



FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Only one you

Dear Parents,

A huge thank you to all families who have sent messages of encouragement and support over recent weeks as we have faced another wave of Covid-19 sweeping through our school family. At the moment we are finding our little fish bounce back quickly, usually returning on day six while our adults are being hit much more significantly with symptoms that have a more lasting impact. We continue to ensure that we can keep all our classes open but this is testament to the tremendous hard work, flexibility and additional support our staff team are so willing to give. My huge thanks to each and every one of them who have pulled together to make some amazing things happen in school.



It was lovely to have the opportunity to read every single one of the mid-year learning reports coming home to you this week and hear the children's reflections about themselves as learners. This is such an important time of the academic year for us to stop, think deeply and identify the children's next steps as learners. Within each report there are suggestions about things you could be doing at home to support your children's learning

in school. Writing reports is a time consuming process but something we invest in because we believe that, when timed well, they can have a real impact on the children's progress. Please do take time to share them with your children and send back your feedback forms too.

Many families valued the Open Classrooms sessions straight after February half term as an opportunity to come and meet with the class teacher/s and hear about the learning coming up as well as having an opportunity to look through the children's journals and books. Thank you to everyone who attended these meetings, it was so encouraging to see how many families were there and keen to work in partnership with us to support the children.



The children have been delighted to be back in the Secret Garden and enjoying Forest School sessions again. It has been glorious to see them playing, exploring, following lines of enquiry and having truly wonderful, carefree afternoons of joyful learning in the great outdoors! Activities have included whittling, weaving, baking cakes in the mud kitchen, climbing trees, paddling in the stream, lighting fires, munching on smores to name just a few. Watching their play unfold is an absolute privilege and it is lovely for staff to be able to chat with them as they explore and re-discover the activities that they enjoy so much.



I am certain you will have heard from your children about the visit we had from the Kingdom Gospel Choir recently. Kingdom Choir sang at Harry and Megan's wedding and many other very high profile events. They spent the day spreading pure joy among our school family, leading workshops and performing. Words

really don't do justice to the impact they have had on all of us during their visit. If you don't do so already, you might like to consider following our school Instagram account where we have some lovely film of their performance: [fishbourneprimary](https://www.instagram.com/fishbourneprimary)

In our recent Parent Survey, many of you said how much your children had missed out on school trips and visitors over the last two academic years and we couldn't agree more! It has been just great to see that the children have been out and about enjoying lots of wonderful opportunities in our local area as well as being able to invite visitors back into school again.



Year 5 were hooked into their learning at the Arundel Wetland Centre.



Year 4 being hooked into their learning while enjoying a day at Butser Ancient Farm.



Year 2 enjoying a day at the beach with Chichester Harbour Conservancy Trust as a hook into their geographical Coast Learning Experience.



Year 5 visited the Planetarium in Chichester to be hooked into learning as part of their study of Space in science.



Our youngest children enjoyed a visit from Little City as part of their Hats Learning Experience!



Y1 enjoyed their first school trip and visited Marwell as part of their learning experience.



Y3 visited Butser Hill as part of their learning experience about The Stone Age on a lovely, sunny day!

We know how important these opportunities are for our little fish and are very grateful that you also recognise this importance and support us financially and with your time to support us in keeping the children safe on these visits. A huge thank you to all those of you who have volunteered your time to be able to support us! Please do remember that we do request that all those attending school trips to support with groups have a DBS certificate.

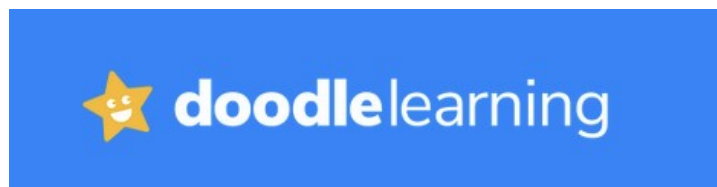
We will shortly be recruiting again for our VOLUNTEER ARMY for next academic year which has had the most amazing impact on our children as readers! Please do let us know if this is something you would be interested in supporting us with. You can find out more on our school website!





It has also been super to get our children out to a range of sporting events that are on offer for them to enjoy meeting and competing against children from other schools. Many of our children in Y5 and 6 haven't had this opportunity to compete in these sorts of events and so we have been particularly proud of the way that they have taken these events in their stride, competing positively and courageously and really enjoyed themselves! The Chichester Corporate Challenge is a road running event that takes place over three Wednesday's in February and March for children in Year 5 and above- the children run twice around a circuit in central Chichester, returning each time to beat their personal best times! We had a large group of children from both year five and six competing in these events (the photo above is of some of our Y6 boys team!) and it was lovely to see some of our parents racing too!

A huge congratulations to this year's Fishbourne Swim Team who competed at the WSW Swimming Gala today. They were super ambassadors for our school, showing excellent sportsmanship, courage, and determination. We finished a very respectable 6th out of 14 schools taking part. Special mentions go to: Charlie 2nd in butterfly Elliot 3rd in the backstroke Lexi 4th in butterfly The boys medley team 4th overall and boys freestyle relay 3rd!



Doodle Learning is an online personalised, adaptive programme which not only improves ability, but boosts confidence, making every child feel brilliant! We have piloted this programme in school and it has been a resounding success with lots of positive feedback from children, staff and parents! We have now purchased a subscription for each child in school to be able to access the Doodle Learning platform for a full academic year. Just 10 minutes a day spent engaging with the programme would make a considerable difference to your child's progress and we highly recommend time spent using the app at home! **Please check your parentmail email for further information of details about how to access it.**



Little Fish who make our world a better place to be!



Year 5 got our fundraising for Children on the Edge and The Sanctuary off to a flying start with a cake sale that raised **£226.57**. What an amazing start!



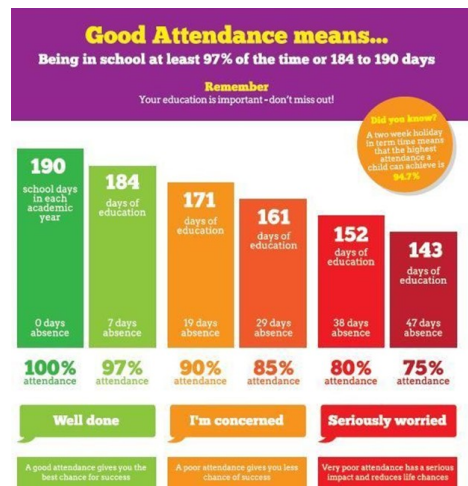
Hello, my name is Dan and I'm a parent governor appointed in September 2021. I have two daughters in the school, one in Crocodile class (Year 1) and the other in Penguin class (Year 4).



I've become a governor after a number of years involvement with FOFS and other volunteering roles in the school. Since taking on the governor role I have attended two full governor meetings that take place termly. At these meetings we review progress that has been made against objectives, discuss any issues that need governor action and hear about the outcomes of the various committees that support the school. With the easing of COVID restrictions these have taken place in person, allowing me to meet the other governors who I will be working with. In addition to the full governing board, I have been appointed to the finance committee, a role that provides oversight of how the school are planning to spend the allocated funds.

The highlight for me to date has been the opportunity to go into school and see how the children are taught, with a particular focus on writing. Seeing how children across the year groups enjoyed writing and took pride in reading their work to us was a pleasure to see.

Before half term, we sent home letters about attendance in school. We recognise attendance in schools has been impacted very negatively by self-isolation requirements which are beyond anyone's control. This does however mean that attendance in school is more critical than ever before and this infographic provides a very important reminder about how critical school attendance is. Please do support us by ensuring your children attend school.



Dates for Summer Term 2022

Wed 18th May—Fete meeting
Thu 5th May - FOFS Meeting 730pm in staff room
Mon 9th - Fri 13th May: SATS Week
Tue 17th May—Official class photo day
Tue 24th May—Young Voices 02 Arena

Half term:
Mon 30th May - Fri 3rd June

Mon 6th June - INSET day
Wed 8th June - Jubilee Celebrations
Week beginning 13th June - Whole School Learning Experience: The Apprentice!
Sat 18th June - School and Church Fete
Thu 23rd June - FOFS Meeting 730pm in staff room
Tue 28th June - Leaver's Service at Cathedral (1.15pm)
Sat 9th July - Woolstock
Thu 21st July - School breaks up for summer holiday

**NEW DATE!!!! FINAL INSET DAY OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR:
Monday 6th June 2022**

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.

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

