

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:

Festivals and Celebrations at this time of year. We have been talking about Remembrance Day, thinking of all those people who have kept us safe and enabled us to live in the world we live today. We have been painting 'Paper plate Poppies', which have been displayed in the porch of our Parish church. We have also been talking about Fireworks, creating our own Firework display by dropping 'tea bags' soaked in paint onto a large piece of black paper.

For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

Leading on from Fireworks and looking at some of the children's interests we will be looking at 'COLOURS' and how they can be changed.

You can help by:

Looking at colours in your environment.

Reception: Pine Class

For the last two weeks we have been learning about:

English: We have been writing about Captain Planet and ideas for how to protect the environment. We have been working on our name writing.

Phonics: We are now at the end of phase 2 of Storytime Phonics) linked to Letters and Sounds. We have learnt zz, ll, v.

Maths: We have been learning how to recognise coins and starting to add with them.

For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

In English, we will be looking at the format of letter writing and writing our own letters to Captain Planet. In Maths, we are going to be adding single digit numbers together.

You can help by:

Helping your child listen for and hear the sounds around us and in words; articulating sounds; hearing rhyming words and clapping syllables and notice your front door number.

Year 1 and 2: Ash, Birch and Elm Classes

For the last two weeks we have been learning about:

English: we have been writing our own fire poems that has linked to our topic Great Fire of London. We have also looked at key features of a diary entry and writing our own.

Maths: consolidating our knowledge of numbers to 50 through building and drawing. Counting forwards and backwards from 50. We have also looked at multiples of 2, 5 and 10.

Science: we have been looking and identifying everyday materials. On our village walk we identified different everyday materials and discussed how it can be used in different ways.

For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

Maths: multiplication and division and consolidating numbers to 50

English: narrative writing. Snow Beast is our focus text.

Science: suitability of materials and recycling.

You can help by:

Daily reading - Phonics practice of blending words and reading tricky words

Weekly spellings - write the words into a sentence remembering capital letters and full stops

Practicing 2, 3, 5 and 10 times table

Adding and subtracting numbers within 50

Handwriting and letter formation

Year 3 and 4: Sycamore, Chestnut and Cherry

Science: Light - The children have completed their cold task and started to investigate 'What is dark?'

History: How much did life change during the Iron Age? What is an Iron Age Hill Fort?

RE: Who celebrates Diwali? When it is celebrated? How it is celebrated? Why it is celebrated?

Music: The children have shown what they know about composers and recalled their knowledge of the String family that was taught last half term. They have also listened to music to discriminate between fast/slow/gradually getting faster or slower. (Tempo)

PSHE: Understand the key characteristics of bullying and understand different forms of bullying including cyberbullying.

For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

Maths: Addition and Subtraction

English: Non-Fiction, Explanation texts based on 'How Santa Really works' by Alan Snow.

You can help by:

Logging into **Google Classroom** each week to find weekly spellings, your child will be expected to recall these spellings in a weekly dictation exercise.

Continue with regular use of **Times Table Rock Stars**. Lots of **book talk**, use the book mark to support this activity.

Year 5: Willow

For the last two weeks we have been learning about:

Written our war poems linked to Remembrance Sunday on the 8th November and begun our narrative unit based around an animated film advertising the Spanish Christmas lottery.

Developed our multiplication and division skills through learning about factors, prime, square and cube numbers.

For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

Developing our narrative writing skills with a focus on cohesion and writing the story of the animated film advertising the Spanish Christmas lottery.

In maths, we will be developing our area and perimeter skills.

You can help by:

Talking about friendships and how to deal with them when they are not how you'd like them to be.

Year 6: Oak

For the last two weeks we have been learning about:

South American animals to write a non-chronological report about them in English.

In Maths we have continued to work on fractions and been learning how fractions can be added.

We have also learnt about the industrial revolution and how some Victorians felt about the first railways.

For the next two weeks we will be learning about:

In maths, adding and subtracting mixed number fractions and then we will begin to move on to multiplying and dividing fractions.

Any extra support you could give the children at home would be a great help.

You can help by:

As mentioned above, discussing adding and subtracting fractions or looking at some examples together to allow the children to have seen this before we start next week.

Talking to them about the Victorians and keeping up with reading as much at home as possible.

Other Events News and Information:

STAR OF THE WEEK



	w/e 6 th Nov	w/e 13 th Nov	w/e 20 th Nov
Pine	Henry	Oscar W	Chloe
Birch	Violet	Annabel	Wilson
Elm	Breccan	Ruby	Isabel
Ash	Milo	Ben	Milo
Chestnut	Daniel	Hannah	Hollie
Cherry	Eden	Thomas	Oliver
Sycamore	Thomas	Jocelyn	Evie
Willow	Olivia	Bella	Charlie
Oak	Jack	Amelia	Sam



PTA News

First up, a fundraising update. Our recent Bag2School collection raised a brilliant £180! So, a big thank you to everyone who had a brought bags in. We will be doing another collection in March and one in the summer term too. So, keep us in mind for your Spring cleans.

We've had a great response to our Lego keyring and Christmas card fundraising initiatives. Estimated totals raised are £130 on keyrings – including some very generous donations – and about £350 on Christmas cards. We're currently beavering away on Christmas Presents, which will be running in a different way this year and have a new element – Lucky Dips for children. Look out for info on how to take part coming out by email in the next day or so.

We're still working on the logistics for a class-bubble Movie Night for the whole school. We hope to show the funny, festive film 'Nativity' (certificate U), with the usual movie night snacks. Once we're good to go with that, we'll let you know how to book in a separate email.

This week, you'll have seen that we've launched a new lottery! For just £1 per week, you can support PTA's fundraising and be in with a chance of winning 'The Your School' Lottery big prize of £25,000, plus there's a guaranteed cash prize won in our school every week! Our first draw will be held on Saturday, 9th January. To get tickets, visit <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/fenstanton-and-hilton-primary-school>.

If you're using Amazon for Christmas shopping, please use Amazon Smile, which raises funds for school, at no cost to you. 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. Remember to use Amazon Smile every time you shop and the pennies raised mount up.

Finally, a plea for help. Are there any graphic designers out there who could help us redesign the PTA logo? The original logo files have been lost somewhere in the mists of time and since we will be communicating with the wider community about our fundraising, it would be great to start the new year with a super new logo. If you can spare the time to help or know someone else who could, please get in touch at fhpspta@gmail.com. Thank you!



Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School

Message from the Acting Headteachers

Message from the Headteachers:

The children have settled back into school quickly and despite the 2nd lockdown we have been able to continue to keep our school open and running smoothly.

I had the pleasure of being on duty at lunchtime this week with the year 3 and 4 children. I was so impressed by the way the children observe and maintain their bubbles but also how beautifully they play together.

Thank you to everyone who attended our virtual parents meetings earlier this half term, we hope these were useful and gave you a picture of how your children are doing in school.

We are starting to develop plans for our COVID friendly Christmas which I am afraid will be virtual this year for obvious reasons.

Thank you to everyone who supported the PTA by purchasing Christmas Cards. The children have very much enjoyed thinking about what play equipment they want to buy with the £50 donated to each class by the PTA.

The Fen Gate:

You will have noticed that work on the Fen is now complete. It was great having the fences up to ensure that children and parents used the paths and kept off the road. Please continue to keep to the path. I know there are difficulties with the temporary path to the Fen gate having been lifted but where possible please avoid waiting on the road and blocking routes for residents. Remember cars are not allowed.

Improving our School:

Despite COVID, all staff are working hard to address the issues identified in our OFSTED inspection and making Fenstanton and Hilton a school that the whole community can be proud of. Just before the second lockdown our LA School Improvement Advisor was able to visit the school and commented positively on some of the improvements she noticed since her last visit.

- The improved learning environment
- The current displays reflecting what children were learning
- The behaviour across the school
- The engagement of children in learning and their eagerness to share what they are learning about

We look forward to 2021 when we may be able to invite you all back into school to see the improvements for yourselves.

Message from the Governors:

A big thank to everyone who submitted their views on the school's vision. We discussed all your feedback at our Full Governing Body meeting on the 19th November. Our aim now is to put together a strong, clear vision for the school encompassing all the views of parents, pupils and staff.

Events happening over the next fortnight:

Wednesday, 16th Dec – Movie Night (more info to follow)

Thursday, 17th – Christmas Lunch (more info to follow)

Friday, 4th Dec – Bikeability Level 1 years 3/4

Monday, 7th Dec – Flu Immunisations

Friday, 18th December – Last Day of Term

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

Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School

Other Messages/Information

In light of recent changes to Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School over the last year, we are also interested to receive your views/feelings about the school. This will provide us with valuable insight into how the school is currently performing in supporting your child's education. Therefore, we would be really grateful if you could spare a few moments of your time to fill in the google form using the link below, entitled 'Parent View'. <https://forms.gle/yPyZi3KB3ZStpnJP7>

In other news we are in the process of recruiting a new Head with interviews due to take place in early December and have had a recent governance review which will help us keep improving and challenging the school to improve.

Christmas Cards:

Unfortunately the children will not be able to bring Christmas Cards into school for the School Post Box this year. Hopefully we will be able to resume the Christmas Card Post Box next year.

School Request – Bottle Tops & Buttons

We are looking to collect an enormous number of (washed) milk bottle tops and buttons over the coming months for various exciting projects in school. We have devised a COVID safe collection system, so please do send your child in with any you have (please make sure that bottle tops are washed first) and they can drop them into the collection box when in school. Many thanks in advance.

A little Trivia for you at home, **can you spot the difference ...**

This wonderful creation of Starry Night created by the entire school v's Vincent Van Gogh is displayed in our Central Area. Which one is which?

