



**12 Dec 2025**

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## **Headteacher's insight**

What a wonderful week it has been at school! The Reception and Key Stage 1 performances have truly been a highlight of not only the week, but the whole term. It has been such a joy to watch our youngest children take to the stage with growing confidence, enthusiasm and delight. Their hard work in learning lines, songs and actions really paid off, and the smiles on their faces were matched by those in the audience. A huge thank you must go to all of the staff involved in preparing the children so brilliantly — their creativity, patience and dedication behind the scenes made these memorable performances possible.

As we look ahead to the final days of term, we have plenty more festive excitement to enjoy together. Next week, we are very much looking forward to our Key Stage 2 Carol Service at Fen Ditton Church on Monday at 2:00pm, and we warmly welcome parents and carers to join us for this special occasion. Just meet us there if you are able to!

Wednesday will be filled with activity and celebration: an active learning opportunity at drop-off, our much-loved Christmas Lunch, and the Santa Dash in the afternoon – a brilliant way to combine fitness and festive fun!

On Thursday, we will then come together for our end of term whole-school service, which is also open to all parents and carers and will be a lovely way to round off a busy and joyful term. Join us at 3:00pm on The Square around the Christmas tree.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to celebrating these final festive moments with you and your children.



*Mrs Thompson*

Mrs Emily Thompson  
**Executive Headteacher**



## News from our classrooms

### Caterpillars Class

We've had such a lovely, festive week in Nursery filled with sensory winter and Christmas activities. The children have been exploring everything from melting snowmen in our tuff tray to creating their own sensory Christmas trees using coloured rice and paintbrushes.

They've also been very busy making their Christmas cards (spoiler alert!), as well as developing their fine motor skills with our Funky Fingers Christmas Trees.

Our creative time continued with calming mindfulness bauble colouring, which the children really enjoyed. And of course, we have been practising our songs for our upcoming Christmas Sing-a-long – we hope you can join us on **Wednesday 17th December at 2:45pm**. All Nursery children are welcome to take part, whether it is their usual day in or not.

Alongside all the festive fun, our usual learning has carried on too. This week we've been making patterns using coloured bears and learning the phonics sounds 'f' and 's'. As this will be our final update before the Christmas break, we would like to wish all our families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your continued support – we look forward to more exciting learning in 2025!



#### **Christmas Sing-along – 17 December**

Parents and carers invited at 2:45pm (*the time has been updated from 2:30pm*)

#### **School Place Applications for 2026**

Please remember that Reception place applications are due by 15th January 2026



## Ladybirds Class



We have had a truly special week in Ladybirds Class. The children finished their performances of The Christmas Emergency, and what a wonderful job they did! A huge well done to every single child—their confidence, teamwork and enthusiasm shone on stage, and it was a very proud moment for us all. Thank you so much for your support with costumes, learning the songs and helping make the performances such a success.

In English, we have been busy researching, planning and writing our own fact files about penguins. The children amazed me with their prior knowledge, loved finding out new information and worked hard to organise their ideas under clear headings. Their final fact files show fantastic effort, growing writing skills and real curiosity about the natural world.

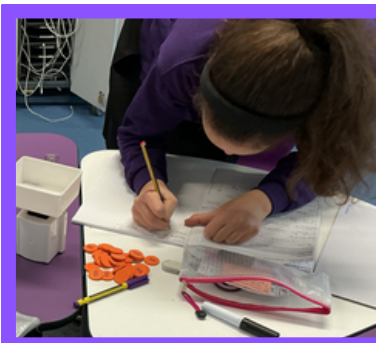
As we approach the end of term, I would like to thank you for all your support over the past few months. Please keep up regular reading over the holidays—it makes such a difference.

Wishing all our families a restful break and a very happy holiday!  
Mrs McLachlan





## Badgers Class



The last fortnight has been full of hands-on learning and fantastic curiosity across the curriculum in Year 6!

In **Science**, we've been investigating **reversible and irreversible changes**. Last week, the children explored reversible changes by melting marshmallows and chocolate, observing how heating and cooling can change materials without creating something new. This week, we moved on to irreversible changes, melting and burning different materials — cotton wool, paper, cardboard and plastic — and discussing why these reactions cannot be undone. The children have become confident at identifying and explaining the differences between the two types of change.

In **Geography**, we headed out on a **local walk** around the Marleigh community to compare a most populated area with a least populated area. We observed traffic levels, noise pollution and litter, and discussed how population density affects the environment. Our fieldwork skills are developing brilliantly!

In **Maths**, we completed our unit on **fractions** and have now begun our **measure** topic, focusing on metric units and practising converting between them. The children have shown great perseverance tackling some tricky reasoning.

In **DT**, Badgers have been working hard on their sewing skills as we continue creating our own **sock monkeys**. We've been practising the **running stitch** and **loop stitch**, and the children are becoming increasingly confident and precise with their sewing techniques.





## News and information

### Fen Ditton Winter Warmer - you're invited!

On **Tuesday 16th December from 3:30pm - 5pm**, come along for a **giant inflatable snow globe**, food stalls, games raffle and more (see flyer on page 10)

### Quick morning challenge

On **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**, when the school gates open in the morning, parents are welcome to take part in a small maths-based challenge with their children. A couple of **Christmas themed maths questions** for each Key Stage will be set out in the playground for parents/ carers to solve with their children. All questions will be answered with actions!

Jumping Jacks for 100s, Claps for 10s and Hops for 1s (Answer 321= 3 Jumping Jacks, 2 claps and 1 hop). We are excited to show just a small way of how we can teach maths in an active, healthy way!

Parents will then leave school **before 9am** and students will make their way to their classes as usual. We hope you will join us.

#### Ryan Parker

Physical Education and Physical Activity Lead  
Primary PE Trust System Leader



#### Lost property

Take the opportunity for a final look at lost property before the end of term as unclaimed items may be disposed of during the holiday.





*Student contribution!*



## Marleigh Primary Santa Dash!

Attention parents and carers! There is a **Santa Dash on the 17<sup>th</sup> December, approx 1:30-2:30!** Marleigh's Pupils will be Dashing to Fen Ditton Primary School and they will complete small **Christmas Tasks** then dash back (Reception and KS1 will run half way and then turn back). Remember, your children will be supported by Teachers and Year 6 helpers on the way.

What your child will need:

- A pair of comfortable trainers (Suitable for running)
- PE kit suitable for outside activities
- A water bottle
- Warm light jacket/ Coat
- Christmas Hat (Optional and Encouraged!)

Everyone dashing in the Santa Dash will receive a **certificate designed by Year 6s** and a **Santa Dash Medal!**

Ho Ho Let's Go!

**Jacob**  
**Year 6**



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

Viveka - Squirrels  
Joel - Butterflies  
Ila - Badgers





## Fundraising campaigns

### Children will have crackers, thanks to you!

We'd like to thank everyone who donated to our Christmas Cracker campaign, we will have very happy children next Wednesday enjoying their lunch with a cracker!



### What's next?

At the start of the Spring term we'll be launching our next fundraiser, we hope to raise enough funds to purchase the **first of 4 outdoor benches** that will mark the beginning of a **new outdoor learning area** for all children.

Every contribution will help us take one step closer to building an inspiring environment that will benefit all students. We look forward to celebrating each milestone along the way with you!





## Events next week

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Mon 15 Dec</b>  | <b>Fen Ditton Church: Carol Concert</b><br>Squirrels, Owls & Badgers (Year 3,4,5 and 6) – all parents and carers welcome, 2pm   |
| <b>Tues 16 Dec</b> | <b>Fen Ditton Winter Warmer!</b><br>Giant inflatable snow globe, food stalls, games raffle and more (see flyer below)   |
| <b>Wed 17 Dec</b>  | <b>Morning challenge</b> 8:40am – 9am<br><br><b>Christmas Lunch</b> - <a href="#">please ensure you have booked.</a><br><br><b>Santa Dash</b><br><br><b>Nursery Christmas sing-a-long</b> , all parents and carers invited at 2:45pm (even if it's not your child's usual day!) |
| <b>Thu 18 Dec</b>  | Christmas sing-a-long with parents and carers<br>3pm  |



FEN DITTON CP SCHOOL PTFA

# WINTER WARMER

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
~ 3.30 – 5pm ~  
Fen Ditton CP School Hall

NEW  
for  
2025

Giant  
Inflatable  
Snowglobe

NEW  
for  
2025

Bumper Hamper Raffle  
Tombola  Games

Toys  
and  
Gifts

★ Refreshments ★  
Hot Dogs, Cake  
Hot Chocolate & Mulled Apple

Festive  
Crafts

We will be operating a token system to pay for activities at the event. You can pre-buy tokens from 8<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Dec at drop off and pick up, on the school playground. Tokens will be available to buy at the event. Cash and card payments taken.

All proceeds to benefit Fen Ditton CP School

Registered charity 1202353



# PASTE & ART ATELIERS BAKING SCHOOL



**Wednesday**  
**21/01/2026**

**Wednesday 04/02/2026**



**Class1:**

**Brownie Sandwich  
Lollipops**



**Class2:**

**Year 4/5/6  
The Three Pirates cookies**



**Class2:**

**Reception-Year 1/2/3  
Circus Cookies**

**13£ per  
class**

**Term2 Classes: January-February**

**Email: [contact@pasteandartateliers.co.uk](mailto:contact@pasteandartateliers.co.uk)**

**Tel: 07762 844 267**

**[www.pasteandartateliers.co.uk](http://www.pasteandartateliers.co.uk)**

**<https://bookwhen.com/pasteandartateliers-midlands>**



# Help us resource our setting!

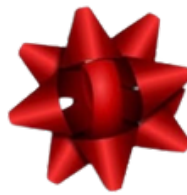
Christmas often brings extra recycling and 'junk'. Many of these items can be reused. If you have any of the following, please drop them off at the office. Thank you!



**Small Cardboard gift boxes**



**Sweet tubs and tins**



**Ribbons and bows**



**Sweet/biscuit box inserts (plastic trays)**



**Cardboard sellotape rings, wrapping paper tubes, gift bags/boxes**



**FOLLOW US**

## Term Dates 2025/26

[For 2026/27 dates see our website](#)

### **Autumn term 2025**

Thursday 4th September to Friday 24th October

Half term: Monday 27th October – 3rd November

Tuesday 4th November to Friday 19th December

Christmas holidays: Monday 22nd December to  
Tuesday 6th Jan

### **Spring term 2026**

Tuesday 6th January to Friday 13th February

Half Term: Monday 16 February to Friday 20  
February

Monday 23rd February to Friday 27th March

Easter Holidays: Monday 30th March to Friday  
10th April

### **Summer term 2026**

Monday 13th April to Friday 22nd May

Half Term: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

Monday 1st June to Friday 17th July

Summer Holiday: Monday 20th July onwards

### **INSET Days (closed to pupils)**

Monday 1st September

Tuesday 2nd September

Wednesday 3rd September

Monday 3rd November

Monday 5th January

Monday 20th July