

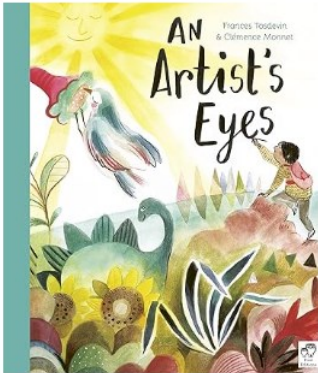


November 2024

# FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Only one you



It was just wonderful to see our school hall buzzing with visitors to our special open afternoon, celebrating the children's learning from our whole school learning experience, An Artist's Eyes. A fortnight spent as artists and writers, exploring the works of a significant artist and being inspired to create original pieces of their own. Families told us that the children have been talking lots about their learning and representatives from each class shared with them their journey of learning to producing their final pieces of art and writing. Our thanks to Mrs Harris for inspiring and leading the staff team on this!



In each area of the curriculum, we have identified what we would like our learners to be able to do by the time they leave us - our ultimate end goal!



We aim that our artists and designers will engage confidently in the production of creative work. They will have explored a wide variety of art, craft and design techniques and they will have had rich opportunities to develop their skills and mastery of a range of materials and processes. They will understand the importance of experimenting and feel confident to take risks and make mistakes, secure in the understanding that, when making art, the process is more important than the final product. **They will feel confident in expressing their individuality through art and understand that creativity will look different in each person.** They will value the work of artists and designers and understand its contribution to the world around us. They will be familiar with the work of some influential artists and designers including art within our local environment.



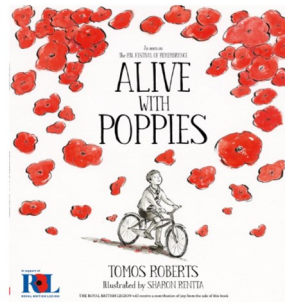
It's great to see our 'only one you' vision and values coming through in our approach to the art curriculum too and one of the most wonderful things about our 'An Artist's Eyes' learning experience was the focus on the words contained in the book:



**'We all have our own unique way of seeing the world and all the wonderful things in it.'**



What an important concept to recognise, value and celebrate!



We joined together to hold an act of remembrance as a school family the week before last and took our inspiration from this beautiful, brand new book from Tomos Roberts, Alive with Poppies. Please do visit our YouTube channel where you will be able to hear the story read by Mrs Whitaker! Hippos class took part in a poetry masterclass with Tomos and had a go at creating their own poems inspired by Remembrance. We took their ideas and weaved them to

create a poem that was shared as part of our service:

United in memory, we pause to reflect  
Looking back in history, it's time to connect  
Coming together as one community,  
We stand shoulder to shoulder and reflect  
For whom has planted these poppies, that grow with such grace?  
Our heroes who have fallen, to whom we are thankful in every way  
Now it is time, to unite in peace and harmony.  
We respectfully thank our fallen heroes,  
who bold as lightning, protected us  
As poppies grow, we find a new tomorrow  
United together, we build a community to gently remember  
Respectful in our silence, peaceful in our reflection

We are so pleased to let you know that Friends of Fishbourne School now has a full committee again! As we say an enormous thank you again to our outgoing committee who have achieved such a tremendous amount and most definitely made our school a better place to be, we also give our hugest thanks to the following parents for stepping up to make our school a better place to be:



Co-Chairs: Rosie Triggs and Gemma Connor  
Secretary: Jo Bate  
Treasurer: Hannah Jackson

We do REALLY need your support though as this new committee steps forward and wanted to remind families that everyone is welcome to join FOFS. We do ask FOFS members to apply for a DBS if you don't already have one with the school.



FOFS have **already** funded so much for us this term:  
\*3 new multi-cultural babies for our little fish to play with in Reception class.  
\*£600 worth of art resources to use during our art learning experience  
\*£350 worth of crafting materials to enable every class to enjoy an afternoon of Christmas craft

activities with their teachers  
\*Brand new tech equipment in the hall to use during assemblies including: a new laptop, new projector, sound equipment and speakers.  
\*Printing postcards to send our little fish and funding the postage that helps them land on your doormat!  
None of these amazing ventures would be possible without the wonderful FOFS team sprinkling their magic!

It was lovely to welcome families to Learning Review meetings last week and reflect together on how well your children have settled into their new classes. We were really thankful to our governors for being on hand to welcome you and point you in the right direction! This year, we also asked families to take a moment to let us know what is working well at school at the moment and how we can make it even better! The headlines are below!

**What's working well**

- \*Care and kindness from all members of the school family
- \*Feeling listened to and supported - we don't feel alone in the journey of our child's development
- \*Warm and nurturing atmosphere—the care shown by staff
- \*The walking bus
- \*All staff are lovely and the children love them
- \*Being greeted at the door for our learning review meeting was lovely!
- \*Both class teachers present at learning review meetings
- \*Being able to see the children's Learning Journals regularly
- \*Partnership between parents and school
- \*We really like the way the school is developing the little fish as people as well as learners!
- \*The school is so friendly and the staff do work extremely hard
- \*An excellent learning experience
- \*Couldn't ask for a better school!
- \*Love the whole school learning experiences
- \*Amazing teachers and volunteers
- \*The personal approach of teachers—my child has built very strong personal relationships with her teachers each year.
- \*The transparency of the school with regards to ways of teaching and the curriculum is very good.
- \*We appreciate the talks and support offered to parents
- \*Teachers all represent the values very well and it feels like a supportive environment where children are encouraged to be themselves.

**Even better if (with some responses from us below!)**

- \*More music in KS1 - *This year music is being taught by Mr Servant across KS2 and within classes for KS1. Our KS1 children are all involved in the nativity play at the moment which involves lots of singing and will be provided the music curriculum by class teachers.*
- \*Year 6 had more time to eat lunch - *Year 6, as our oldest children, are the last children to be called in for lunch and we hope that they will be seated in the hall for lunch by 12.40 at the latest giving them twenty minutes to eat lunch.*
- \*More learning review evenings - *We would love to offer these too but have to be realistic about the impact on children's learning and on teacher's time. We have planned our learning review meetings with care in the autumn, followed by a written report in the spring and a follow up learning review in the summer. We send Learning Journals home at the end of each learning experience to give you a window into the children's learning. You are always welcome to pop in and chat with teachers at the end of the day.*
- \*Reading books coming home more regularly for KS1 - *Please do refer to our Reading Pedagogy on the school website and the guide we have put together to supporting you child to read at home! We have been working hard on our approach to reading and do believe that lots of repetition is important, alongside access to lots of other high quality texts.*
- \*A platform like Tapestry for older year groups - *We have used platforms like these in the past but feedback was over-whelmingly, post-pandemic, in support of returning to setting homework on paper and children recording in books.*
- \*Swimming for Year 3/4- *We have been exploring ways to offer swimming lessons to our little fish in a more cost and time effective way. We wrote to parents two weeks ago with information about the arrangements. In the meantime, we will continue to explore alternatives to see if we can find a more cost and time effective approach.*
- \*Larger portions of hot lunches for older children - *We will pass this feedback on to our Chartwells team.*
- \*Breaktime should never be taken away from the children *Typically breaktimes would never be removed from children unless there was a very specific reason why. If a child has a need to miss a break with their peer group, they should always be offered a break at another time.*
- \*Homework - *Please see our home learning policy on our school website! Getting the balance right for families and children is always challenging... we aim for the children to have lots of opportunities to develop fluency through practice at home.*
- \*Drinking more water - *Water bottles are available at all times in the classroom with opportunities built in for everyone to have a drink before and after playtimes.*



**INSET DAYS 2024/2025**

**Friday 14th February  
Monday 2nd June**



**CHRISTMAS DATES—all in one place!**

Fri 29th Nov	Cuppa and Chat 8.45am School Discos
Wed 4th Dec	Wreath Making (FOFS)
Thu 5th Dec	Bedtime Stories event for Pufferfish Class (4.30pm)
Tue 10th and Wed 11th Dec	Nativity for parents of children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 (2.15pm)
Thu 12th Dec	CYE Christmas Assembly (KS2) Reception & KS1 to Chichester Festival Theatre to see 'Hey! Christmas Tree!'
Fri 13th Dec	Christmas Shopping Day (FOFS) Christmas Jumper Day (non-uniform) (in exchange for a Christmas hamper item)
Tue 17th Dec	Christmas Community Tea Party
Wed 18th Dec	Christmas Carol Service (children only)
Thu 19th Dec	Christmas Lunch (and a chance to wear Christmas jumpers again—non-uniform!)
Fri 20th Dec	Break Up Carols Around the Tree at 2.45pm
Mon 6th Jan	First day of the Spring Term
Thu 16th Jan	FOFS Meeting—Staff Room at 7pm



A really informal opportunity to sit down for a cuppa and chat about what's working well at school and how it could be even better! We have generated some great ideas over the years from this opportunity and warmly welcome you to drop in to join us!

**At Fishbourne CE Primary, we nurture our children to be...**

