October 2026

Wintringham Primary Academy Head's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a wonderful half term. October was a very busy month and I hope you enjoy reading all about the children's activities.

Term dates for the next academic year, 2027/2028 have been emailed and have been added to the school website.

Staff are preparing our Christmas activities and details of these will be sent home soon. In the meantime, here are some future diary dates which you might find useful:

Pre-school Photos—11th & 12th November
Christmas Fair—Thursday 3rd December
Tuesday 8th December—2pm Reception Performance
Wednesday 9th December—10.30am Reception Performance
Wednesday 9th December—2pm KS1 Performance
Thursday 10th December—10.30am KS1 Performance
Friday 11th December 10.30am KS1 Performance
Christmas Lunch—Wednesday 16th December

We have been asked by residents to remind parents and carers not to park in the private car park in Ash Way. Thank you in advance for respecting our neighbours.

We are pleased to confirm that our school kitchen has recently been inspected by Huntingdon District Council's Environmental team and has received 5 stars. Well done to our kitchen team.

Key Dates 2026/2027:

11th & 12th November—Pre-school photographs

Thursday 3rd December—Christmas Fair

Wednesday 16th December—Christmas Lunch

Friday 18th December—last day of term

Monday 4th January—Staff Training Day

Tuesday 5th January—Term Starts

Thursday 21st January—Year 6 to Young Voices

15th—19th February—Half Term

Friday 25th March—Last Day of Term

Monday 12th April—Staff Training Day

Tuesday 13th April—Term starts

Monday 3rd May—May Day

10th—13th May—KS2 SATs

12th—14th May—Year 4 Grafham Residential Trip

31st May—4th June—Half Term

Monday 7th June—Staff Training Day

19th—21st July—Year 6 Hilltop Residential Trip

Wednesday 21st July-Last Day of Term

Reception

We have had a fabulous month in Reception and the children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring food through a range of wonderful stories, including *Kitchen Disco*, *Green Eggs and Ham* and the traditional tale *The Little Red Hen*. Through these books, the children have taken part in lots of exciting hands-on learning experiences. They investigated seeded fruits and vegetables using tweezers and magnifying glasses at our investigation station, designed their own fruit kebabs, and imagined some wonderfully unusual new foods inspired by *Green Eggs and Ham*.

The children have also been experimenting with colour mixing, making fruity soup in our outdoor area, and running a busy outdoor café in the role-play space.

During outdoor learning sessions with Mrs Clarke, the children have been exploring the seasonal changes taking place around the school grounds as Autumn settles in, noticing changes in the colours of leaves, collecting natural treasures and discussing how the environment changes as the weather becomes cooler. In addition, the children have been learning new songs in Makaton, including *Little Green Frog* and our Harvest Festival song, *Cauliflowers Fluffy*. Well done, Reception!



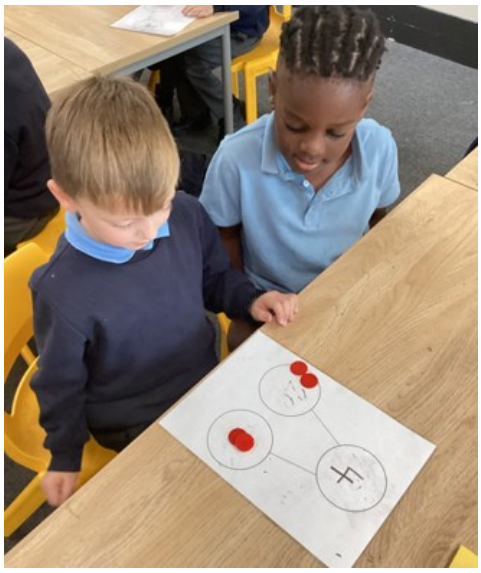




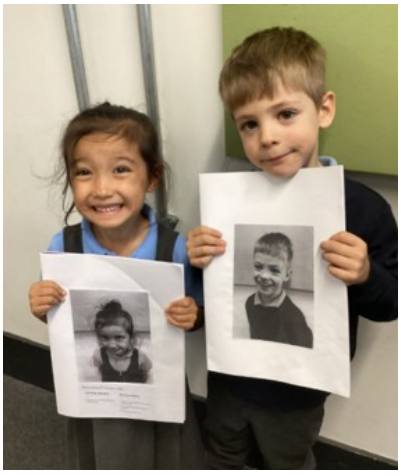
Year 1

Year 1 had a fantastic month of learning and discovery in October! In Science, the children have been busy investigating the world around them through a range of exciting activities linked to plants and the season of Autumn. They have explored natural objects such as leaves, conkers and branches, measured and compared different leaves, and made predictions during their investigations. The children have also been identifying seeds, learning about garden and wild plants, and discussing the differences between evergreen and deciduous trees. They have shown great curiosity and enthusiasm as they developed their scientific enquiry skills. We were also incredibly proud of their contributions to our Harvest collection, with the children bringing in cereal boxes to support our community and enjoying the spectacular giant domino run they created together.

In PE, Year 1 have been taking part in a variety of team games, working hard to develop their teamwork skills, take turns and listen carefully to instructions. They have also been thinking about tactics and strategies, showing excellent cooperation and determination as they work together to achieve success. We are very proud of all their hard work and enthusiasm this month!







Year 2

Year 2 have been very busy indeed over the last month! In Maths we have been working with 2-digit numbers, focussing on their place value, making comparisons and adding more than 2 numbers together.

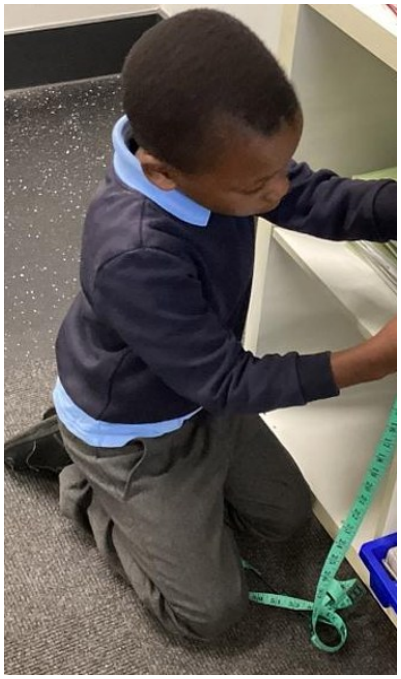
In English, we read The Jolly Postman and wrote a variety of texts based on the fairytale characters we met along the way. We have been focussing on making sure our sentences are accurate and adding in noun phrases to make our writing more exciting.

In Religion & Worldviews we have been looking at and discussing prophets from different religions and in science we have enjoyed exploring our habitat topic. In PSHE we have been discussing positive and negative behaviours, how they can impact others and the appropriate consequences and rewards that follow. In Music we had a lovely afternoon creating music using percussion instruments and exploring the sounds of the Safari. We have shown and developed our fantastic sketching skills in art, using different mediums and materials to create tone and texture.

All 3 classes have been lucky enough to visit St Neots Library this half-term. The children had the opportunity to listen to a story and to learn how to use the library correctly and safely.







Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic month and have thoroughly enjoyed their learning so far! They have been exploring the human body, discovering how their joints and muscles work together to help them move, as well as learning about the importance of nutrition and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

In Design and Technology, the children have been showcasing their creativity by designing and making their own pneumatic toys. They carefully followed a design criteria and explored how air pressure can be used to make things move, using a balloon to bring their wonderful creations to life. We are incredibly proud of their enthusiasm, curiosity and creativity, and look forward to seeing what else they achieve this term!





Year 4

Year 4 have had a brilliant month of extending their learning and diving deeper into their units for this half-term. In Maths, they have been developing their knowledge of number to include 4-digit numbers, looking at the composition of them and most recently, comparing and ordering them. They played a competitive game with their partner where they had to randomly select a digit card and decide where to place it in order to make the greatest number. They demonstrated fantastic reasoning skills, being strategic in where to place the number in order to guarantee themselves a win or guarantee that their partner couldn't...





Year 5

Year 5 have had a great month and October has flown by! We have finished our unit of decimal fractions with Maths and have now started negative numbers which the children are really enjoying. In English, the children are diving deeper getting through The Nowhere Emporium which is leading into lots of different writing opportunities. In PE, we have finished our unit of dance where the children had to learn a routine and add in their own chorography. While in Art, the children have had the opportunity to create some beautiful sunsets.

Some of our Year 5 girls had the opportunity to attend a football competition held at Bedford Greenacre Independent school, playing three games against different schools. We lost our first game 1-0, drew our second game and ended up winning our last game 1-0. This was for a lot of our girls their first ever football match and competition and it was lovely to see the improvement from each match. The girls represented the school superbly and done us all proud.





Year 6

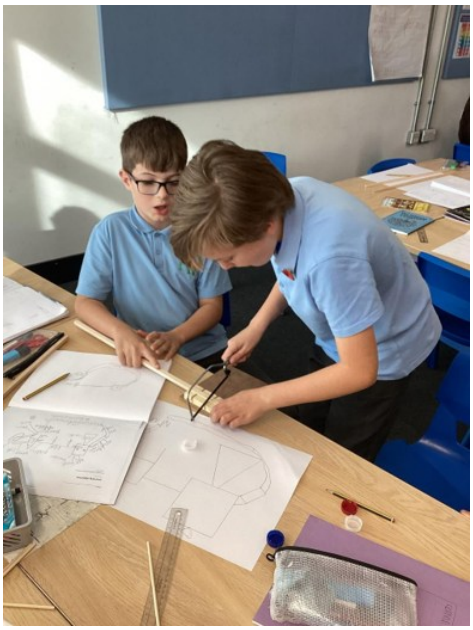
Year 6 have demonstrated an excellent attitude towards their learning throughout the last half term, approaching a range of challenges with enthusiasm, determination and a willingness to improve. In English, we have continued to make good progress through our class novel, *There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom*, which has provided plenty of opportunities for discussion, exploration of characters and developing our writing skills. One particular highlight was our newspaper reports, where the children developed their understanding of formal language, journalistic techniques and different forms of reported and direct speech. They particularly enjoyed adopting the role of journalists, using interviews and carefully selected vocabulary to produce engaging and realistic newspaper reports.

In Design and Technology, we have recently begun our new unit, *Playgrounds*. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to take on the role of designers, considering the different features and equipment that would make an effective and engaging playground. Having completed their initial designs, they have now begun the practical stage of the project, carefully measuring, cutting and assembling materials to bring their ideas to life. It has been great to see their creativity, problem-solving skills and enthusiasm develop as their structures begin to take shape.

Year 6 were delighted to welcome Geoff Watts, a magistrate, into school last half term. He spoke to the children about his important role in court, explaining how magistrates help to make fair decisions. The class learned about different types of crime and some of the consequences that can be given when people break the law. Geoff also answered lots of thoughtful questions, encouraging the children to think carefully about making good choices. It was an inspiring and informative visit that gave Year 6 a real insight into the justice system and the responsibility of being a magistrate.







The Lighthouse

The children have continued to settle in wonderfully and are growing in confidence each week. We have been focusing on developing our collaboration skills and have been very impressed with how well the children are working together. This half term, we introduced Lego-Based Therapy, which has been a great success in encouraging teamwork, communication and problem-solving.

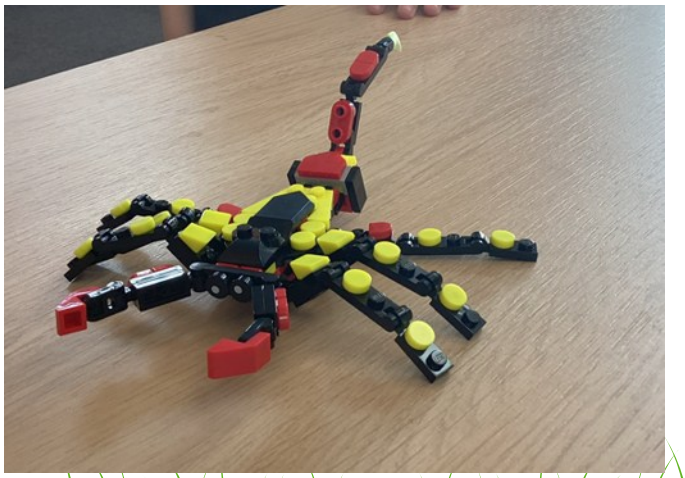
In English, the children have been learning how to use noun phrases and extend their sentences to make their writing more interesting and engaging for the reader. In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of addition and subtraction through a range of practical and written activities.

In Science, we have enjoyed exploring the human skeleton and learning about the important nutrients our bodies need to stay healthy. In Art and Design, the children have been developing their sewing skills and have shown great determination as they learn new techniques.

We are very proud of all the children and the enthusiasm they continue to show in their learning.







Pre-school

Pre-School have had a fantastic month of learning and discovery exploring the theme, 'All About Me.' Through a range of engaging activities, the children have been learning about themselves, their families, and the people around them. They have enjoyed sharing information about what makes them unique while also recognising the many things they have in common with their friends. This has helped to build confidence, encourage positive self-esteem, and support the development of meaningful new friendships within the setting.

As part of their learning, the children have also been developing their understanding of similarities and differences, celebrating what makes each person special. Through discussions, stories, creative activities, and group play, they have shown kindness, respect, and curiosity about one another. It has been wonderful to see the children forming stronger relationships, working together, and becoming more aware of the feelings and experiences of others.

Pre-school have begun their exploration of Autumn. The children have been observing seasonal changes in the environment and taking a closer look at the natural world around them. One of the highlights this month was planting bulbs ready for Spring. The children carefully prepared the soil and planted the bulbs, learning about what plants need to grow. We are now waiting with great excitement and anticipation to see what happens over the coming months and look forward to watching the first signs of growth appear as the seasons change.

The children have also been learning about concepts of rhyme – using the rhyme 'Row, Row, Row your Boat' to help them. This will also assist them with their future Phonics learning.

We have said goodbye and see you soon to Mrs Johnson who is now taking her maternity leave and wish her and her family all the best.

We have also welcomes Mrs Newbold, Miss Peachy and Mrs Mandel who have joined the Pre-school team.







Reminders

Uniform

We ask that when you are purchasing new shoes for your child to wear at school, they are black school shoes. No trainers are to be worn other than for P.E. Our uniform is as follows:
Grey pinafore dress, skirt or trousers. Please ensure skirts are knee length
Navy blue sweatshirt
Sky blue polo shirt
White or grey socks or navy blue or grey tights
Black shoes with closed heels and toes
Summer dress is blue and white checked
P.E. t-shirts should be plain white and P.E. shorts should be loose fitting 'football style' and not leggings or cycling shorts.

Tapestry & Class Dojo

We use an online platform called Tapestry to commumicate with parents and carers who have children in Pre-school an d Reception . We use Class Dojo to send information to parents with children in Years 1-6.

Holiday Absence

In line with Statutory Guidance from the Department of Education, Headteachers are only allowed to authorise absence during term time in exceptional circumstances. Family holidays are not classed as exceptional circumstances. The children only attend school for 190 days out of 365 and we do expect parents to take holidays during the 13 weeks of school holidays. Please be aware that as this is an unauthorised absence you could be at risk of the Education Welfare Officer issuing a fixed penalty fine. Term dates for the 2026/2027 school year have been sent home to parents and are available on the school website. Please contact the school office if you require a further copy.

School Dinners

Our in-house catering company, Diamond Diners, provide school meals for the children. Menus are available on the school website. The cost of a school meal is £2.75. Lunches can be ordered on a daily basis, but all school meals must be paid for in advance.

Nut Allergy

Children's packed lunches must not contain peanut butter or other snacks which contain nuts. Items which state 'may contain nuts' should also not be brought into school as we have children with allergies in school. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Please only put water in your child's water bottle as juice is not allowed in the bottles.

Please walk to school if at all possible. If you have to drive, please park safely and considerately to our neighbours.

