



FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Only one you

Dear Parents,

We have hit the running after half term with so many interesting and exciting things happening in school. It was lovely to see all the children safely back after the half term break and looking beautifully smart in their uniforms. Thank you for ensuring that they are wearing correct uniform, it does make such a difference to our learning community to see everyone looking so smartly dressed and proud to come to our school. This half term is such a busy one with so many wonderful events to look forward to - it's also a tiring one, for children and staff alike as we work together to create some magical memories. There are already many discussions underway about Christmas shopping day, the nativity play, the school disco, Christmas lunch, jumpers, carol services, community tea parties... the list goes on! We really look forward to welcoming you to join with us in one of the many Christmassy events taking place in the coming weeks.

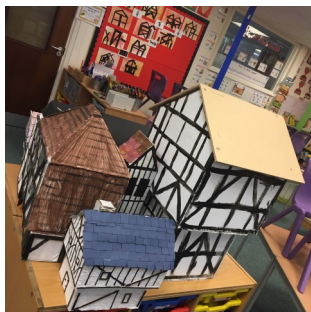
There is a real buzz about our school at the moment and, at this time of year, we find ourselves showing round prospective parents and get so much feedback about how our school 'feels'. Our open mornings and afternoons are a lovely way for visitors to our school to see learning in action and we never, ever do anything differently on these occasions. Children from Meerkats class are doing a tremendously good job of showing our visitors around school and talking about their school with such passion and enthusiasm. We wanted to start our newsletter this month with a round-up of the learning experiences taking place throughout school:

Hippo (Reception) class have settled beautifully into life at Fishbourne and are enjoying their learning. Their current learning experience, inspired by their interests, is **Supertato to the Rescue!** It was lovely to see the children arriving in school on Monday dressed as Super Heroes to discover that The Evil Pea had hidden the Super-Veggies around the school... and that it was the Hippos job to find them all. The children will be doing all they can to locate the Super-Veggies and have already started to: -draw WANTED posters -make Evil Pea traps, with instructions to accompany them. It's brilliant to hear the children talking about their learning with such passion and a real determination to find those Super-Veggies!



Elephants (Year 1) class are making the most of the season with their science based learning experience, **Conkers!** They were hooked into their learning with a glorious welly walk around the school grounds where they kicked leaves, gathered conkers and had a generally wonderful time observing the school grounds. The children are learning about nouns and adjectives and will be using this new knowledge to help them to write some stunning descriptions about autumn. We will publish them on our website as soon as they are finished. Look out on the news section of the website!

Penguins class (Year 2) are enjoying a history based learning experience and were hooked into their learning by a discovery of a box that had been uncovered by our recent visit by the builders in which they found a diary, wine, cheese and a collection of paintings. The Penguins are going to be using these sources to become historians and find out more about **The Great Fire of London** before using this expertise to help them travel back in time to write a diary entry from 1666. The children will be taking a number of steps during this journey, including creating their own miniature Great Fire of London in which they use their own buildings from 1666 to burn.



Koala (Year 3) class have seized an opportunity presented by Chichester Festival Theatre's production of **The Butterfly Lion**. One of the best things about working through our learning experiences approach is that when opportunities like this arise, we are able to seize them and give the children some experiences to remember. So our children have been immersed in reading **The**

Butterfly Lion and are using the incredible puppetry of the CFT production to inspire a DT based learning experience in which they will be investigating puppets, what they are made from and how they move. They will be going through the process of designing, making and evaluating their own moving puppets—keeping a diary of each of these steps.



Our Panther class (Year 4) were hooked into their learning immediately on the first day back after the half term break when they were asked to come to school in role as a knight! **Gawain and the Green Knight** was launched and the children were hooked through drama and role play into their exploration of historical narratives. Already we have seen some super story writing coming out of our Panthers who are learning the technical skills of punctuating direct speech in their stories correctly.

Tiger class (Year 5) were hooked into their learning experience, **Viking Times**, by watching a Viking re-enactment and using their skills of deduction to start gathering historical evidence and asking historical enquiry questions which will start them on their journey to becoming journalists and reporting on a Viking Raid.



EMPIRE

Meerkat class (Year 6) are also immersed in a historical learning experience called **Empire!** The children were hooked into this learning experience with a 'night at the museum' inspired afternoon of Greek art and culture. Each step of

the learning experience builds knowledge of the Greek Empire—beginning by developing a timeline of key eras and identifying the relationship to modern times. The end goal will be to create and publish a double page spread information text.

This academic year is going to be very exciting in terms of our focus on maths in the school development plan. We are exploring maths 'mastery' and how to improve our provision to enable all children to understand important mathematical concepts, develop their number 'sense' and most importantly of all, to love maths! We have been working closely with Sam Parkes from Chichester University who has led staff meetings at school on using open questions to engage all learners and developing a whole school understanding of a mastery approach.



Mrs Harris and Mrs Buchan are part of a teacher research group this year led by the NCETM (National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics). They will be working alongside other schools to explore mastery techniques whilst developing and implementing an action plan for Fishbourne. In addition, every class has a daily, short maths session called Maths No Nonsense. The idea behind this session is to develop the children's number sense and flexibility with number. We want them to be efficient mathematicians, to be able to know and choose the most appropriate method of calculating based on the numbers they are faced with. Having spoken to the children about these sessions this week we can safely say they are very popular! The children have said that they are fun, they love the games involved and it is helping them think about the quickest way to solve a problem.



We have had our very first film update from our wonderful Patron of Reading, Sophy Henn! We shared it with the children in assembly on Thursday and they were so thrilled to get such an amazing insight into a month in Sophy's life. We joined her on her promotional book tour for **Bad Nana 3**—as she travelled a very long way on trains across the country to create window displays in all sorts of bookshops, including Foyles in London! We joined her at the Brilliant Brighton Drawathon and got a special Fishbourne shout out from Sophy's brilliant illustrator buddies too. We then went off to the Henley, Bath AND Ickley Festivals with Sophy before heading off to the distribution plant for Dolly's Imagination Library where we saw lots of copies of Sophy's books being packaged up and heading off to be transported around the country! Sophy finished her monthly update with a book recommendation - Taylor Turbochaser by David Baddiel - where it turns out Sophy herself is the inspiration for one of the illustrations! Wowzers... what an incredible insight we had into Sophy's life. We can't wait for the next instalment!





This beautiful collection of books was kindly donated by Mr Maynard who met our Koala class during their visit to Amberley Museum in the summer of 2019. During their visit, Mr Maynard shared his experiences of evacuation with the children and then made a very generous donation to our school which we decided we would like to spend on books with the shared theme of wartime. What a stunning collection of books that will go into our school library following our act of remembrance and after we have officially thanked Mr Maynard for his incredibly generous donation! **There is only one you in this great big world, Mr Maynard, thank you for making our world a better place to be.**

Our Remembrance service was prepared and led by our Worship Team this week and we were thrilled Moira and parents were able to join us. A great deal of thought and care went into the preparations and it was lovely to see some children representing uniformed groups outside school—we had Rainbows, Brownies, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Sea Cadets! It was super to see the children looking so proud of their uniforms and having an opportunity to share an interest from outside school. Thank you for supporting this.



Registered Charity No: 1102426

FOFS are busy working their magic behind the scenes and have lots of exciting events lined up for the children in the build up to Christmas starting with the Neon Disco on Friday. We are so lucky to have such an active team of fundraisers in our school and always so grateful, not only for the money that is raised but for the

additional opportunities that are on offer to our children as a result of the kindness of a team of adults who work tirelessly to give our children a better experience during their time at Fishbourne! Do look out for the Christmas shopping day, Christmas Jumper Swap Shop, refreshments at the nativity, Christmas hamper raffle and so much more! **THANK YOU FOFS for making our school a better place to be. We really do appreciate all you do for us all!**

Learning Review Meetings are taking place over the next couple of weeks and we hope this will be a valuable opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher to talk about how well they have settled into their new classroom and to reflect on their progress since the beginning of the autumn term. We send Learning Journals back at the end of each learning experience to share with you the progress the children are making and their personalised steps of learning. We hope therefore that you feel you already have a good insight into the learning happening in the classroom. If you have any concerns about your child and their learning, please don't hesitate to speak to your class teacher in the first instance or to pop in and arrange an appointment. We believe in the power of working in partnership with families to support children's learning. While talking about our beliefs and purpose, please do remember our Fishbourne Learning Map which you can look at much more closely on our school website. We are so passionate about this document which outlines our WHY, HOW and WHAT, and this newsletter has reflected so many of these values - partnership, personalisation, irresistible learning to mention just a few!



Thank you again for your ongoing support for our learning community! We look forward to welcoming you to join in one of our Christmas events in the coming weeks. Kind regards, Naomi Day



Autumn term

Wed 13th Nov and Wed 20th Nov—Learning Review meetings 3.30-6pm
Fri 15th Nov: Children in Need non-uniform day (bring a donation to help change children's lives across the UK)

Thursday 14th Nov: FOFS meeting in staff room at 730pm

Friday 15th Nov: School Disco FOFS

Fri 22nd Nov: Quiz Night FOFS

Tues 26th Nov: Flu Vaccination YR to Y6

Fri 29th Nov: Christmas Jumper Swap Shop

Week beginning 2nd December - Nativity Play for children in Year 1 and 2
Letter coming home with all the details soon!

Mon 9th Dec: Whole School Learning Experience—Nativity

Fri 13th Dec: Christmas Lunch (Chartwells) and Christmas Jumper non-uniform day (please bring a donation to Save the Children!)

Wed 18th Dec: Carol Service (children only)

Thu 19th Dec: Carols Around the Tree 2.30pm

Fri 20th Dec: INSET Day

Mon 6th Jan: INSET Day

Tue 7th Jan: First Day of the Spring Term

Wed 22nd Jan: Young Voices choir (Y3-6) at the O2 Arena all day

INSET Days for 2019/20

We appreciate that families often don't know what happens in school during INSET days and so below we have given you an idea of exactly what we get up to during these days! We also meet weekly for professional development that supports us working towards the priorities on our School Development Plan.

Mon 2nd September - setting the scene for our School Development Plan this year

Fri 20th December - First Aid training for all staff

Mon 6th January - Reviewing our non-core curriculum - the big picture!

Fri 22nd May - moderating teacher assessments

Mon 20th July - Fishbourne Curriculum 2020 launch



We have decided to dip our toes into the world of Twitter! Many of our teaching team are keen tweeters and there is a wealth of support for the education community on Twitter. Inspired by Sophy Henn, we decided we would set up a Twitter account for our school which you are warmly welcome to follow. It will be a lovely way for our children to follow Sophy via our school Twitter account.

Please do find us and start to follow... @FishbournePrim1
You could also follow Sophy Henn... @sophyhenn

AT FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, WE NURTURE OUR LEARNERS TO BECOME...

