the activity both engaging and memorable for the children.

Year 4 also represented the school at a rugby tournament this week, organised by the Bicester Partnership. The children thoroughly enjoyed participating and were excellent ambassadors for Fritwell CE Primary School, demonstrating teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the event. Well done, Year 4!

We were delighted to host a fantastic Open Morning this week, where prospective families had the opportunity to learn more about life at Fritwell CE Primary School. A special congratulations goes to Eli and Elizabeth in Year 6, who gave an outstanding presentation about their journey through primary school. They spoke with confidence, maturity and enthusiasm, and were a real credit to the school.

As we visited classrooms across the school, it was wonderful to see all pupils speaking eloquently about their learning and demonstrating genuine enthusiasm for their work. There was a lovely atmosphere throughout the school, reflecting the strong sense of community and pride that we value so highly. A huge thank you to Mrs Haselgrove and her wonderful team for welcoming families (there was a huge turnout!) into their setting and helping to make the morning such a success.

This half term, the children have been working particularly hard on their presentation skills, and we have been extremely impressed by the pride they are taking in their work. High standards are evident throughout the school, and it is pleasing to see children taking such care with the presentation of their learning. You will have the opportunity to look through your child's books during the forthcoming Parents' Information Evenings. You should have received a link to book an appointment, and we encourage all families to take this opportunity to celebrate their child's achievements and to hear about the progress they are making.

Looking ahead, we have some exciting events on the horizon. Next week, we are very much looking forward to the Minnows Harvest Show, which will take place on Wednesday 14th October at 2:15pm for parents and carers of children in Minnows Class.

The following week, we will continue our Harvest celebrations with our annual Harvest Service at St Olave's Church. Seahorses Class will be helping to lead the service, and families are warmly invited to join us as we come together to celebrate and give thanks for the harvest season. This service takes place on Tuesday 20th October at 9:30am.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to welcoming many of you to our upcoming events.

Tiddlers.

The Tiddlers have been very busy decorating our classroom ready for autumn. This week our focus is promoting independence and boosting our confidence, through a variety of play based activities. We have been painting leaves using conkers and pinecones. The children have created beautiful patterns. We have two special friends in our classroom, Bertie the Owl and Bobby the Hedgehog who really help us during our routines and our adventure time. Bobby is even helping the children make a hedgehog picture using paint and forks for their spikes.



Minnows.



It has been a fun filled and exciting time in the Minnows classroom over the last two weeks. I would like to thank all the parents that came to the 'Read Write Inc' talk a couple of weeks ago. The children really are flying high with their phonics, and we are having a big push on our letter formation to help the children write their name correctly. Thank you for all you are doing at home with the speed sounds and red and green words. Fred is very proud of the children. A new member of the class joined us this week. Bertie the owl. He is helping us with our 'Knowledge and Understanding of the World'. Bertie introduced to us a few ideas that help us make happy choices.

The build up to the Harvest Show is hotting up and we sang our songs to the people who came and visited us at our Open Morning'. We look forward to welcoming you all on Wednesday 14th October in the school hall at 2.15pm. The doors open at 2.05pm.

The children are showing our school value of 'Respect and Compassion' and The Early Years Team are very impressed with the children's attitude to their learning.

Well done Minnows.



Sticklebacks.

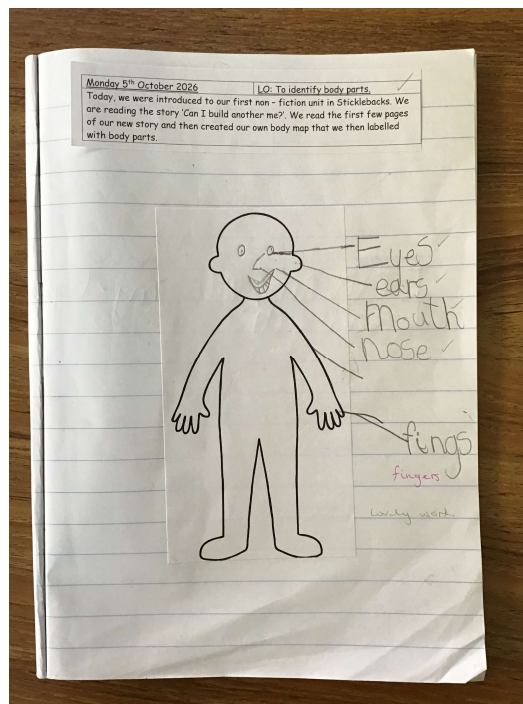
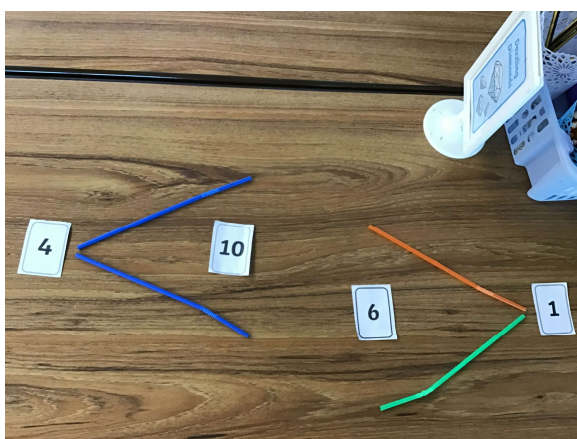
Sticklebacks have been 'number detectives' this week in maths and have been learning the symbols for greater than, less than and equal to. We practised this with straws, numbers, and cubes. The children have worked so hard in this and have been really successful.

We have also been busy creating 'mini me' robots in Literacy as we have been reading our new book 'Can I build another me?'. We've been working on labels and using our phonics in writing. Our year 2's have been busy working out how their body moves and practising writing about this in the past tense!

We've also had a little go at acting in our topic work this week where the children had to decide what makes Wangari Maathai so significant as a person from the past and act out a little scene to explain why.

Keep up the good work Sticklebacks!

Mrs Wheatley & The Sticklebacks Team

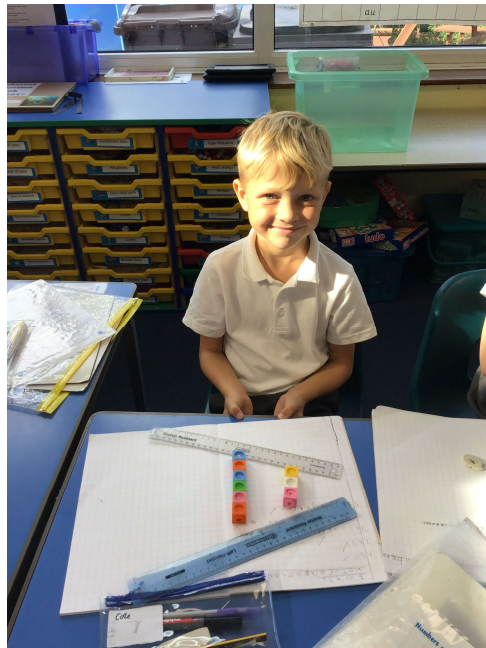


Seahorses.

On Monday, Seahorses walked around Fritwell to learn more about our community and locate some historical facts to understand what life was like in previous times. We located the old laundry, the old department store and found out what the purpose of the now duck pond was. There were many opportunities to think about our vision as we wandered past examples of water and learnt more about our locality.

In our maths, Year 2 were revising greater and smaller than so we can talk more about numbers. Making our own comparisons certainly helped us to visualise which symbol to use in a number sentence. Our *confidence, self-belief and endurance* is growing all of the time.

During PE we timed ourselves running 10 second intervals and trying to beat our best position. There have been so many examples of children showing *love and agape* by cheering on and congratulating classmates on their achievements.



Thursday afternoon, Seahorses joined a Guinness World Record attempt to Go All In to read for 10 minutes alongside children from around the world. Seahorses were incredible and along with reading we learnt some key illustrating skills from a real illustrator!

We need to wait until the end of October to find out whether the attempt was successful but it was great fun and highly exciting!



Stingrays.

We have had a super exciting week in Stingrays!

At the start of the week, we held a light exhibition in our classroom inspired by the artist **Anthony McCall**. Learners brought in a range of different lights from home, which we used to create our very own gallery. We explored the different shapes and shadows that could be created with light and discovered how light can be used within art.

In the middle of the week, learners became scientists and conducted their very own experiment, investigating how mirrors can be used to change the direction of a beam of light.

Towards the end of the week, a group of our learners were lucky enough to attend a T1 Rugby Festival hosted at The Bicester School. They had a fantastic opportunity to develop their teamwork and sportsmanship skills, while meeting and playing alongside other Year 3 and 4 pupils from neighbouring schools. What a busy and brilliant week for Stingrays!



Sharks.

There is so much to celebrate in Sharks over the past fortnight! In English, we have been getting stuck into our explanation texts and have now officially began planning. Based on our Science learning about electricity, this has been an exciting opportunity for the children to bring together their vast knowledge of the topic while applying the writing skills we have developed. From active and passive voice and using commas, dashes and brackets for parenthesis, to showcasing their use of relative clauses and carefully crafting rhetorical questions to entice their readers, they are bringing so much to their writing.

In Maths, we have been busy exploring multiplication and division, developing our understanding of both short and long methods. This has certainly required confidence, self-belief and endurance, alongside celebrating personal success with humility. They are truly showing our school values!

Our Monday Forest School sessions continue to be a highlight. From creating incredible pinecone animals to building swings, ladders and forts in the trees, the children's creativity and imagination never fail to shine.

These are just a few of the many things our Sharks have been achieving. The children continue to fill me and all the adults in Sharks with such pride through their dedication, hard work, focus, maturity and responsibility. It is a real pleasure to be back with them, getting to see them growing into the wonderful young people they are, who embody our school's vision and values.



Harvest festival.

Tuesday 20th October at 9.30am, St Olaves church.

Please bring a donation to school on the morning of harvest festival. Bicester food bank will come and collect it.

Thank you in advance for your support.



Harvest appeal



****No pasta or cereals are needed****

Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the food bank will provide over 150 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Donate money



Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.

Shopping list

Tinned meat/fish

Tinned veg/fruit

Cooking sauces

Coffee

Milk (UHT)

Fruit juice (long-life)

Tinned puddings

Jam or peanut butter

Tinned soup

Hygiene products

info@bicester.foodbank.org.uk
www.bicester.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity In England & Wales (1132169)



Music lessons in school



**JOIN AN
iROCK BAND
THIS SEPTEMBER**

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

[DISCOVER MORE](#) [ENROL NOW](#)

Enrol Online
www.irockschool.com/enrol

We're here to help
☎ 0330 174 2655
✉ info@irockschool.com

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.

Wednesday 14th Oct

Tuesday 20th Oct

Tuesday 20th October:

Thursday 22nd October:

Friday 23rd October:

Monday 2nd November:

Tuesday 3rd November :

Wednesday 4th November

Saturday 7th November

Monday 16th November:

Wednesday 25th November

Monday 30th November

Tuesday 1st December

Wednesday 2nd December:

Monday 7th December

Tuesday 8th December:

Wednesday 9th December

Friday 11th December:

Monday 14th Dec:

Tuesday 15th Dec

Tuesday 15th December

Wednesday 16th December :

Friday 18th December:

Monday 4th January:

Tuesday 5th January:

Monday 25th January-

Friday 29th January:

Tuesday 9th February:

Tuesday 9th February:

Thursday 11th February:

Friday 12th February:

Monday 22nd February:

Thursday 4th March:

Monday 8th March-

Thursday 11th March

Monday 23rd March:

1:45pm

Tuesday 24th March:

1:45pm

Wednesday 25th March:

1:45pm

Thursday 25th March

Monday 12th April:

Individual school photos – am

Harvest festival at Church. 9.30am – Led by Seahorses

Parents' Evening: 3:30-6:30pm

Parents' Evening: 3:30-6:30pm

Last day of half term

INSET Day 2

Term 1 (2nd half) commences

Yenworthy parents meeting 3.30pm

FoFs Fireworks Night at 5:00pm

Anti-Bullying week - Odd Socks Day

Open Morning for prospective Parents (EYFS)

Christmas Big Sing - Sharks

Christmas decorating day

Whole School trip to Pantomime

Minnows Nativity to school: 1:45pm

Minnows Nativity to parents: 1:45pm

School Christmas lunch

FoFs Secret Present Room

Sticklebacks Christmas

Production to School 1:45pm

Sticklebacks Christmas performance to parents

9.30am

Irock End of term Concert pm

Community Christmas Tea Party at 1:30pm (Stingrays)

End of Term (Finish at 1:15pm)

INSET Day 3

Term 2 (First half begins)

Year5/6 Residential to Yenworthy

Parents' Evening: 3:30-6:30pm

Safer Internet Day

Parents' Evening: 3:30-6:30pm

Last day of half term

Term 2 (second half begins)

World Book Day

Year 5 Bikeability

Seahorses & Stingrays production to whole school at

Seahorses & Stingrays Production to Parents at

Seahorses & Stingrays Production to Parents at

End of Term (Finish at 1:15pm)

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.