



October 2025

# FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Only one you



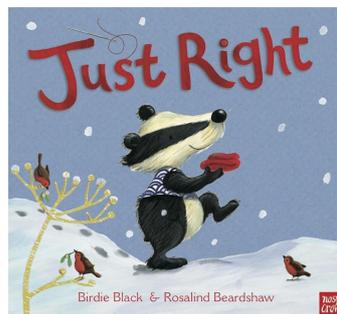
Dear Families,

It doesn't seem possible that we are hurtling towards the end of our first half term of the academic year! We have, as ever, packed a tremendous amount into this time: two residential, numerous school trips, several big fundraising events, author visits, enjoying time in our stunning school grounds and making the most of the wonderful orchard... and so much more! It must be time for a rest!

If you don't already, we highly recommend following us on Instagram where we keep you up to date with what we are up to... it's here you can see us living out our vision and values in the every day life of our school family:

@fishbourneprimary

We are looking forward to returning after the half term break to one of our whole school learning experiences - this time with a Design Technology focus. Our DT curriculum ultimately aims to nurture learners who: become resourceful, innovative, enterprising and capable citizens. They will have been inspired by inventors, designers, engineers, chefs and manufacturers who have developed ground-breaking products and in doing so made the world a better place. Our designers will be able to critique, evaluate and test their ideas and products and the work of others. They will use their creativity and imagination with confidence, to design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. They will be given the opportunities to collaborate with others and to reflect on the products they have created.



In this learning experience, the children will be designing a Christmas gift for someone that is 'Just Right'... thinking deeply about their recipient. They will move through three stages:

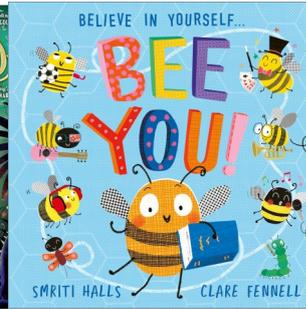
- 1) Investigative and Evaluative Activities: Children learn from a range of existing products, learning about D&T in the wider world
- 2) Focused Tasks: Where they are taught specific technical knowledge, designing skills and making skills
- 3) Design, Make and Evaluate Assignment: where children create functional products with users and purposes in mind

We look forward to sharing with you the outcomes of this learning experience and feel a little glimmer of excitement for the recipients of the 'Just Right' Christmas gifts.



In the second week back after the break, we will be hosting Learning Review Meetings and we strongly encourage, if you haven't already, that you book an appointment, via Arbor, to come and discuss your child's learning with your class

teacher(s) who will be able to offer reflections, advice and support.



### Chichester Book Fest

It is always a joy to be involved in this incredible event and we very much enjoy receiving visits from authors. This year we were delighted to be joined by Pari Thomson who inspired our Y4,5,6 authors and Smriti

Halls who inspired our Y1,2,3 authors and illustrators. Each child received their own FREE copy of a book written by the author and had their book signed. These experiences are so wonderful for our children and we are enormously grateful to the team at Chichester Book Festival for all their hard work, coordinating the operation to get authors and illustrators into our schools.



### NEW Patron Of Reading

We are THRILLED to let you know that we have a brand new Patron of Reading. After five inspirational years with Sophy Henn, we sadly said goodbye to her as Elephant class who became stars of her Pizzazz series headed off to secondary school, it seemed the right time to ring the changes. We will continue to follow Sophy and she will always hold a very special place on our bookshelves and in our hearts. Our NEW Patron of Reading will be revealed at the beginning of the new year. In the meantime, here are some clues:

- They are an internationally bestselling, award-winning author.
  - They have books published in more than 40 languages.
  - They have won several national and international awards.
  - They have been interviewed for radio and newspapers.
  - Several of their books have been used for CBeebies bedtime stories, including one read by Andy Day, Paul O'Grady and Regé-Jean Page
- Look out for more information in the new year!

### Shark Class Heroes

We are so proud of our Shark class who have raised a whopping £462 for a Toilet Twinning charity in response to a geography based learning experience. The Sharks raced around the Daily Mile track achieving 297 laps! Their enthusiasm for this fundraising event to make the world a better place was WONDERFUL to see and it was brilliant to see how thrilled they were with their own efforts. A huge well done to Sharks and their very generous families and friends. Thank you for helping us to make the world a better place to be.

### Learning Review



At Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership our focus is on collective improvement: driven by purpose, grounded in care, and centred on pupils and staff flourishing together. As a partnership of schools we have developed a vision to review one another's schools

together each year with each school hosting a visit and having an area of learning reviewed by members of staff from other schools. Last week we hosted the first of these reviews at Fishbourne Primary. On Thursday we welcomed headteachers from across the partnership

and a professional reviewer who supported us to review our maths provision and attitudes towards learning. The review was incredibly constructive and supportive, giving us a really clear idea about what is working well and how we could develop further. The review team spent the morning in school, taking part in CREW, visiting lessons, talking to children about their learning, in discussion with the wider leadership team and looking at children's books before going offsite to summarise.

We were particularly pleased to hear the reviewers speaking so positively about the early impact of CREW with children reporting to them that it feels like 'a mental breakfast'! They saw children who were articulate, reflective, supportive and displaying courageous advocacy. During maths lessons, they saw strong modelling and scaffolding from teachers. They were impressed by the focus on vocabulary and stem sentences. They were able to see the impact of the professional learning that staff had been doing and heard really strong professional dialogue between staff. The area we will be working to develop further is to ensure that levels of engagement in maths learning is consistently high as a result of their being appropriate stretch and support for all learners at every stage of the lesson.

We are really positive about the impact our review has had on us as a school and look forward to contributing to the reviews in our other partnership schools during the rest of the academic year which will provide powerful opportunities for collaboration.

### Making our school a better place...

A huge thank you to all those children who applied for positions across school to 'serve' our school community. We were impressed by the number of applications we had across school and it is a really encouraging reflection of how willing our little fish are to make the world a better place to be. In assembly last week we announced those children taking on leadership positions:

**Book worms:** Luca, Guss, Ettie, Willow, Imogen, Samanta, Penny, Sophie, Lily H and Ashby

**Football referees:** Edwin, Jesse, Alex, Archie, Theo, and Jemima

**Worship team:** Millie, Evie May, Grace, Albert

**Music leaders:** Josh and Ava

We are also introducing a new group of leaders this year—our Little Fish FOFS representatives who will be working with the team at FOFS to share the views and wishes of our learners!



### Replenishing pencil cases:

Over half term, please could we ask you to re-stock your children's pencil cases! The item that tends to run out most quickly in school is GLUE STICKS... please make sure your child has a fresh glue stick in their pencil case ready for their use after the break. We are so thankful to families for providing equipment as this has enabled us to manage our budget. Thank you too to

families who have paid for school trips in a timely way.

### Little Fish who make our world a better place to be...

This wonderful bunch of little fish all took part in the Great South Run Junior fun run to raise money for Portsmouth Down Syndrome Association! Huge congratulations to them and a really big well done from us all at school.



### Do you know what our school rules are?

We talk about our school rules all the time. They are simple and easy to remember... they form part of our 'Behaviour for Learning and Life' policy which is rooted in the belief that meaningful learning takes place when we have meaningful relationships. The primary aim of our behaviour policy is not a system to enforce rules. It is a means of promoting positive relationships, so that people can work together with the common purpose of helping everyone to learn. You may hear us saying things like:

Show us you're ready to learn...

How can you do that safely?

Can you share that view respectfully?



One way in which you can support us in school is to ensure that your children are in school **READY** to learn promptly at 8.40am. After a brilliant start to this new routine, we have noticed some families starting to get later and later to school, with **LOTS** of children arriving late this week.



### Dates for your Diary

Wed 12th and Thu 13th November 3.30-6.00pm

Learning Review Meetings (book via Arbor)

Tue 2nd Dec - FOFS Christmas Wreath Workshop for adults 7-9pm at school (pay via Arbor)

Tue 9th and Wed 10th December at 2.15pm: Nativity Play for children in Seahorses, Pufferfish and Sharks classes

Fri 12th Dec: Christmas Jumper Day and Elfidges

Fri 19th Dec: Carols Around the Tree and last day of term

### INSET Days for 2025/2026

Friday 13th February

Monday 23rd February

Friday 22nd May

Monday 1st June

### OPEN DAYS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026 INTAKE

Please call the school office on 01243 785974 to book a place:

Wednesday 12th November 2025 10.30am

Friday 28th November 2025 10.30am

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

