



January 2025

FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Only one you

Dear Parents,

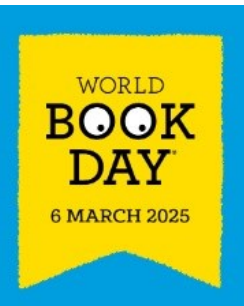
HAPPY NEW YEAR! We would like to wish all our families a very happy new year and say a heartfelt thank you for all your beautiful Christmas cards and gifts. Kind words of encouragement in Christmas cards are the very best gift of all to our staff team - thank you so much. We are now very much into our spring term and there are little glimmers of the evenings getting lighter again which fill us all with hope for further signs of spring!



In the coming weeks we will be focused very much on our core learning behaviour of REFLECTION as the children prepare to contribute to their school reports with their own reflections about themselves as learners. At Fishbourne, we want school reports to have a real impact on the children's learning. We are aiming for the children to be more active and

accountable participants in their own learning. By reflecting on the children's progress mid-year, we have an opportunity to work together in partnership to support the children in their learning. This process has the capacity to be very powerful for children, teachers and parents alike! The reports start with the children's voice – as they are the learner and the most important part of the process! The teacher comments are addressed to the child as the key audience, after all they are the learners!

We will be marking Safer Internet Day on 11th February. During the morning, there will be a range of age-appropriate learning taking place across school about using the Internet safely. We will be using the fabulous quote from Spiderman: **'With great power comes great responsibility'** to remind us of the role we play in keeping ourselves safe. We will also be revisiting our acceptable use agreement with the children.



We also wanted to give our families the heads up about what to expect on World Book Day this year. The theme for our day will be **'Book an Adventure!'** and our celebrations are being organised by Mrs Williams and Miss Furlong. They centre around giving children the opportunity to explore a range of different adventure stories. The children will not be asked to dress up this year so we wanted to give you advance notice about something you don't need to worry about!

What's happening in classrooms around school?

Shark class are about to be immersed in their very first class-based learning experience. It's called 'The Learning Pit' and will support the children to understand more about how we learn effectively. The Sharks are being hooked into this experience by trying to follow the instructions to fold an origami dog! By the end of the learning experience, we aim for the children to understand that it is important to make mistakes and persevere



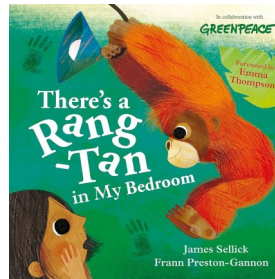
until you get something right. The children will write a reflection about the skills and techniques that they can use to get out of the learning pit!

Chameleons are enjoying a narrative based learning experience called The Glove Puppet Man. Their hook involved exploring many different types of puppets and end goal is to invent their own characters to add to the middle of the story and write the middle section using conjunctions and past tense verbs. They then move over to a DT experience to create the glove puppet they have invented using textiles and sewing techniques before then performing a short section from their story using their puppets.



Cheetah class have become historians and as a hook into their learning they had fun learning a dance to the song, Walk like an Egyptian! The learning experience gives them the opportunity to learn about the achievements of the earliest civilisations but

their end goal will be to write an explanation of the mummification process with a focus on including lots of subordinate clauses. They loved rolling up their sleeves and getting stuck in!

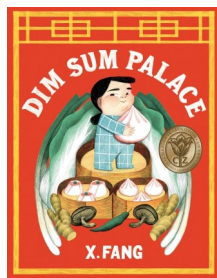


Crocodile class were hooked into this learning experience was the video clip, 'There's a Rang-tan in my Bedroom' – where Greenpeace highlight the destruction facing the Amazon Rainforest. In this geography learning experience, Crocodiles have learnt about where rainforests can be found, how a rainforest biome is different to other key biomes around the world, the many layers of the rainforest, what makes the rainforest so special and why it needs protecting. Crocodiles loved their visit from Zoo Lab, where they were able to get up close and personal with some rainforest creepy crawlies! The children have been inspired to 'make the world a better place' by completing an 'orangutan run' where the children will raise money to adopt an orangutan - linking back to their hook. For their writing, the children have used the



mixed-genre text 'The Wonder Garden' as inspiration for their end goal. This text beautifully blends both fact and fiction to create a rich understanding of life in the Amazon.

Pufferfish class have been immersed in learning all about the traditions and customs of Chinese New Year! This includes focusing on a beautiful picture book 'Dim Sum Palace' by X.Fang during our Drawing Club sessions. Our learning will culminate with our very own celebrations, including crafts, stories and a feast of Chinese food!



Our hugest thanks to the team of incredibly kind adults who volunteer their time to make our school a better place to be.



INSET DAYS 2024/2025

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



Elephant class will be joining our fellow Year 6 friends from our partnership schools, alongside pupils from Year 9 at Bishop Luffa School for a very special event! In our first ever shared learning

experience, we will be learning that our voices truly matter. What we say has enormous power: to make people think, to spread ideas, to educate, to spread joy and ultimately make our world a better place to be! Elephant's hook into learning was at Bishop Luffa School where Year 5 and 6 children from Fishbourne, Rumboldswyke, Lavant and West Dean came together with a group of Year 9 students from Bishop Luffa to hear a real TED Talk! We were delighted and very privileged to welcome Vic Carr to our

partnership event and hear her talk about her life. They then had the opportunity to ask her questions about the process of creating her talk, presenting it and what she had learned by doing so. Our end goal will be to share our own TED Talks as a class, then with one of the partnership schools, before coming together for our very own TEDx Event where a selection of Talks from across the partnership will be selected to be shared. This is set to be a very exciting event!

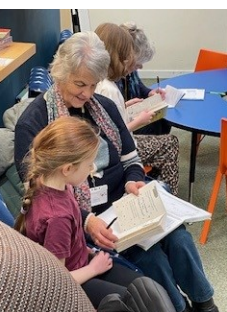
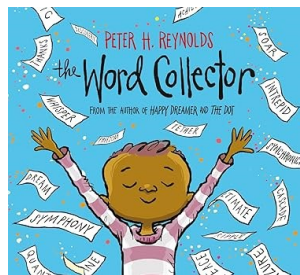
Hippo class were hooked into their brand new science inspired learning experience



with a visit to the South Downs Planetarium where they experienced the awe and wonder of exploring the night time skies! Following their visit, they received a letter from the planetarium inviting them to get involved in the opportunity to make a contribution to a brand new book 'Out of this World!' This motivated the children's learning and so they are now busily becoming experts in three key areas of space knowledge before they learn how to craft a double page spread of information for a book aimed at children.

In other news...

In our **Thinking Circles** this half term we are getting inspired by the Oxford University Press' Word of the Year. Each class will be collecting words that could inspire them during the year ahead... and then they will narrow it down to choose just ONE word of the year for their own class. We look forward to sharing these with you in the next newsletter.



Our Fishbourne **Volunteer Army** continue to have the most amazing impact with our little fish! Each afternoon our school welcomes a host of volunteers to hear our children read. It is a real privilege to hear our volunteers chatting away and laughing with our children as they share lovely books together. Their encouragement, enthusiasm and enjoyment of this time together reflects how much value they place on this time. We know our children benefit enormously from this special time together when there is the gift of time to spend building relationships and rapport while also having another opportunity to read aloud!

Fri 31st Jan	Bend the Rules Day (FOFS fundraiser)
Tue 11th Feb	Safer Internet Day 'Too good to be true?'
Wed 12th Feb	Cuppa and Chat at 8.50am in the staffroom
Fri 14th Feb	INSET Day
Thu 6th March	World Book Day No costume required!
24th March onwards	Whole school learning experience— Resurrection Rocks
31st March	Mid-year learning reports come home
Fri 4th April	Easter Service - all families invited



Cuppa and Chat on Wed 12th Feb

will be themed around staying safe online and sharing with you the work done on Safer Internet Day the day before... as well as an opportunity for you to share what is working well at school and ideas for ways in which we could make school EVEN better!



Did you know that we have an Amazon Wishlist at Fishbourne? This list has been put together for families who may want to gift a book to our library for other children to share. We are enormously blessed to have a number of families who use the wishlist to make our school library a better place to be and we are so thankful for the additional books that our children are then able to borrow!

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/I9W63Y5XN7CY/?ref=hz_ls_biz_ex

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

