



FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Only one you



EXPLAIN THAT!

The last three weeks in school have seen us all becoming scientists. All our learning has culminated in our 'Explain that! Science Fayre' in which the children will be demonstrating experiments and giving scientific explanations about their learning. This whole school learning experience has been designed to inspire our young scientists to ask big questions, carry out experiments and essentially learn how to explain the science clearly and effectively using technical vocabulary. The experience

started three weeks ago when the children were HOOKED into their learning with the visit of Boffin Mark who carried out some exciting, inspirational experiments with the children who were left captivated! Since then, they have been talking, experimenting, explaining and asking questions. We invite you to come and share in the journey AND the outcomes of all this hard work at the School and Church Fete tomorrow (Saturday 20th June). Come find us in the school hall! Prepare to get stuck in, experience the experiments for yourselves and enjoy hearing the children's explanations. It promises to be an exciting event!

A huge THANK YOU goes to Mrs Rinaldi, our science lead, and Mrs Williams, our English lead for working together to provide great professional development for our staff team.

Our youngest scientists in school, Seahorses, have been exploring materials and their properties. They have been inspired by exploring bubbles and investigating how they are made, their shapes, and why bubbles are always the perfect sphere no matter what wand shape you use. Our visitors will see the children demonstrating bubble making using their different bubble wands and sharing their observations about bubbles. There will be opportunities to create giant bubbles and learn about the simple science behind how bubbles form. The display will showcase children's predictions, photographs and QR codes where they are demonstrating their new found explaining skills!



Meanwhile our oldest scientists, Hippos class, have been learning all about the Cardiovascular System, including the heart, blood vessels, blood, and how these work together to transport oxygen and nutrients around the body! During the learning experience the children have investigated the effect of exercise on heart rate. They measured and recorded their pulse before and after different physical activities, analysed the data collected, and explained why the heart beats

faster during exercise. They investigated the differences between gender, height and body position when measuring pulse rates. Visitors will see interactive demonstrations showing how the cardiovascular system works, including models of the heart and blood vessels. Year 6 will explain the journey of blood around the body, demonstrate how to measure pulse rate, and share the results of their investigations into how exercise affects heart rate. Displays will include scientific diagrams, data charts, and explanations of the importance of keeping the cardiovascular system healthy. We will also have a pig's heart in a sealed box for those that wish to see!



Pufferfish scientists have been learning all about animals in their 'Explain that! Furry, Scaly and Feathered' learning experience. The experiment they carried out enabled them to explain why polar bears don't get cold in the Arctic. The children had two bags they placed into ice water and they put their hands inside each. One bag was empty and the other had a lining of lard which acted as the polar bear blubber. They were able to feel the difference in temperatures and this was what they learned to explain! At the

science fayre Puffers will have their blubber experiment as well as a camouflage experiment that visitors can try! They will also have an experiment set up which will help children explain why penguins' feathers don't freeze.

Crocodile Class have been learning about reversible and irreversible changes in different materials. They investigated how some materials can change and then be changed back again while others cannot. Their first experiment involved mixing salt, sand and water to create a mixture. We separated the materials by first filtering the sand from the water using filter paper. Next, we evaporated the water to leave the salt behind. This demonstrates a reversible physical change because the original materials can be recovered. The second experiment demonstrated an irreversible change. We burnt marshmallows to show that a chemical change had occurred. This change cannot be reversed because a new substance is formed. Using diagrams and photos, visitors will see how we mixed salt, sand and water and then separated them again. Our written work will describe the scientific processes of dissolving, filtering and evaporation and explain why this is a reversible change. We will also show how burning marshmallows causes an irreversible chemical change. Visitors will be able to ask questions and learn how scientists separate mixtures and identify different types of changes in materials.



Chameleon class have been immersed in investigating an explaining LIGHT! We have looked into how light travels, surfaces that reflect and which objects create shadows! We are excited to be making periscopes for the Science Fair and explaining how mirrors are used to make them work!



*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.



Shark class investigated materials and their properties. They started by exploring what materials different objects are made from and grouped them based on simple properties such as hard/soft, rough/smooth or transparent/opaque. They delved deeper to discover which material would make the best pirate sword,

which pieces of pirate treasure float or sink and which are waterproof. Along the way they learned how to explain why we got these results. The final experiment set out to investigate which materials are malleable so that their shapes can be changed to make them float. If you come along to our science fayre you can have a go at this too and we will explain why it is possible!

Year 4 also focussed on states of matter. They compared and grouped materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases, learning that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled. Our experiments explored what happens when materials melt, with a particular focus on how insulating materials can slow this process down. Their key investigation question was 'What will stop our ice cream melting at the summer fete?' Let's hope they found a good solution!

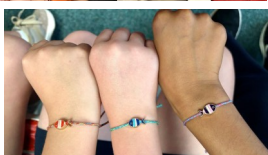


As we come to the end of our first year of implementing CREW, we are so thankful to our staff team for working together to introduce a brand new concept to our children. We are thrilled with the impact of CREW and have had so much positive feedback from visitors to our school. We have welcomed school leaders from lots of schools and the West Sussex and Hampshire teams responsible for wellbeing. The feedback has been overwhelmingly

positive, with recent visitors emailing us to say: *'I witnessed a group of pupils who were articulate, emotionally literate, empathetic, and considerate towards one another.'*



Yesterday we hosted a visit from White House Primary School who supported us with preparing to implement CREW last year, kindly sharing with us lots of ideas and letting us see CREW in action across their school. It was great to reconnect with them, share our practice and commit to working collaboratively to develop our practice further! The staff and children from White House visited lots of our CREW sessions across school and then the children spent the afternoon with our lovely Hippo class, sharing stories about their school and CREW experiences. Friendship bracelets were made and fish bracelets presented for them to wear home and to remember their day. It was a lovely day of collaboration and sharing all the things that are great about our schools. We really value these opportunities to work together with schools across the country to develop our practice and we are hugely thankful to them for making the journey down to the south coast to visit!



As we move into next academic year, each year group will start to plan six blocks of CREW, each with a different theme:

- Block 1: A habit of character focus
- Block 2: A focus on the environment/climate
- Block 3: A focus on a protected characteristic
- Block 4 and 5: Linked to the PSHCE curriculum
- Block 6: Inspired by our school vision - to make the world a better



Today, we head off to visit a school in Shoreham to see the work that they have been doing over the last decade on Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL). We will be developing our play opportunities for children during next academic year

and we are very excited to be heading out to see OPAL in action in another school setting. Our pledge is that 'every child at Fishbourne Primary will have an amazing hour of high-quality play every day – with no exceptions!'

CAR PARKING:

In recent days, we have had several complaints from our neighbours around the school. They shared photos of parents cars who have parked over drive ways and on double yellow lines in the streets around our school. We appeal to families PLEASE not to do this... it is unfair on our neighbourhood friends who support our school in so many different ways. We need to role model to our children using integrity and making the right choices to look after those people in our wider community. Please think twice before parking inconsiderately and illegally.

ROMAN PALACE CAR PARKING:

Next week, all families will receive a letter explaining the new arrangements for parking at the Roman Palace from September 2026. There will be a small charge, payable either annually or on a termly basis, which will be used for the upkeep of the car park and the convenience of using it to drop your children safely to school each day.

Dates for the Summer Term

- Wed 24th June—Leavers' Service at Cathedral for Y6 children and their families
- Wed 1st July—Transition morning for all children at Fishbourne Y6 children will be attending their new schools for the day
- Wed 1st and Thu 2nd July—Learning Review Meetings (please sign up on Arbor)
- Wed 8th July—Sports Day (morning)
- Wed 15th and Thu 16th July— Year 6 Summer Production 6.30pm
- Mon 20th July—Whole School Forest School Day

INSETS 2026/2027

- Tue 1st Sep (school closure), Wed 2nd Sep, Fri 5th Feb,
- Mon 22nd Feb, Fri 28th May, Mon 7th June

Staffing Changes for September 2026

We are preparing to say goodbye to some of our staff team: Mrs Allen, Mrs Gifford, Mrs Harvey and Mrs Robinson.

We thank each of them for serving our school community and making it a better place with their hard work.

In September, we are welcoming back Miss Amy Furlong who will be teaching full time as a class teacher in KS2.

We welcome Mrs Lauren Bradshaw who will be joining Mrs Goodman in EYFS. We also welcome Mrs White who will be teaching French and RE during PPA time, as well as joining Mrs Harris in Year 3.

We will share with you the staffing arrangements across school for September as soon as these have been finalised!

We will shortly be advertising for two Learning Support Assistants to join our team from September 2026. More information about these roles will be on our school website.

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

