



FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Only one you

Dear Parents,

It doesn't seem possible that we are fast approaching half term. The last seven weeks have been bursting with exciting opportunities for our little fish and it has been lovely to see them all settling so happily back into our school family. We have had two year groups out on residential visits, class trips, swimming re-starting, assemblies, prospective parent visits and so much more! Life in school certainly feels much more back to what we so fondly remember and our children are thriving!



One of the highlights of our half term has undoubtedly been involved with the Chichester Children's Book Fest. We are passionate about books and reading at Fishbourne CE Primary. Developing a love of reading in our little fish is really important to us and this starts with gifting each of our children



Rob Biddulph



Sophy Henn



Alex English

their very own copy of 'Only One You' when they start in Reception class. The CCBF is a charity committed to encouraging children of all ages to read books, opening their minds and inspiring a love of the written word. Alongside the visit of the authors, each child is gifted a copy of the book the author speaks about thanks to the generosity of the charity. We were so very lucky to welcome Rob Biddulph who came in to talk with our Year 3 and 4 children about his latest release, Peanut Jones and the Illustrated City. Meanwhile Alex English came into school to talk to our Year 5 and 6 children about the first book in the Sky Pirates series. Both visits were absolutely superb and it was such a privilege to see the impact that they had on our little fish who listened captivated and asked some superb questions! We are using these books in school as whole class texts to support the children's reading and they will eventually come home to be added to your child's collection of books!

"It is a small thing to start life with a small number of really good books which are your very own."
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

At the end of the week, our very own Patron of Reading, Sophy Henn, came into school to work with everyone and spend time getting to know some of our youngest children. It was wonderful to finish the week with Sophy's visit and for the children to receive such an incredible insight into the life of an author and illustrator. We had a sneak preview of a new picture book coming out soon (and the children gave their feedback about their favourite front cover!) as well as hearing some very exciting news about Pizazz 4, including some top secret information about the new baddy. It was wonderful to see the children arriving in school with copies of the books that have been published during lockdown for Sophy to sign (one little fish brought TWELVE of Sophy's books - possibly our biggest super fan!)



How do we approach the curriculum at Fishbourne?

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 more about this here:

<https://www.fishbourneprimary.co.uk/page/title=Curriculum&pid=30>

This week has seen the start of a very exciting whole school art based learning experience, simply called '**Colour**'. Our youngest children are taking part this week and our older children are doing so after half term - it helps us to manage the resources we need in school! We are however all working towards the same end goal and are really excited that we will be able to share this with families.



The **HOOK** into this learning experience was the children receiving an invitation to an art exhibition taking place in the heart of our very own community in November... the problem being that we currently don't have any art to exhibit! The **END GOAL** is to create a unique piece of artwork inspired by our learning about colour theory, with an ekphrasis* to accompany it on display!

*The word 'ekphrasis' comes from the Greek for the written description of a work of art. It is a vivid, often dramatic description of a visual work of art.

During the learning experience, children will learn about and explore elements of colour theory through a range of mediums, they will be immersed in the work of a key artist and learn how to give opinions about pieces of artwork before starting to create their own pieces inspired by the learning they have done. Alongside this they will learn how to use words with great care to describe pieces of artwork before writing an ekphrasis of their own to display alongside their final piece in the exhibition.

We will be using all our learning to make the world a better place by holding a very special preview event for guests invited from our local community on the evening of Thursday 18th November. Some of our older children will host this event and we look forward to welcoming Fishbourne Companions, our neighbours, our army of volunteers and governors. Friday 19th November will be an open day for parents to come and visit the exhibition during the day to see the learning on display. There will be an opportunity for families to purchase the framed artwork as a keepsake or perfect Christmas present for a family member!



Last week we welcomed back our wonderful team of Story Tellers and the children's faces as they arrived in the hall said it all! This wonderful team of volunteers come into school each half term to dramatise a story from the bible. The children love these sessions and in

particular the audience participation! It is really lovely to see how much they gain from listening to these stories from the bible being retold. This half term, they shared The Widow's Mite and explored the lessons we can learn from this story about respect, kindness and making the world a better place. Our huge thanks to Jenny Blamire and the volunteers from Fishbourne Church for the amazing work they do.

We have been delighted to welcome Rev Mike Milmine into our Fishy family this term as he supports our school during the period of interregnum. Mike is the curate at St Pancras Church in Chichester. We have really enjoyed Mike's visits this half term and he has been a real blessing to us during this time. We look forward to seeing him again after the half term break and hope he will have the opportunity to meet with parents and families too.



Thinking Circles give children an opportunity for their voice to be heard and each represent their class at different points during the year. They take place each half term, with a question or theme being introduced early in the week, a thinking circle taking place in classrooms during the week and then different representatives coming along to the debrief at the end of the week. In our Thinking Circle this half term, the

children learned about the refugee crisis in Afghanistan. You can watch the introduction to this here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1KKlq-s8GjY>

The children were then asked to think about what we could do, as a school community, to support refugees arriving in the UK. The children came up with a wealth of wonderful ideas and we met with Children On the Edge, a Chichester based charity, this week to explore our next steps. The children will be raising money during the year in a variety of ways to support them to do something very special indeed... more details will be revealed as we have them!

We wrote to you earlier this week with news about this year's Shoe Box Appeal. We do hope you may be able to take this opportunity to support your children to make the world a better place to be by helping them make up a shoe box. Please do make a note on your calendars that shoe boxes should be brought to school on **Monday 1st November**.



Immediately after the half term holiday we will be holding our autumn term Learning Review Meetings. This is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's class teacher to reflect on their learning and the progress that they are making. It is a chance for you to let us know how you feel your child is getting on and share any feedback you may have. We use it as an opportunity to share with you ways in which you can actively support your child's learning at home, especially important as we support our children to get back on track with their learning after two extended periods of lockdown.

Do keep an eye out for Fishbourne Reads coming home this week and look on our website for news about our amazing Panther class who are enjoying their adventures at CYE! (Classes-Panthers-CYE)

Calendar

Half term: Mon 25th—Fri 29th October
 Mon 1st - Fri 5th Nov: Art Whole School Learning Experience KS2
 Wed 3rd Nov and Wed 10th Nov: Learning Review Meetings
 Mon 8th Nov: Open morning for prospective parents (9.30—10.30)
 Mon 15th Nov: Open afternoon for prospective parents (1.30—2.30)
 Fri 19th Nov: Colour Art Exhibition Open Day
 Thu 11th Nov: FOFS meeting 7.30pm
 Thu 18th Nov: Flu Vaccine for pupils in school
 Thu 9th Dec: Full Governing Body Meeting (6pm)
 Fri 17th Dec: Carols Around the Tree and breaking up for the Christmas holidays

Tue 4th Jan: First day of the spring term

Monday 17th January: INSET Day
 Monday 28th February: INSET Day
 One further INSET day is yet to be set in the summer term— we will share the date as soon as we have it!

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY: 22nd July This is the date that has been identified by the local authority to mark the Queen's Jubilee, meaning that the last day of the summer term will be 21st July.



During the last academic year and through lockdown, we dipped our toes into Twitter and Instagram! Please do follow us if you would like to! (Don't panic though... any key messages and news will be delivered to you via ParentMail and the school website!)

Please do find us and start to follow... @FishbournePrim1
 You could also follow our Patron of Reading Sophy Henn... @sophyhenn
 On Instagram we are: fishbourneprimary



Little fish who have made the world a better place...



Milo in Year 5 decided to challenge himself to raise money for charity by climbing Mount Snowdon—he walked the 9 miles in 4 hours, taking 28,000 steps By completing his challenge Milo raised £585 for Cancer Research.

Faye in Year 5 is making the world a better place to be by donating her hair to the Princess Trust—if you can, do sponsor her: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/fayeshairchop>

You may have noticed that our Defibrillator has now been installed and is ready for use. We have ordered a special plaque that will go up next to the defibrillator and when that arrives, we will officially mark the occasion. We look forward to sharing photos with you!



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

