



The Federation of
Fairfield and Colneis



Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to our newsletter! As you can see it has been a really busy half term and I hope you enjoy reading about some of the opportunities that our children have experienced so far this term. As always, I would encourage you to look at all year groups, not just the ones that your child 'belongs' to as it will give you a real flavour of the kind of learning that takes place.

We have worked hard on our curriculum and it is really pleasing to see such a broad range of learning experiences for our children. We want learning to be interesting, to pose questions and create inquiring and thriving minds.

Further information on our curriculum can be found on our website:
<https://www.fairfieldandcolneis.co.uk/our-curriculum/>

I hope that you have an enjoyable half term break. We will try not to mention the 'Christmas' word too early, but it will soon be upon us!

Best wishes and kind regards

Mr Mark Girling

Headteacher

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

October 2022

News from Nursery

A fabulous start

We are so proud of all of the children who have joined our Nursery this year. They have settled in well and are all gaining more confidence and independence day by day. All of the children seem to particularly enjoy the challenge of the daily pen pals activities. It is lovely to see their enthusiasm towards their learning.



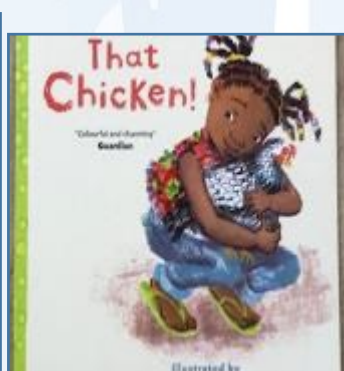
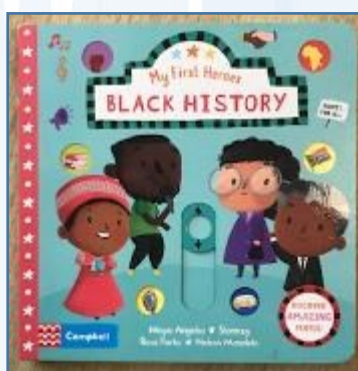
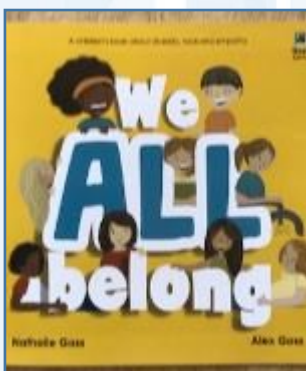
Role play fun!

The children are having a great time exploring different roles and responsibilities in the Fruit and Vegetable Shop role play. They have learnt new vocabulary and they are exploring mark making by making their own shopping lists. It's lovely to see them developing good relationships too!



Black History Month

We are celebrating the achievements and contributions of black people across the world. We are exploring black history, heritage, tradition and culture through stories, games and activities. We are giving the children the opportunity to think about diversity in their community and encourage them to question representations and their own aspirations for the future.



News from Reception

Black History Month

The children have been exploring traditions and cultures of Black people both in the UK and around the world. We have been focusing on the story 'Coming to England' by Floella Benjamin and 'I love my hair.' We were visited by Lorraine who spoke about her Jamaican heritage and how she cares for her black hair. She spoke about how she braids her own hair using the synthetic hair extensions. Children then had the opportunity to try braiding using pipe cleaners.



Enjoying opportunities to be physical in Reception

Children have been using their gross motor resources to develop their coordination, strength and perseverance. Activities that support the children's physical development provide the opportunity for new challenges and build their self-esteem. Mr Ross has provided climbing, balancing and jumping obstacle courses for their indoor PE sessions. We have been introducing the children to new ball games using our Reception outdoor area, including hockey and basket ball.



We enjoy using the adventure playground and the gym trail on the back green to support our motor skills.

News from Year 1

Year One Outdoor Learning Area

In Year One we have enjoyed exploring our fantastic outdoor area. The children use it to support their learning. We have a maths zone, a construction zone, a creative area, an English writing shed, a water zone, a role play zone, a small world area and digging areas for the children to explore.

Once a week the children have the opportunity to use the area to practise reading through games and activities. On a Wednesday afternoon they get a session to learn through play supporting our topics. They also get the opportunity to take their learning outside when the weather is nice and it is great to see them learning and having fun!



Autumn Artwork

Autumn is a beautiful time of year and lends itself to some lovely artwork.

The children have been creating autumn leaf characters after reading the story 'Leafman'.

In English, the children created a story for their character using the time conjunctions first, next, then and finally.



Religious Education

This term in RE the children have been learning about Christianity with a focus on belonging. We have made lots of links to our school values. The children have been learning about belonging to the church and christenings. This week the children acted out a christening ceremony taking on all the different roles.



News from Year 2

Phonics & Reading Workshop

We loved having the parents and carers in to Year 2 this half term to share our new phonics scheme and reading books in school. The children had a great time working with their parents on a variety of phonics and reading activities.



A Mystery at Fairfield...

The children in Year 2 have been putting on their detective hats to help solve a mystery that occurred in the playground. They had to look for the evidence and clues for what had happened so that they could write a crime report and a recount of events. We interviewed a witness, Mr Teare, who saw what had happened.



Super Scientists!

The children have loved our Science learning on living and non-living things as well as habitats. The children have been investigating habitats and microhabitats in our school area and have been using their scientific skills to record data. They had a go at creating their own habitats in groups and they look fantastic! They had to make sure their habitat had everything that the animal or minibeast needed to survive.

Brilliant work Year Two!



News from Year 3

A great start!

The children have settled in brilliantly at Colneis. They have made a great start and are making a lot of effort to not only improve their English and Mathematics but to also experience a wider curriculum. We hope you enjoy seeing some of their work this term.

Outdoor Learning

This year, the school has introduced 'Outdoor Learning' to the wider curriculum. The children have been participating in lessons to investigate the outdoor surroundings. The sessions have also been cross curricular with Science. The children have been learning about trees around the grounds and identifying types of trees by their characteristics. In Science, the children have been studying different types of soil samples, identifying what is found in soils and how to make a wormery.



Art and Design

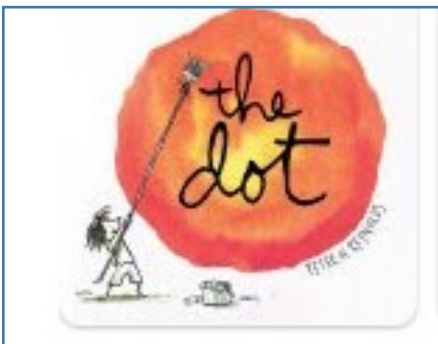
There was great excitement when we introduced the Year 3 children to their Colneis Art Sketch-books! Lessons have included mark making, observation skills and pencil techniques. The children have sketched beach huts and took part in a whole school project called 'The Dot'. We have also designed our Christmas Cards independently looking at Christmas themed pictures.



News from Year 4

The Dot

At the beginning of September Year 4 used 'The Dot' by Peter H. Reynolds as a basis for some Art and English work. The children created their own dot from their imagination and then decided where their dot had come from and made up a short story about their 'dot'. They had some very interesting ideas!!



Outdoor Learning

The children have been lucky enough to have had 2 sessions with Mrs Churchyard outside—focussing on our outdoor environment.

The first session was spent actually listening and looking at what is around us and the second session focussed in on all the different trees we have in our location and using the bark, leaves and branches to identify the trees.

We are now looking forward to our next sessions after half term.

Greek Myths

In English we have been looking at some Greek Myths and considering who the intended audience would have been and what the main parts are that each myth shares. There is always a problem and a resolution and usually a mythical creature of some kind.

The children acted out Theseus and The Minotaur and then retold it in their own words.



News from Year 5

Outdoor Learning

A new addition to our curriculum this year is Outdoor Learning, which is led by Mrs Churchyard. In our sessions this half term, the children have been introduced to the school's wildlife area and have spent time observing the natural world around them. They successfully used a grid reference on a map to locate various places within the school grounds. In addition, they spent time identifying a range of the trees on the school field, by considering their trunks, leaves, fruit and seeds. The children all enjoyed the outdoor environment, the fresh air and the relative freedom to roam.



Science: Forces

Through their learning about Forces, the children have been developing their scientific skills of asking questions, making predictions, setting up tests, observing and measuring, recording data and interpreting results. Within this, they have conducted experiments to learn about gravity; have used force meters to understand the difference between mass and weight and have considered the impact of friction by pulling a shoe along on a variety of different surfaces.



History: Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge



Ancient Egypt was brought to life during our trip to the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. Our guides successfully took us back in time, as we explored the considerable range of artefacts on display, and the children were able to embed their classroom learning by visualising how the ancient Egyptians actually lived.



News from Year 6

Year 6 have had a busy and exciting start to the new school year. Our topic for this half term has been 'Rivers' and next half term we will be learning about 'Coasts'. The children are enjoying their swimming lessons at the Felixstowe Leisure Centre and have taken part in a number of sporting events this half term such as football and cross country.



PGL Bawdsey Manor

Year 6 started the year with a residential stay at Bawdsey Manor where they challenged themselves and worked as a team.



Arts Mark

As part of the whole school Arts Mark project, Year 6 read the story 'The Dot'. The children completed artwork and wrote and performed poems about how important it is to celebrate who we are.



House Captains

The school have been busy electing Year 6 House Captains and Vice Captains. All candidates made a speech to their house. Congratulations to this term's winners.



Remembering Queen Elizabeth II

Year 6 made flowers and wrote memories for a display to remember the Queen.



Extra News

Wild Tribe Heroes

We would like to say a big thank you to Lions International who recently visited Colneis Junior to promote looking after the environment. Club President David Cole and his colleague Ernie presented two of our Year 3 children with a set of books for our school library. The books are called 'Wild Tribe Heroes' and they teach children about what they can do to play a part in keeping the planet clean, safe and healthy for future generations. There are six storybooks in total, including topics on how to help animals, plants and sea creatures.



Team Feds take on the Boss Hog

Congratulations to the 25 members of Team Feds who braved a very muddy obstacle course to take part in this year's Boss Hog to raise money for Fairfield and Colneis. Thank you to all who sponsored them — an amazing £1231 will be split between the two schools. It's not too late if you would like to make a donation. Please visit:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/teamfeds-1?utm_medium=email&utm_source=ExactTarget&utm_campaign=20221017



PE

Quad Kids - 20.9.22

A rearranged competition from last year but one that we always really enjoy! Representing the country of St Lucia for the Commonwealth Games the children performed brilliantly, finishing 10th overall.

Florence - *"I loved the sprint and the opening ceremony! (even if it was a bit cringey!)"*



Felixstowe Cross Country - 26.9.22

This is one of our local area events and we braved horrendous conditions to get round the course in good time. Not put off by the wind and the rain, the Colneis children were able to finish first overall, bringing the trophy home! Well done!

Toby - *"I loved cross country because it was fun and a good challenge!"*



Football - Whitton Sports Centre - 4.10.22

We were able to take an A and a B team to this event. It is so nice being able to take 15 children to compete against other schools. Learning to win and lose well is incredibly important and is something that I am proud to say our children do really well!

Rupert - *"Although I hurt myself, I persevered!"*



Football - Whitton Sports Centre - 11.10.22

Another amazing competition. The girls competed really well and showed a fantastic team spirit.

The B team put in their best efforts and came away with smiles on their faces!

Elsie—*"It was fun and it was good to make new friends!"*

The A team did extremely well, finishing the competition unbeaten, winning their league. They will now have to play off against another school for the chance to compete in the county finals!

Isla - *"I was extremely proud when we won because everyone tried their best!"*

A big congratulations to Hanna in Year 6 who represented our school at the area cross country trials on Thursday 13th October. This is an amazing achievement!

Term Dates

Current Academic Year: Term dates for 2022-2023

Autumn term:

Start of Autumn term:	Monday 5th September 2022
Half term:	Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October 2022
End of Autumn term:	Friday 16th December 2022
PD (non school) days:	Thursday 1st September 2022 Friday 2nd September 2022

Spring term:

Start of Spring term:	Wednesday 4th January 2023
Half term:	Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February 2023
End of Spring term:	Friday 31st March 2023
PD (non school) day:	Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Summer term:

Start of Summer term:	Tuesday 18th April 2023
May Bank Holiday:	Monday 1st May 2023
Half term:	Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2023
End of Summer term:	Friday 21st July 2023
PD (non school) days:	Monday 17th April 2023 Friday 26th May 2023

Next Academic Year: Term dates for 2023-2024

Autumn term:

Start of Autumn term:	Wednesday 6th September 2023
Half term:	Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October 2023
End of Autumn term:	Wednesday 20th December 2023
PD (non school) days:	Monday 4th September 2023 Tuesday 5th September 2023

Spring term:

Start of Spring term:	Thursday 4th January 2024
Half term:	Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February 2024
End of Spring term:	Thursday 28th March 2024
PD (non school) day:	Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Summer term:

Start of Summer term:	Monday 15th April 2024
May Bank Holiday:	Monday 6th May 2024
Half term:	Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024
End of Summer term:	Friday 19th July 2024
PD (non school) days:	Friday 12th April 2024 Monday 3rd June 2024