

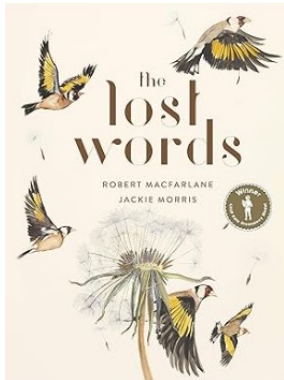


November 2023

FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Only one you



Dear Parents,

As our first whole school learning experience of the academic year came to a close, it seemed like a perfect opportunity to send out our newsletter! We are passionate about working in collaboration to plan whole school learning as the children hugely benefit from coming together as a school family to learn together and so too do the staff! The Lost Words is a stunning collection of poetry and illustrations collated by Jackie Morris and Robert MacFarlane. All over the country, there are words disappearing

from children's lives. These are the words of the natural world; Dandelion, Otter, Bramble and Acorn, all gone.

We have used this learning experience to re-discover the joy of performing poetry inspired by our environment. The children were hooked into their learning by being invited to perform a poem at an Autumnal Afternoon Tea that we invited guests from our community to attend. During the week they explored, performed and celebrated poetry, building towards performing a poem as a class. At the midway point of the experience we held an outdoor learning day through which the children experienced the awe and wonder of our local environment during autumn and we welcomed three very special guests to join us to share their extraordinary knowledge about birds of prey, local wildlife and performing poetry. Despite the extreme weather conditions, the day was a wonderful time to come together in our house teams and learn across year groups.



Our Outdoor Learning Day was paid for by Gareth's Legacy—a wonderful grant that is awarded to us by Dee Leach. In the summer of 2018, a family with strong connections to our learning community approached us to offer support for our ongoing Forest School work by making an annual donation towards the cost of our provision. 'Gareth's Legacy' was created and each academic year this very special gift is used to fund a whole school Forest School session taking place in our school grounds. This annual event is really special for our school and Dee always joins us for the celebration assembly at the end. You can read more about Gareth's Legacy here: <https://www.fishbourneprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Gareth%27s+Legacy&pid=89>



The END GOAL for this wonderful learning experience was our autumnal afternoon tea which was well attended by lots of guests from our local community including volunteers and governors. Our Year 6 children hosted the afternoon tea and families throughout school baked wonderful treats to serve to our guests which were enjoyed very much by everyone.

We are passionate about our children using their learning to make the world a better place to be and in this learning experience they had opportunities to:

- bring supplies in for Brent Lodge Wildlife Hospital
- bake treats for the afternoon tea
- host an event
- perform poetry and share their talents

Each of these opportunities helps us to embed our vision of 'making the world a better place'.

*What are learning experiences?

Each learning experience is rooted in just one area of the non-core curriculum. This allows children time to explore and develop key knowledge and skills in these areas. Reading and writing underpin each learning experience and are used as tools to communicate the key concepts to a wider audience. It may be appropriate to use another area of the non-core curriculum to enrich the learning taking place but it would not be a key focus, for example using art to understand and communicate historical concepts.

An exciting and engaging **hook** into learning makes the experience simply irresistible and the children know from the outset exactly what they are setting out to achieve in the form of an **End Goal**.

A **baseline** that has been warmed up provides the opportunity to ensure that the **steps of learning** are personalised, taking into account the starting point of each child to achieve the highest possible quality outcome.

You can read so much more about this on our school website.



Today in school we have enjoyed Positive Noticing Day. As a school, we are passionate about the power of positivity and it's no surprise that it is one of our five learning behaviours. Learning to see the best in one another and to know what makes us unique is a really important part of building resilience and self esteem. Positive Noticing is simple, practical and highly effective. It is an everyday

relational strategy, any time, any place. Catching children doing the right thing and marking it with positive acknowledgement is not just kindness, it teaches behaviour. You get more of the behaviour that you notice most. The impact of positive noticing is both immediate and long-lasting. It helps build self-esteem and confidence in children and shifts the culture in the classroom so that the right behaviour is always the most sought after behaviour. It is a strategy we highly recommend to use at home too - you can read more about this here: <https://www.positivenoticingday.com/>

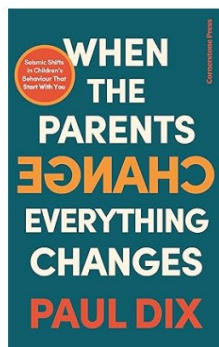
Our school 'Behaviour for Learning and Life' policy is heavily influenced by the work of Paul Dix and his book 'When the adults change, everything changes'. In September, his latest book was published which takes many of the strategies we use at school and applies them to home settings. We have several copies of this book in our Wellbeing Library and highly recommend it as a starting point to reflect on patterns of behaviour at home:

'Your behaviour is the only behaviour over which you have absolute control. To change your children's behaviour, you first need to change your own.'

The culture of any home is determined by the parents. If you can remain unflappably calm in the face of every supermarket tantrum and sarcastic eye-roll, order will soon follow.

Here, Paul Dix - Britain's leading children's behaviour expert - reveals how to build a culture of calm consistency into your home, starting today. He explains how you really can maintain a sense of Zen-like serenity in the face of even the most chaotic behaviour, from school-gate screaming matches to mealtime childmageddon. And he offers a set of simple strategies for coolly getting the behaviour you want - without a barked instruction, deranged punishment or cold, hard cash-bribe in sight.

His tried-and-tested method will change what your child does by first changing what you do. You will never need to raise your voice again.



Our Y3/4 mixed and Y5/6 girls football teams have both played over the last two weeks and we were exceptionally proud to see the way in which they represented the school as outstanding ambassadors. The buzz of excitement as they prepared to leave and put on their football kits was really wonderful to see. Curtis' support, encouragement and careful preparation beforehand meant the children headed off feeling confident and self-assured. Both teams played brilliantly, living our learning behaviours of collaboration, positivity, courage and determination in bucketfuls! Our Y3/4 team won games 1 and 2, drew game 3 and lost game 4,

finishing in the third place. The Y5/6 team won 4 out of 5 matches, drawing in one, smashed their semi-final and WON the entire competition. HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to everyone involved!



Dates for Next Academic Year

- Fri 17th Nov - Children in Need non-uniform day - option to make a donation via Parentmail.
- Thu 23rd Nov - Sophy Henn visiting school
- Fri 24th Nov - FOFS Quiz Night - sign up in school reception and pay on the night
- Fri 1st December - Christmas Shopping Day and Christmas Jumper Day (Christmas Jumpers can be worn with non-uniform)
- Wed 6th Dec - Nativity Play—Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 9.30am and 2.00pm performances. Information to follow!
- Thu 7th Dec - Christmas Wreath making (FOFS) - book by 16th November via Parentmail.
- Wed 13th Dec—Christmas Service at Church (children only)
- Thu 14th Dec - Christmas Lunch day—order through Parent Pay by 30th November OR pack a festive feast lunchbox!
- Fri 15th Dec—Carols Around the Tree 2.30pm

INSET DAYS

Tuesday 2nd January
Monday 19th February
Monday 3rd June
Monday 24th June



Our subscription to Doodle Learning comes to an end in February 2024 and we will not be renewing it. PLEASE do make the most of this online learning platform for the remainder of the time we have access to it. Those children who do engage with it do make accelerated progress as it gives the children the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills, increasing fluency and automaticity.



Finally, a couple of reminders as we head quickly towards winter:

- *All children need to have a pair of wellies in school so that they can access the field and play areas.
- *Children need a coat in school at all times - we always try to get the children outside at playtimes and lunchtimes.
- *Children should be wearing school SHOES. No trainers or boots please.
- *Leavers' hoodies should only be worn on school trips or during PE—they do not replace school uniform.
- *Please ensure that children are not playing on the play equipment at the end of the school day and leave the school site quickly so that we can secure the site and ensure all those children remaining on the school site for clubs are safe.

At Fishbourne CE Primary School we nurture our learners to

