



Fishbourne C E Primary School

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WELCOME TO CHEETAHS CLASS

Autumn Term 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have all had a wonderful summer and have enjoyed some lovely time together as a family. We are very much looking forward to welcoming the children back to school and beginning an exciting new year of learning together in Cheetahs Class.

The beginning of a new school year is a special time. It is an opportunity to establish new routines, develop relationships and think about the kind of learners we want to be. We will spend time getting to know one another, reflecting on how CREW supports our learning and building a positive classroom community where everyone feels valued, supported and ready to learn.

We have an exciting term ahead, with lots of opportunities for the children to learn and be inspired. Our Learning Experiences will provide meaningful reasons to learn, opportunities to apply knowledge and skills and an exciting end goal to work towards.

CREW

We will be starting the year with 'What 'You' Do You Want to Be?' This block encourages children to think about who they are, who they want to become and how they can achieve their goals. They will explore character, wellbeing, relationships and how our brains work, while setting and reflecting on personal goals.

The Journey Within



We will begin our term by thinking about identity and what makes each of us unique. Through our PSHCE learning, the children will explore the question "What makes up a person's identity?" and consider how our experiences, relationships, interests, qualities and choices contribute to who we are.

Our Christian Youth Enterprise (CYE) residential will provide a particularly exciting opportunity for the children to challenge themselves, work collaboratively and develop their independence. They will have the chance

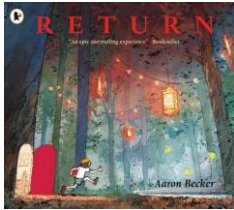
to reflect on new experiences and the qualities they draw upon when things become difficult. Our writing will then give the children an opportunity to recount their residential experience and reflect on how experiences can influence identity.

The children will explore figurative art, taking inspiration from the work of Charlie Mackesy. They will develop their ability to communicate ideas and emotions through drawing and create their own figurative artwork.

Fascinating Forces

In Science, the children will become scientists as they investigate forces. They will develop their understanding through practical investigation and discussion before communicating their learning through an explanation text.

Return



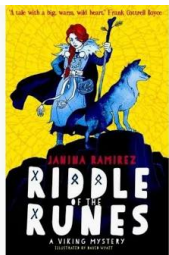
A whole-school narrative Learning Experience inspired by *Return* by Aaron Becker, the final book in the magical *Journey* trilogy. Children will be immersed in a world of adventure, mystery and imagination as they explore the story through a range of creative and exciting learning opportunities. More information about this Learning Experience will be shared nearer the time!

Vicious Vikings

Later in the term, we will travel back in time to investigate the Vikings. The children will develop their historical knowledge and enquiry skills, considering evidence and asking questions about the Viking period.

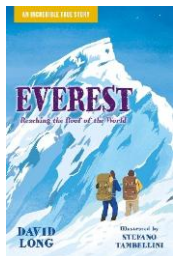
Bake It Better

As we approach Christmas in our DT learning experience, the children will become designers and cooks as they explore creating their own gingerbread. They will investigate recipes, develop their cooking skills and consider how ingredients and processes can be combined to create a successful product.



Reading – Please purchase these books for your children. The Ruddles of the Runes by Monday 7th September and Everest by Monday 2nd November.

Reading will continue to be a key part of our daily routine. We will share high-quality texts as a class, discuss characters, vocabulary and author choices, and develop the children's ability to explain and justify their ideas.



Our reading will complement our learning, with the children enjoying Riddle of the Runes as a whole-class text which will link to our Vicious Viking Learning Experience.

We will also explore Incredible True Stories – Everest: Reaching the Roof of the World, giving the children opportunities to develop their reading skills through both fiction and non-fiction.

Please continue to encourage your child to read regularly at home. Even ten minutes of reading together each day makes a difference to children's vocabulary, fluency, comprehension and enjoyment of reading. Please record this each day in your child's reading log book.

Spelling

Throughout the term, we will continue to build spelling knowledge through focused word study. Children will encounter patterns including silent letters, common letter strings, words ending in -ible and -able, homophones and words containing double letters.

Each week, there will be a spelling test on the Wednesday afternoon based on the spellings from the previous week. The year overview will be available at the meeting at the beginning of the term.

Maths

Alongside our Learning Experiences, the children will continue to develop their mathematical knowledge and skills through their daily Maths learning. We will place a strong emphasis on fluency, reasoning and problem-solving, helping children to explain their thinking and choose efficient strategies. It is essential for the children to keep up with their times tables knowledge as this is vital to support their new learning in Year 5. We will begin by exploring place value, working with numbers up to 1,000,000, before developing our skills in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will also spend time developing our understanding of fractions, including comparing, ordering, adding and subtracting fractions.

Please keep up with TT Rockstars – it's a brilliant way to ensure your children are practicing their times tables. Each week there will be a weekly tournament to make it fun so please practice at least 3 times a week.

Home Learning

Home learning will support the work taking place in school and provide opportunities for children to practice important knowledge and skills independently. This will include a writing task related to the current Learning Experience, a spelling focus, reading and a maths task related to our current learning as well as times table practice. The homework will be sent home at the end of the day on a Friday and due back on the following Wednesday morning. Please support your children with their homework by checking their understanding and helping them to make progress.

PE

In Year 5, PE will be on a Wednesday and Thursday afternoon. In the first term, we will start with dance and hockey until half term and then gymnastics and OAA afterwards. The children will also participate in the Daily Mile on days when PE is not taking place. Please make sure that PE kits are in school on a Monday and taken home for washing on a Friday.

Attendance & Punctuality – Every Minute Matters!

Coming to school every day and arriving on time makes a big difference to learning. Missing lessons means missing valuable teaching, practice and opportunities to make progress. Did you know that pupils who miss 10% or more of their school time are less than half as likely to achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and maths at the end of Year 6? Being on time matters too! Those first few minutes of the morning help children settle, catch up on important information and start the day ready to learn. Every day. Every lesson. Every minute counts!

Interventions and Support

We know that short, focused 1:1 or small group work can support children in securing key concepts. Often, they just need a little extra time and then things click! We have carefully planned our week to ensure we maximise every moment of the school day. Your child may work with myself, Mrs Trow, Mr Lawrence or Mrs Day. During this time your child will work on areas where I have assessed they need a little extra support. If your child misses a PE lesson to complete this intervention, they will be invited to a PE club outside of school to make up for this. Families of those children who are receiving this support during the autumn term have already been notified and invited to select a sports club.

Thank you for your continued support. Your encouragement at home makes such a difference to your child's confidence and attitude towards learning. We look forward to sharing some of the children's wonderful learning with you throughout the term.

Should you have any queries or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at cheetahs@fishbourneprimary.co.uk or leave a message with the office.

Kind regards

Mrs Emma Woolnough