

## *What we are learning about:*

Every fortnight, we will try to give you a snapshot of what we have been learning about and what we will be learning about in the coming weeks and ways you can support at home. This information will also be posted on google classroom.

### Fenstanton and Hilton Preschool

#### **For the last two weeks we have been learning about:**

Autumn

The children have been looking at the leaves which are falling off the trees and using an identification tool that we made to help identify the trees that they fell off.

We have been looking at acorns and conkers and discussing why the squirrels have been collecting them to get ready for hibernation.

#### **For the next two weeks we will be learning about:**

We will continue on our Autumn theme and carrying out our hibernating hedgehogs' activity incorporating letters and sounds.

#### **Staff update:**

Ellie leaves us this week to start her maternity leave.

We wish her well and will miss her!

Hannah Warboys joins us from next week as a Level 3 Practitioner. Laura will be acting deputy and room leader while Ellie is off.

### Reception: Pine Class

#### **For the last two weeks we have been learning about:**

We have learnt to read and write s,a,t,p,i,n,m and d.

In maths we have been counting to 20, making numbers to 5 and learning about odd and even numbers.

Forest school has been a big hit, and we even had our first fire this week!

#### **For the next two weeks we will be learning about:**

English: Listening to, sequencing and rewriting fairy tales. Phonics: read and write o,c,k.

Maths: identifying and naming 2d shapes.

#### **You can help by:**

Reading any fairy tales you have at home.

Looking out for any shapes you can spot around your home or out on a walk.

### Year 1 and 2: Ash, Birch and Elm Classes

For the last two weeks we have been delving into the world of Africa

We have finished our English topic by using our knowledge of African Elephants and Lions to create a non fiction text.

We have explored the human and physical features of landscape

In Science have been classifying animals into different groups.

We have been exploring addition and subtraction this week and using our number bonds to 10 to help up make 20.

#### **For the next two weeks we will be learning about:**

**English:** We are looking at poetry and how it can create amazing images using a variety of vocabulary.

**Maths:** We are adding and subtracting using a variety of different methods.

#### **You can help by:**

Ensuring that your child has joined the google classroom and is able to access the homework..

Ensure your child knows their number bonds to 10 and 20.

Start practising your timetables. 2s, 5s and 10s.



## Year 3 and 4: Sycamore, Chestnut and Cherry

### For the last two weeks we have been learning about:

Classroom instructions in **French** – see Google Classroom for the words we have been learning.

Fossils and Soils in **Science**.

What can we learn about life in the Stone Age from a study of Skara Brae? In **History**.

In **RE** the children have written their own prayer so they can think about who or what they may pray for.

In **PSHE** the children have discussed how to recognise the emotions involved in being in a new situation.

### For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

**Maths** - Finding either 1, 10, 100, 1,000 more or less than a given number.

**English** Setting out poems in verses or stanzas and writing in lines, not sentences! As well as using powerful vocabulary.

### You can help by:

Using the following maths vocabulary in everyday contexts - more than, less than, greater, greater than, equal to ascending, descending and rounding e.g. giving a number a nearby value.

## Year 5: Willow

### For the last two weeks we have been learning about:

Fantasy stories and have written our own story based on No Other Country from Shaun Tan's Tales of Outer Suburbia in English.

In maths we have developed our addition and subtraction skills.

In science we have planned and carried out a parachute investigation.

### For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

Discussion texts using examples such as Should Daleks be allowed to live on Earth? and 'Do we still need zoos?' in English.

In maths we will be learning about charts, line graphs, tables and timetables.

### You can help by:

Discussing any graphs, tables or other examples of statistics, you come across with your child. It would also be useful to practise telling the time using analogue clocks (clocks with faces).

## Year 6: Oak

### For the last two weeks we have been learning about:

We have enjoyed writing newspaper reports linked to our class book, The Civil War Drummer Boy.

In maths we have looked at the 4 operations, paying particular attention to division.

In Renaissance Art we have looked closely at St George's Statue and paid attention to the shading in the painting of Madonna of The Pinks.

Music – we have been learning about Beethoven and facts about his life.

### For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

We will be working on narratives in the style of our class book, The Civil War Drummer Boy. We will also be focussing on setting.

In maths we will be continuing our work on division.

### You can help by:

Being supportive of any questions that may come up from our SRE topic; discussing the language of division.



## Other Events News and Information:



# STAR OF THE WEEK



### 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Pine – Madeleine  
Birch – Phoebe  
Elm – Samuel  
Ash – Alfie  
Chestnut – Corey  
Cherry – Helena  
Sycamore – Finley  
Willow – Elena  
Oak – Sophie

### 9<sup>th</sup> October

Pine – Hannah  
Birch – Emily  
Elm – Mia  
Ash – Samuel  
Chestnut – Freddie  
Cherry – Edward  
Sycamore – Isil  
Willow – Lewis  
Oak – Ben



## PTA News

There were lots of bags outside for Monday's Bag2School collection, so a big thank you to everyone who filled and brought in bags. We will let you know what was raised as soon as we can.

PTA held its AGM on Wednesday and formally elected the committee for this school year. There were lots of ideas for events and activities this term and we should have a full schedule of dates ready for the next newsletter. Look out for the first activity next week.

13–14 October is Amazon Prime day. Did you know that if you use **Amazon Smile** instead of the regular Amazon page, you can generate funds for school at no extra cost to you? And it works with Prime too!

Go to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>. Then, directly under the main search bar, click on the 'AmazonSmile' tab. Once there, you can choose or change your selected charity. Simply pop **Fenstanton & Hilton School P.T.A.** into the search and select us for your fundraising.

Amazon then donates a small percentage of every purchase you make to PTA funds. Since August 2020, PTA has raised £53.30 this way. So, it really does add up.





# Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School

## *Message from the Acting Headteachers*

### Message from the Headteachers:

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have now been at the school for just over a month and, can we firstly say, thank you to you, the staff, children, governors and wider community for making us feel so welcome. Your children are a delight and they have coped so well with the changes we have implemented to ensure we are COVID compliant and have minimised risks.

Plans are in place to appoint a new headteacher and the governors will be advertising the post in the coming weeks. Interviews for a deputy headteacher were held this week. We hope to be sharing news about the appointment with you soon.

Some parents have expressed concerns as to how long the current team will be here. The honest answer is we do not know. Our plan is to, with the continued support of the Fenstanton and Hilton governors, the local authority, and the ongoing permission of our permanent employers to support the school in appointing a new leadership team who will be able to continue to develop the school and build on the potential that clearly exists. This could take two terms or longer.

Please be assured we have high expectations and are determined to ensure that Fenstanton and Hilton becomes the school your children deserve and you want. We have developed a new school improvement plan which focusses on addressing the areas for improvement identified in the last OFSTED report and we have introduced a few changes to the behaviour policy which we have the pleasure of sharing with you today. This will be sent out as an attachment. Alongside this newsletter you will receive a copy of the new behaviour policy. A key difference is the change between “Dos and Don’ts” and the introduction of new core rights and responsibilities. These rights apply to all members of our community and are not limited to children. When we talk to children about their behaviour we talk about these rights and the responsibilities that come with them. Eg. If you have the right to be treated with respect, you need to consider how you behave towards others and respect their rights too.

### **Planned changes to the start and end of the school day after half term:**

We have already implemented some changes to the start and end of the school day. We are now ready to implement some further changes **after half term** that we hope will make drop off and pick up easier for the majority of parents. By opening the Fen gate, we have been able to get the children into and out of school more efficiently. Our planned times from after half term take into account the difficulty that some parents have expressed getting their youngest children into school with the different timings and having to go to several drop off points.

Pre- School children will need to be dropped off at 08:50am at the same gate they currently come in and out of and collected at 2:50pm. It is only the time that is changing.

Children in Reception will also start school at 08:50am and can be dropped off in the morning at the Reception garden. Parents are invited to walk through the main gate at the front of the school to the reception garden. Parents are asked to drop their children off promptly and then leave via the Fen gate by walking down to the playground from the reception drop off point. Creating a one way system.

## *Respect, Kindness, Excellence, Honesty, Collaboration*

[www.fenstantonandhiltonschool.com](http://www.fenstantonandhiltonschool.com) ; [office@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk) ; [fenstantonpreschool@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:fenstantonpreschool@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk)



## ***Message from the Acting Headteachers cont'd***

### **Message from the Headteachers:**

Reception children will be brought by their teacher to the main gate at the front of the school at 2:50pm where parents can collect their children.

Children in Year 1, 2, 3 and 4 will continue to come into school via the Fen Gate. The gate will be open for children to be dropped off between 09:00am and 09:05am. Parents do not need to wait with their children. A member of staff will be on duty.

The children in Year 1 and 2, will finish and be brought to the Fen playground at the end of the day at 3:00pm and the gate will be open from 2:55pm for parents to wait in the playground to collect.

Children in Year 3 and 4 will finish and be brought to the Fen gate playground at 3:05pm.

Children in Year 5 and 6 will continue to enter and exit the building via the current main gate but they will start at 09:00am. This will ensure that Reception parents have left the area and we can maintain social distancing. Children in Year 5 and 6 will continue to wait in the zones inside the gate and outside the Year 5 and 6 entrance to the school.

They will leave at 3:05pm via the same gate and we continue to ask parents to wait on the path opposite the school.

	<b><u>Start time</u></b>	<b><u>Finish Time</u></b>
Pre School and Reception	08:50am	2:50pm
Year 1 and 2	09:00--09:05am	3:00pm
Year 3 and 4	09:00-09:05am	3:05pm
Year 5 and 6	09:00-09:05am	3:05pm

If you are collecting from the Fen Playground and have a child in Year 5 and 6, once the majority of the children have been dismissed a member of staff will walk children whose parents are waiting in the Fen Playground down to the playground, so please remain on the playground and not walk around to the Main Gate.

### **News from the Governing Body**

Governors held their first meeting this term earlier this month and would like to acknowledge the work that the staff completed to get the school ready for the new term. Staff worked throughout the summer to achieve this and we wish to express our thanks.

Governors would also like to thank the parents for bearing with us and supporting the team to get the children safely into school.

Governors are starting the process to recruit a new Head teacher and are supporting the interim head to recruit a Deputy; interviews for the Deputy will take place early in October.

Governors discussed the School Improvement Plan and also a need to continue with the environmental improvements seen in school. We are currently developing an action plan to support this.

At the meeting Governors also voted to keep Jenny Volp as the Chair and Stuart Brown as Vice-Chair.



## Other Events News and Information:

### School Photos

Your child/ren will be bringing home their school photos today. Payment can be made either online or via Customer Services (the school are unable to take payments of any kind for the photos). **All orders must be placed by Wednesday, 21st October.**

### Google Classroom/Homework

This is where your children's homework is posted each week and where you will find other work we may need to pass onto you in the future. Please see attached guide to logging on.

### After-School Clubs

If your child attends an after-school club it is the parent's responsibility to ensure they advise Funtimes that their child will be joining them later. Please also advise Over & In if your child will be attending Funtimes afterwards, so the coaches know to take them to the drop off point for Funtimes.

### Collection arrangements for Multi-Sports and Football

**Multi-Sports:** Please collect your child from the Main School Office entrance. Please wait outside (socially distanced) and we will bring the children out to you.

**Football:** Please collect your child from the Side Gate (nearest the Churchyard). The football coach will bring the children out to you, please do not enter the school site.

On the days that the children have these sporting after-school clubs, they may come to school dressed in their PE/Sports kits, to avoid changing at the end of the day. The children will need to bring their football boots in separately to change into before they play.

### Funtimes

If your child is due to go to Funtimes, but subsequently they go home early from school, unwell or just a change of plan, it is your responsibility to inform Funtimes directly.

### School Uniform:

We are aware from a few parents that there have been some issues this year with delivery/orders from the Green School. They have a limited numbers of school items on site (as they are a small shop) and usually order the items of clothing from their suppliers on a regular basis. However, their suppliers have also been closed for a significant period of time and therefore there is quite a large back-log for all involved. The Green School are doing their very best to process all orders and get them all delivered as soon as possible. We will continue to monitor this and will look into possible alternatives if the issues continue.

### Flu Vaccination – Updated guidance

We have been made aware that some parents are concerned that if their child develops a high temperature after having the vaccine, they won't know whether to isolate and book a test or not for Covid-19. [This poster](#) emphasises why it is important to get the flu vaccine and this link <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/> may be useful too. The nasal spray flu vaccine can cause a mild fever which should respond to paracetamol. This does make it difficult to distinguish from Covid. However, the important thing is the timing - does it occur soon after the vaccination, in which case it is more likely to be due to the vaccine. Giving the child a flu vaccine means that the family is less likely to get flu so less likely to need testing and self-isolation.

Events happening over the next fortnight:

Half Term: 26th-30th Oct  
Autumn Term Ends: 18th Dec

Spring Term Starts: 5th Jan  
Half Term: 15th-19th Feb  
Spring Term Ends: 26th March

Summer Term Starts: 12th Apr  
May Day: 3rd May (school closed)  
Half Term: 31st May-4th June  
Summer Term Ends: 16th July