



FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Only one you



Dear Parents,

Well, it's been a super-tricky end of term for our Fishbourne family, hasn't it? What with Covid-19 sweeping in and the visit of Storm Barra, we have been tested to our limits. We have certainly had to exercise our learning behaviours of courage, and collaboration at so many points as adults, as children and as families. Despite the twists and turns, we have worked hard to give those children learning in school and those learning at home some lovely opportunities and collaborated together to do the very best that we can.

Our governing body have supported the school each step of the way and held short-notice, emergency meetings each of which started with a reminder of our WHY, our core purpose. It is wonderful have such a clear vision that guides our decision making processes:

'There is only one you in this great big world... make it a better place.'

Our governing body have guided and supported us through the decisions that we have made and they certainly make our school a better place to be. A huge thank you to each of them for the role they have played. The governing body will be meeting again on Monday 3rd January to review our contingency measures before we get in touch about arrangements for the spring term.

I am truly thankful to each member of our incredible staff team who have navigated these uncharted territories with grace and sheer determination to keep going, holding our little fish and their needs at the heart of everything they do. We have been so grateful for all the wonderful messages of encouragement and support that have kept us going throughout an extremely challenging time! We very much hope that those of you who have found yourselves at home in the final days of the autumn term have continued to feel connected with the school during this time.



Our Christmas service was very different to the one we had planned but we came together as a school family via Zoom to celebrate the birth of Christ together! Inspired by the Bible Society's great new Christmas story, The Impossible Promise, Mrs Rinaldi and some of our Worship Team put together a really lovely service with the help of Mike. Here is the link in case you would like to share this animation with your family:

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/christmas/>

We have been on a mission to try to create a sense of togetherness this Christmas, knowing so many of our children are at home. On Thursday afternoon, we will come together to enjoy SANTA LIVE—an online, interactive pantomime! Huge thanks to our fabulous FOFS team for funding this experience for our children and all the delicious treats that we all enjoyed!

PantoLIVE



It was lovely to see all our little fish enjoying their Christmas shopping in school this week. The children were able to choose gifts for loved ones and always take great care in their choices, reflecting carefully about their special people. HUGE thanks to our wonderful FOFS team who made Christmas shopping a possibility for ALL children! This week in school we shared a beautiful

story—The Christmas Department Store in which Benji learns that the joy of Christmas doesn't have to cost a penny! This is a lovely story to share as a family:

Christmas for Benji has lost its magic. This year, his family can't afford a tree, or even a turkey. But then he stumbles upon the most extraordinary department store, where polar bears talk and the presents are out of this world.



In January, we look forward to welcoming Mrs Hannah Macdonald who will be joining Cheetah class and Crocodile class as part of their team as a Learning Support Assistant. Miss Baldwin will be joining Hippo class as their new teacher after February half term. We look forward very much to welcoming them both to our Fishy family and hope that they will be very happy here.

We have been delighted to see how well our children have responded to our new Behaviour for Learning and Life policy and our three rules: **Ready? Respectful? and Safe?**

Throughout the term we have focused on each of these rules and explored what they mean to our school family.

We have celebrated them throughout school in our weekly Golden Learner assemblies and it has been brilliant to see how well the children have taken them on. In recent weeks we have also used the NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe

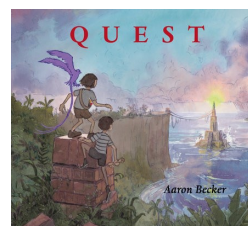
programme in school with children from Year 1 - Year 6 to support the children's

understanding about how they can stay safe both in and out of school. They have learned the NSPCC telephone number:

08001111



We love books very much at Fishbourne CE Primary and our library brings a great deal of joy to us all. Mrs Whittaker does a wonderful job of keeping an ever-changing collection of books on display to inspire the children and to make them aware of the incredible books they can choose from.



When the children come back to school following the Christmas holiday, they will be taking part in our next whole school learning experience, **QUEST**.

Quest is the second in a trilogy of wordless picture books created by Aaron Becker. Our children will be immersed in Aaron's work and become story

breathers! We are super-excited about returning to the adventures of the two friends and their magical markers that will inspire our young

authors. As adults in school, we will be focusing in

particularly on how we assess children's progress between baseline and end goal and how we plan for the personalised steps of learning. This is one of our

priorities on our school development plan as we recognise how important it is that we both continue to teach the writing curriculum to our children while also

ensuring that we meet the children at their personal starting points. Staff have spent time together looking at samples of the children's writing, identifying

what the children's next steps are and reflecting on ways that they can ensure that the children get the personalised support they need during a sequence of

teaching and learning. We look forward very much to sharing the outcomes of this learning experience with you so that you can see the progress that your

children are making. As usual, your child's learning journal will come home at the end of this experience for you to share the journey with them!

Booktalk!

Book Talk noun (bʊk tɔːk)
1. A conversation about a book that one's read, infused with joy and emotion. Best if done daily.

We LOVE reading and deliver reading lessons through whole class texts which are chosen

especially with the unique cohort in mind. As a

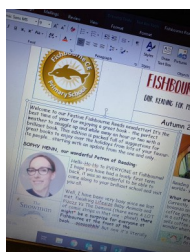
result, each year we hunt for a local company to match-fund a whole class texts - our wonderful FOFS fundraisers con-

tribute £750 and this is matched by a local business. In the past, we have been supported by Humberts and Fandango Digital. Do you know

someone who might like to support us in this way? We would advertise your company on our bookplates!

Fishbourne Reads Festive Edition

Do keep an eye out for the next edition of Fishbourne Reads that came out last week. It's packed full of lovely suggestions for books you may enjoy reading as a family as well as some very exciting news from Sophy Henn, our Patron of Reading. Please do share it with your children and encourage them to spend some time reading over the Christmas holidays - it's such an important part of their learning and it makes a tremendous difference to their development!



As we break up for the Christmas holidays, it seems apt to remind ourselves of the role we all play in making the world a better place to be through Nelson Mandela's words: **'We can change the world and make it a better place. It is in your hands to make a difference.'** Our school vision is to make the world a better place to be - it is in **our** hands!

Wishing you a happy and safe Christmas break. We look forward very much indeed to seeing you all in 2022.

With our love and thanks
Fishbourne CE Primary



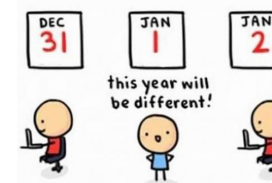
CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE

People in our village who make the world a better place to be...

We are absolutely thrilled to be taking two groups of children to Chichester Festival Theatre in the coming weeks to see Pinocchio and Private Peaceful. Both groups will have been part of Book Talk groups in school and will have read the book prior to going to the theatre. The trip to the theatre has been made possible through a very generous gift. We are enormously grateful for making this opportunity possible and we know the children will gain a tremendous amount from this. These are the sorts of experiences that our children will remember forever and we know will provide so many valuable opportunities for learning.



We were also enormously grateful to Dee Leach who has again provided our little fish with a grant through Gareth's Legacy to enjoy Forest School again during the summer term. Dee's annual gift gives our children the opportunity to take part in our whole school Forest School Day each year—you can read more about this here: <https://www.fishbourneprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Gareth%20s+Legacy&pid=89>

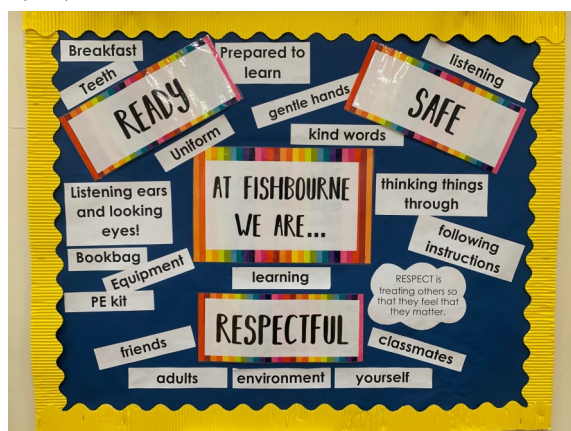


New Years Resolutions

As we move to the start of a new year, we would love you to commit to some new years resolutions to support your child's learning...
1) Support your children to increase their fluency and automaticity with recalling number facts. Those children in Y2 and above will be learning their times tables and these are such essential foundations for the children

to have in place as they move through the mathematics curriculum.
2) READ with your children (and to your children!) every day—make it a part of your routine. It makes a HUGE difference to confidence and enjoyment.
3) Arrive in school ON TIME! The gates at school open at 8.45am. The children are greeted by their class teacher and start a morning activity. At 8.55am the bell is rung at which point the gates to the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds are locked. All children should be in school by 8.55am at the latest.

Our Behaviour for Learning and Life policy is now up on our school website so please do have a look! Our three key 'rules' are: Ready? Respectful? Safe? We have spent this half term exploring what each of these words means to our school family during our assembly times. Lots of families have told us that they are using these 'rules' at home now too to support their children and this has really helped them! Wonderful!



Understanding Young People's Mental Health for parents and carers

Workshops for parents and carers of children and young people to help support their child's mental health.

As a parent we often find ourselves ill-equipped when it comes to dealing with, or even being aware of, our child's or young person's mental wellbeing, but help is at hand. West Sussex Mind are running a series of friendly, confidential and relaxed workshops where we will learn about the challenges to young people's mental health, gain confidence in having conversations about how they are feeling and thinking and explore ways to help your young person with any emotional difficulties. Please see dates overleaf or on Eventbrite at westsussexmind.eventbrite.com

West Sussex Mind are running these events on behalf of West Sussex County Council



Dates for 2022

As with all areas of our lives at the moment, there is still some uncertainty regarding planning events. The dates below are guidelines and may be subject to change!



Tue 4th Jan: First day of the spring term and start of our whole school learning experience, QUEST
Thursday 13th January: FOFS Meeting 730pm in staffroom
Friday 14th January: Postponed - new date to be confirmed
Monday 17th January: INSET Day
Thursday 20th January: Full Governors Meeting
Wednesday 26th January: Fete Meeting 7.00pm in staffroom
Monday 28th February: INSET Day
Week beginning 4th April: Mid-year learning reports coming home
Friday 8th April: Break up for the Easter holidays
One further INSET day is yet to be set in the summer term

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY: 22nd July

This is the date that has been identified by the local authority to mark the Queen's Jubilee, meaning that the last day of the summer term will be 21st July.



CHICHESTER
HARBOUR
CONSERVANCY

Winter Wellbeing Welly Walks

We are very excited to be offering Winter Wellbeing Welly Walks to children in Year 4, 5 and 6 after the Christmas holidays. The purpose of these walks is for our children to enjoy the harbour at two different states of tide and have time outside, enjoying the beautiful environment in which they live.

WELLIES are absolutely essential on these sessions!

Tuesday 11th Jan	Year 6
Wed 12th Jan	Year 5
Tuesday 18th Jan	Year 6
Wed 19th Jan	Year 5
Friday 4th Feb	Year 4
Friday 11th Feb	Year 4

AT FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, WE NURTURE OUR LEARNERS TO BECOME...

