Fritwell School Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 Friday 23rd October

Dear Parents and Carers,
As we reach the end of another busy and successful half term, I would like to thank you for your continued support. It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers at our recent Parents' Evenings. We hope you found the meetings informative and that they provided a valuable opportunity to celebrate your child's achievements and discuss their learning and progress so far this year.

We are incredibly proud of all that the children have accomplished this half term. Their enthusiasm, hard work and resilience have been evident across the school, and we are grateful for the strong partnership between home and school that helps them to flourish.

*A special thank you to **Seahorses Class** for leading such a wonderful Harvest Festival service. The children spoke and sang beautifully, helping us all reflect on the importance of gratitude and supporting others. Thank you to Ms Allen and Mrs Clayton for getting the children ready to support with the service. We would also like to thank everyone who generously donated items for the Food Bank. Your kindness and support will make a real difference to local families.*

*Well done also to our amazing **Minnows Class** for their brilliant Harvest performance. For many of the children, this was their very first performance in front of an audience, and they were incredibly brave, confident, and enthusiastic. We were so proud of them all. A huge thank you to Mrs Haselgrove and the team for all their hard work in helping the children become such performing superstars!*

Changes to Governance

As part of the ongoing development of governance across our Trust, our local governance structure has changed from a Governing Board to an Academy Committee. While the committee continues to provide support, challenge and strategic oversight for the school, it now operates within the wider governance framework of the Trust.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt thanks to our outgoing Chair and Vice-Chair, Rebecca Kyte and Rob Cornish, for their many years of dedicated service to Fritwell CE Primary School. Their unwavering commitment, wisdom and support have played a significant role in the school's journey and development, and we are extremely grateful for all they have contributed to our community over the years. Throughout their time in post, they have helped guide the school through periods of change and development, always keeping the best interests of our children and community at the heart of their decision-making.

We are also delighted to welcome James Cook as the new Chair of the Academy Committee and look forward to working together to support the continued success and development of the school.

Pupil Leadership Groups

Thank you to all the children who applied for positions in the Pupil Leadership Groups. We have met with each group and they have all been given their leadership badges. Please remind your child to wear their badge with pride every day, not just on days when they may be meeting as a leadership group. Look out for more information on each group and the actions they will be working on this academic year in the first newsletter after half term.

We wish all of our families a happy, restful and enjoyable half-term break. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on ***Tuesday 3rd November*** *for the start of another exciting half term.*

We are also looking forward to the ***Friends of Fritwell Fireworks Night on Saturday 7th November****, which promises to be a fantastic community event. Thank you to the Friends of Fritwell team for their hard work in organising this much-loved occasion. We hope to see many of you there.*

Thank you once again for your ongoing support. Have a wonderful half term and we look forward to seeing you all again in November.

Tiddlers.

t has been an incredible week in Tiddlers! As part of our *Myself and My Community* theme, we have been on an exciting journey around the world. We made our own passports, discovered new places and hopped on a plane to visit Japan, Mexico, France, and Greece. We even welcomed a special visitor and learn a little more about the French culture. We learnt what school is like in different countries and finished our adventures with a picnic with our teddy bears.





Minnows.

It has been a jam packed few weeks for the Reception children. The class performed two 'Harvest Shows'. One to the school where all the children throughout the school joined in with 'Big Green Combine Harvester' and a performance to all the parents. The hall was full of smiling faces, and the children were very proud of their performances. Thank you to all the parents for your continued support.

The highlight of last week was visit from Portway Cattery. Mrs Parker and Carol brought 3 rescue kittens in for the children to hold and stroke. Cole and Bodhi helped talk to the class about Portway and all the other animals they look after. What a pillar of the community the cattery is. Throughout the afternoon all the children showed many aspects of our school values including 'Respect and Compassion' and 'Love and Agape'.

The walk to the church was a rather soggy one, and despite the rain the children walked safely and calmly with their Year 5 and 6 Buddy. It was great to see the children sit and listen to the Harvest performance in the setting of the local church.

Have a happy and restful half term. Holly Haselgrove





Sticklebacks.

What a last week we've had in Sticklebacks! All the children have been troopers, despite feeling a little tired now! We have been very busy tackling the last few lessons in Art, Science, History and RE.

We have had a go at creating our final piece of work for a Picasso inspired portrait using pencils and watercolours. As well as this, the children also had a go at creating a beautiful autumnal wreath to decorate their homes over half term. In literacy this week, the children have finished their final non – fiction pieces all about them! We have had some beautiful pieces of work which they have shown off all around the school. For our year 1 maths this week, we have put all of our learning into practise by having active maths! The children have been creating part whole models, using cubes to find one more and one less and using counters to help us write some number sentences.

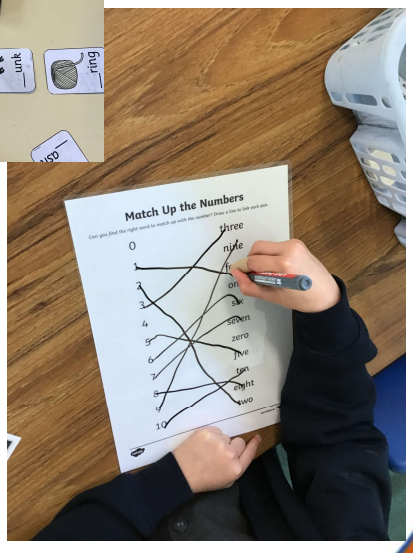
Lastly, a very big thank you to the parents who booked time with me at parents evening. It was lovely to talk about all the progress your children have made, it is incredible what they have accomplished in such a short space of time.

Enjoy your half term break and we hope to see the children refreshed and ready to tackle another exciting term in the lead up to Christmas!

Mrs Wheatley + The Sticklebacks team.







Seahorses.

Harvest Festival

It was a fantastic turnout on a rainy day for the Seahorses' Harvest Festival. All of the children worked on words and holding pictures up as well as singing along to the songs we have learnt this term. Well done to the children for speaking with great confidence and determination.

English

We have just completed a non-chronological report about Hassan who travelled from Somalia. The children decided whether they were writing a celebrity report, a teacher report or a report for another child to read. They were able to be imaginative as well as show great compassion for how different Hassan's life is.

Geography

Seahorses became meteorological experts in Geography and wrote a wonderful weather report for Fritwell. They learnt the symbols and the descriptive vocabulary that the Met Office are keen to hear used.

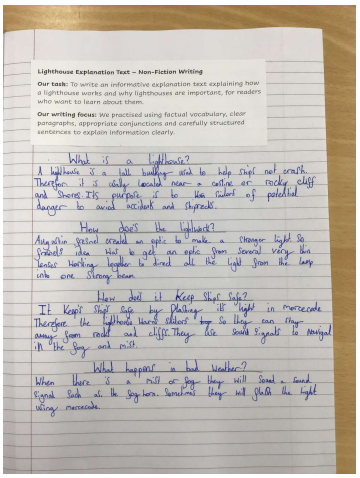
Stingrays.

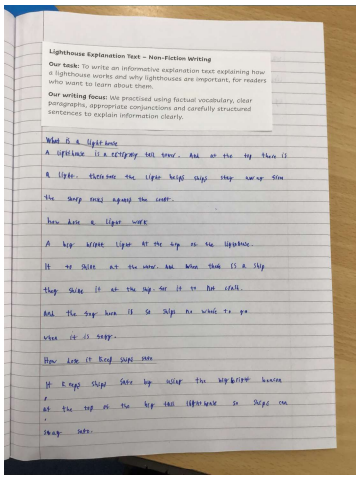
Wow, how time has flown! It's hard to believe we're already at the end of our first half term!

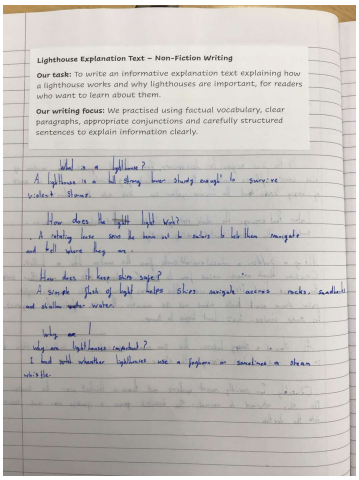
Over the past two weeks, Stingrays have been busy writing their very own explanation texts, informing readers all about the purpose and inner workings of lighthouses. In Art this week, learners completed their final pieces, showcasing their fantastic use of shape, proportion and tone to create realistic 3D sketches. In Science, we have had lots of fun experimenting with light and shadows, investigating how shadows are formed and how they can change. Meanwhile, in Geography, we have been exploring the different deserts of the world, discovering where they are located and learning about their fascinating landscapes and terrains.

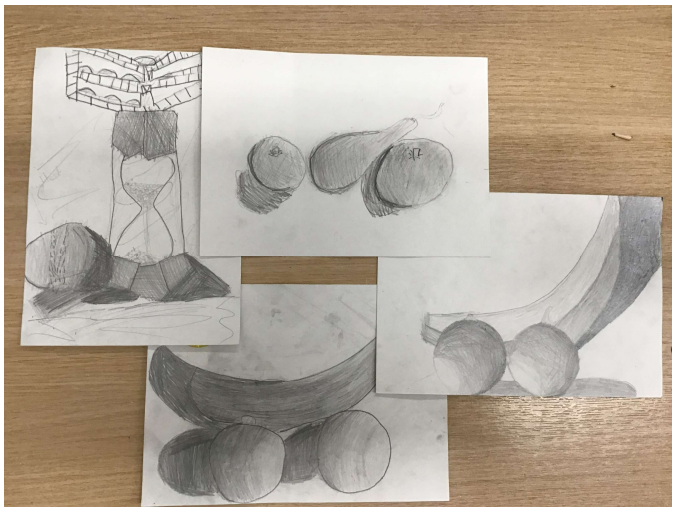
What a fantastic first half term it has been! We can't wait to continue exploring these exciting topics and begin some brand-new ones after the break.

Wishing all our Stingrays and their families a wonderful and well-deserved half-term holiday!









Sharks.

The Sharks have had some truly exciting learning experiences over the past couple of weeks! I feel so proud of the way they continue to throw themselves into new opportunities and make the most of everything school has to offer.

In English, we have been exploring climate change poetry, discovering how poets use features such as figurative language, alliteration, rhyme and enjambment to express powerful ideas and emotions. The children then put their creativity to the test by writing their own climate change poems, using their growing understanding of poetic techniques to share their thoughts on this important topic.

In History, we brought our learning about Anglo-Saxon village life and traditional jobs into the kitchen! Having explored how people lived and worked, the children baked their own Anglo-Saxon-inspired honey, oat and dried apple biscuits using ingredients available during Anglo-Saxon times. It was a wonderful hands-on way to bring the past to life!

We also enjoyed a fascinating online talk about the Bayeux Tapestry, bringing History learning to life in a whole new way.

One particularly exciting highlight was seeing three of our very own Sharks, Ben, Xander and Grace, represent the class on BBC Radio Oxford! They joined the breakfast show to share our plans for Children in Need and help build excitement for our fundraising activities. What a fantastic opportunity, and how proud we are of them for representing Sharks so brilliantly!

It is wonderful to see the children embracing new experiences and making the most of every opportunity that comes their way. They have so much to be proud of, both in and beyond the classroom!

Warmest wishes,

Miss Winstone & The Sharks Team









Harvest festival.

Thank you for your kind donations, Bicester Food Bank are extremely grateful.



Bicester Foodbank
Together with Trussell

Amazing Harvest!

Fritwell Primary School

Thank you for collecting 83.42kg in harvest donations to support the work of Bicester Foodbank.

Your support will make a huge difference to the lives of people living in financial hardship.

Alison Drake
Foodbank Manager

Registered charity number 1132169.

Other Opportunities.





[Littlest Yak]

About the Event

Please note, this show takes place in Bicester at our pop-up theatre space in Bicester Leisure Centre (Queens Avenue, OX26 2NR).

This musical adaptation of the award winning children's book by Lu Fraser and Kate Hindley will delight audiences young and old with beautiful puppets, catchy tunes and an uplifting tale of self acceptance for all the family.

Gertie is great at being THE LITTLEST YAK, with the CURLIEST, WHIRLIEST wool and the GRIPPIEST of hooves for clip clopping up cliffs. Only, Gertie doesn't want to be the littlest. She's in a rush to grow up and be just like THE BIG YAKS. But what if there are some things that only a GERTIE can do?

A gorgeous story celebrating YOU being perfect...just the way you are!

LAS theatre brings The Littlest Yak to the stage in spectacular fashion. Join them for a dazzling adventure, into the heart of the Himalayas.

Nominated for a YAKTASTIC 4 Off WestEnd Awards!

Group discount: Tickets only £15 when booking 4 or more!

This would be amazing to share on any Newsletters you have going out in November.

Thank you so much!

https://www.themillartscentre.co.uk/event/the-littlest-yak/

Music lessons in school



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.

Friday 23rd October:	Last day of half term
Monday 2nd November:	**INSET Day 2**
Tuesday 3rd November :	Term 1 (2nd half) commences
Wednesday 4th November	Yenworthy parents meeting 3.30pm
Saturday 7th November	**FoFs Fireworks Night at 5:00pm**
Friday 13th November	**School Disco**
Monday 16th November:	Anti-Bullying week - Odd Socks Day
Wednesday 25th November	Open Morning for prospective Parents (EYFS)
Friday 27th November	Minnows Trip.
Monday 30th November	Christmas Big Sing - Sharks
Tuesday 1st December	Christmas decorating day
Wednesday 2nd December:	Whole School trip to Pantomime
Friday 4th December	FoFs Christmas Fair
Monday 7th December	*Minnows Nativity to school: 1:45pm*
Tuesday 8th December:	*Minnows Nativity to parents: 1:*45pm
Wednesday 9th December	School Christmas lunch
Friday 11th December:	FoFs Secret Present Room
Monday 14th Dec:	*Sticklebacks Christmas Production to School 1:45pm*
Tuesday 15th Dec	*Sticklebacks Christmas performance to parents 9.30am*
Tuesday 15th December	*Irock End of term Concert pm*
Wednesday 16th December :	Community Christmas Tea Party at 1:30pm (Stingrays)
Friday 18th 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-Friday 29th January:	**Year5/6 Residential to Yenworthy**
Monday 8th February:	Parents' Evening: 3:30-6:30pm
Tuesday 9th February:	Parents' Evening: 3:30-5:30pm
Tuesday 9th February:	Safer Internet Day
Friday 12th February:	Last day of half term
Monday 22nd February:	Term 2 (second half begins)
Thursday 4th March:	World Book Day
Monday 8th March-Thursday 11th March	Year 5 Bikeability
Monday 23rd March:	Seahorses & Stingrays production to whole school at 1:45pm
Tuesday 24th March:	Seahorses & Stingrays Production to Parents at 1:45pm
Wednesday 25th March:	Seahorses & Stingrays Production to Parents at 1:45pm
Thursday 25th March	End of Term (Finish at 1:15pm)
Monday 12th April:	Term 3 (First half begins)

Dates for your diary

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