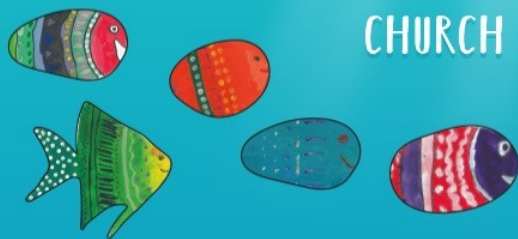




October 2022

FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Only one you



Dear Parents,

As autumn arrives and the leaves turn, our school site always looks absolutely stunning, especially in the sunshine! There is a real sense of awe and wonder as the autumnal sunshine brings the school grounds to life and the children love to build dens and create art with the leaves during their

playtimes. There is also so much to look forward to during the autumn term as the evenings draw in - fireworks, remembrance, advent and of course the build up to Christmas. Primary Schools are undoubtedly the very best place to be during this time although do spare a thought for the amazing staff team during this time who make incredible things happen despite the fizzy excitement (and poor Mr Stemp and Mrs O'Donnell who often arrive to classrooms that reflect the joyous merriment that has gone before!).

It's been a really busy, exciting and fun half term to start the school year and it is fabulous to see how well the children have settled into their new year groups. Thank you for your attendance at Learning Review



Meetings - it is so important that we work together in partnership to ensure that our children are flourishing. During learning review meetings we will have been explicit with you about exactly where your child is in their learning, their next steps and ways in which you can support at home. Please do work with us on this! If you weren't able to make your child's review PLEASE do make contact with the class teacher to ensure that you have the opportunity to meet as soon as possible.



We are passionate about giving the children the opportunity to lead in different areas of school life! In fact, our Year 6 children started their year with a learning experience focused on the principles of leadership. Each child in Year 6 has been given the opportunity to lead in school - whether this is with setting up reading, art,

dance or drama groups for children in Year 1 and 2 or leading in service at lunchtimes and supporting with the smooth running of KS1 lunch sitting. Other opportunities in school for children in KS2 include volunteering as Book Worms, Playground Leaders, Football Referees or contributing to our Worship Team. Every child who gives up their time to serve the school in these roles, makes our school a better place to be! We are so proud to see our little fish serving the school community in this way and we see how much they gain from these opportunities too.



We are currently investigating having a therapy dog onsite as part of our provision on a more regular, but not full time, basis from the beginning of next academic year. The dog would work in much the same way as Rosa (Pets As Therapy) does initially with a view longer term to spending time in classrooms if this is something that the temperament of the dog and class teachers would like. This is something we plan to discuss with governors and have started looking into training, insurance, risk assessments etc. If anyone has any concern about this in relation to allergies or anything else, please do come and have a chat.

This Christmas we are planning something very special for our whole school family which will be a little different! The last couple of pandemic impacted years have meant that many of our traditional events have had to be cancelled or adapted under whatever regulations we were impacted by at the time. As a result, many of our children have missed their opportunity to be part of the telling of the Christmas story and we feel that this year it gives us a wonderful chance to do something completely different. Our nativity story this year will involve all year groups in a promenade outdoor performance... it will depend on us all—children, staff, families and the wider community to work collaboratively (one of our learning behaviours) to make something magical happen! We are extremely excited and can't wait to share more information with you soon. For the moment, two essential details for you:



*Keep the afternoon of Wednesday 14th December free and start praying for a crisp, cold day with no whisper of wind and certainly no rain!

*We will be asking every child to bring in a simple costume, the details of which we will share with you by the middle of November with plenty of time to source.



Excitement is mounting for our trip to the West End to watch The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe with children in Key Stage 2. The children have now started their whole class book study and this will be their focus for whole class reading over the next couple of weeks before starting their narrative focused learning experience. We will increasingly be working in this way with our whole class texts being used once a term to then teach high quality narrative writing, inspired by the text.

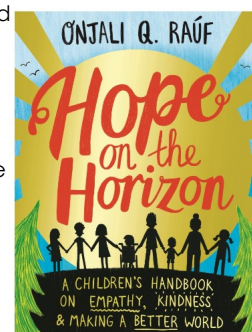
Over the course of the year the children will have a wealth of opportunities to bump into an array of fantastically diverse authors and illustrators. Our teaching team are currently planning collaboratively to ensure that the children have lots of opportunities to be inspired by CS Lewis' masterpiece and to become writers themselves. We are looking forward to seeing what the children produce and showcasing their writing with you.

After half term, a new club will be launched for children in Year 4, 5 and 6 using Onjali Rauf's fabulous new book '**Hope on the Horizon**' - it will be a book group which will also give lots of opportunities for the children to think about how they can make the world a better place to be.

Thursday afternoons

3.20 - 4.00pm

All welcome to come along... a copy of the book would really help your child to get active! See Parentmail to sign up!





We have already welcomed FOUR authors into school this half term. It has been an absolute privilege to be part of the Chichester Children's Book Fest again this year. Visiting authors have a transformative effect on our children and they remember their visits for many years to come! We are so thankful to CCBF and our very own FOFS fundraising team for giving our children these experiences. You can read more about our visitors in our next edition of Fishbourne Reads which is out just before half term!

We will be speaking to parents of children in Reception, Y1, Y2 and Y3 at the Learning Review Meetings about coming along to our Phonics workshops on Thursday 3rd November. These workshops are critically important in equipping you to know how best to support your little ones at home. Please do come along to find out more!



Dates for Autumn Term 2022

Mon 17th Oct: INSET DAY

Wed 19th Oct: Learning Review Meetings

Mon 24th—Fri 28th Oct: HALF TERM

Thu 3rd Nov: Phonics Workshop for parents of children in EYFS, Y1, Y2, Y3

Thu 10th Nov - KS2 go to London to see The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe

Fri 11th Nov—Remembrance Service

Wed 30th Nov - Advent Service

Thu 8th Dec - Sophy Henn's bedtime stories for EYFS, Y1 and Y2

Wed 14th Dec: Nativity Event—more details to follow

Fri 16th Dec: Carols Around the Tree 2.30pm

Other INSET Days next academic year will be on Monday 20th February 2023 and Monday 5th June 2023.



Learn more about how you can support your children to learn to read and write...

Please come and join us to learn more about how children learn to read and write through phonics. There will be lots of guidance about how you can work in partnership with us to support this learning at home.

**We will be running two workshops on Thursday 3rd November:
8.45am – 9.15am and 2.45pm – 3.15pm in the school hall. PLEASE do join us!**

These workshops are designed for ALL parents of children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3.

We are extremely excited to be welcoming our Patron of Reading, Sophy Henn, back to Fishbourne again on Thursday 8th December. She will be updating us on her adventures, including the finale to Pizazz which Sophy is busily writing as we speak as well as news on a brand new project that she is working on. Look out for more news on a VERY SPECIAL bedtime story event (involving PJ's, hot chocolate and stories read by Sophy Henn herself!) for children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 which will be happening in the early evening of Thursday 8th December and make sure you pop it on your calendars so you don't miss out!



A small (but important!) change to our bumped heads protocol.

Our current protocol is that we phone home if a child has any small bump to their head which we find often worries families unnecessarily and results in a significant task for our office team! From half term onwards, we will only be phoning home if your child has a bump that we feel you need to know about. All minor bumps will result in an accident slip, a sticker and a parent mail being sent. If you receive this parentmail, please be reassured that we will continue to keep an eye on your child in school but we do not think you need to be unduly concerned.



Do we settle for the world as it is, or do we work for the world as it should be? (Michelle Obama)

We are really delighted to have joined Challenge Partners this academic year. Challenge Partners believe the best way to enhance the life chances of all children is to enable collaboration between schools and trusts to combine our wisdom. In March next year we will receive a Quality Assurance Review which is a professional peer-led review with a laser focus on teaching and learning, curriculum and outcomes, and leadership at all levels. Between now and then, our leadership team will all head out to support the review process in other schools and to share our collective wisdom. This is an exciting opportunity for our school community and will help us to set the strategic direction of the school in the coming years.



It is lovely to have Curtis in school again this academic year as our sports coach. We use this time for our teaching team to run short-burst interventions to support children with personalised learning steps. As a result, each child has the opportunity to attend a free of charge sports club outside of the school day once a week throughout the year. We have lots of plans for the children to attend inter-school sporting events over the coming year as well as setting up intra-school competition too! Curtis is running a

free of charge sports club each lunchtime which will allow the children to play competitive sports in their house teams! In our Thinking Circles before half term we will be deciding on House Team names inspired by incredible athletes who display our learning behaviours of determination, positivity, collaboration, reflection and courage. We look forward to announcing the names of our NEW house teams after half term and sharing with you the progress they make.

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

