



stockbridge

Primary and Pre-school



Newsletter 5

8 October 2026

A fuzzy feeling

Well the warmest September I can ever remember has been and gone and it certainly ended with warm fuzzy feelings about the weather but also from a week in Wales with a brilliant year 6 group.

20 children threw themselves into every challenge presented to them, got stuck in at cooking and cleaning, keeping rooms tidy and all getting on well together too.

They caved, climbed, canoed and walked up a mountain as well as undertaking some of the activities from the National Trust's 50 things to do before you're 11 ¾. Pooh sticks, rolling down a hill, exploring underground, getting up to see the sunrise over Pen y Fan to name but a few wonderful life experiences. The cooked Mexican food and enjoyed a 'burger night' at their request as well as a pub celebration on the last night with certificates awarded for a whole host of reasons.

Massive thanks to all the team; Miss Morris, Mrs Holdich and Mrs Freeman for giving up a whole week with their own families and friends to spend it with our children in Wales as well as the team back at school holding the fort for Years R-5. I hope the pictures opposite give you a glimpse of the awesome time children had. We've enjoyed sharing videos and photos with the younger children as a taste of the adventure to come.

We never underestimate the trust you as parents place in us to take your most precious person away and do adventurous activities with them – thank you for your trust and continued support.

Mrs Emma Jefferies
Headteacher



Sport

This term started with the annual cluster cross country competition. Children from Year 3-6 travelled to Danebury Secondary School to run against other children in our cluster. We did a fabulous job and our team came second overall.

Our next cluster competition is cluster football. This is taking place during the day, with the boy's competition in the morning and the girls competition in the afternoon. We are excited for this competition.

It has been lovely to see trophies in from home to share with their peers. Raya and Grace both enjoyed sharing with Horsebridge Class their latest success in gymnastics and rugby.

Shoeboxes

We have lots of empty shoeboxes and some bags of things to pack into them but please can we have a last push on items to fill the boxes?

If anyone has a neighbour, granny or even themselves had time to knit hats and gloves these are very welcomed.

Soft toys for boys and girls, picture books, toothbrushes and toothpaste, facecloths, scarves, coloring and crafting resources, drawing or colouring books, socks, hair accessories, games etc are all very welcomed. We will be packing the boxes next week so any donations in by Wednesday please.

Thanks!

REGULAR



UPDATES

Keeping you up to date with regular goings on in school

Dress down day

In preparation for our Pumpkin Party on Thursday 22nd October, today is dress down day – an opportunity for your child to come in home clothes if they choose to in exchange for a chocolatey donation please.

Pumpkin party is a brilliant school event with fun games, sweet treats and a spooky story for all ages to take part in.

Adults MUST remain with the children, no matter what their age please.

Tickets can be purchased through the whatsapp group details where FOSS have posted information. Fancy dress is optional but not necessary and no masks or weapons should be brought in with your child's costume – if they do bring any, we will look after them for the party duration and hand them back to you at the end.

Thanks for helping keep us all safe and happy!

Learning

What's your child been learning In **writing** this half term?

Sprat & Winkle	In Sprat and Winkle Class this term we have begun Drawing Club. Each week we are reading a new text and exploring the vocabulary within it using actions. The children have been using their new phonics knowledge to write 'codes' which currently is three sounds - this builds their confidence with letter formation but allows them to be creative with what could happen to the character or setting their have drawn.
Redbridge	In Year 1, we have been looking really closely at the different parts of a sentence and the different word types that can be found within them. In Year 2, we have been recalling our knowledge of descriptive vocabulary and using it to describe a 'Remarkable Animal'. In our next writing journey, we will be exploring butterflies and other minibeasts and learning the skills we need to write questions and answers (Y1) and fact files (Y2).
Horsebridge	This term our topic is Deadly 60. In English, we have written a fact file about an animal and this week we have started a writing journey on creating a set of instructions on caring for a made-up animal. In Maths, we are learning to add and subtract numbers from a two digit and three-digit number.
Mottisfont	In Mottisfont, we have been reading The Twelve Labours of Hercules and writing our own thirteenth labour (poor Hercules!) We have been exploring writing imagery using the five senses, touch, taste, sight, hearing and smell to bring life to our writing. Year 4 have been focusing on using this in compound sentences and complex sentences and year 5 have also been using fronted adverbials e.g. Reluctantly, In the distance, to add variety too! In our next writing journey we are writing instructions on how to make wings inspired by the myth of Daedalus and Icarus.
Clatford	This term we started by learning about the story of Hercules. We designed and created a possible 13 th labour Hercules using creatures from the time period. Our second learning journey is about Theseus and the Minotaur. The children have listened to the story and have created a fabulous list of descriptive words to use in a character description of the Minotaur.

From time to time we send home information about local clubs which may be of interest to families. We are in no way endorsing these clubs and urge parents to carry out their own safeguarding checks:

- Are the staff qualified to teach what they're teaching?
- Are they DBS (police) checked?
- What's the safeguarding policies for the organisation?
- How will they keep my child safe, engaged and manage unwanted behaviours in a way I am comfortable with? **Might be some questions to ask before enrolling!**

Diary Dates Autumn term 2026-27

These are diary dates for parents for the next fortnight until the next newsletter is out.

Our website is also updated with all of these new dates and will now be up to date as we've bravely moved to an online diary for all staff!

Date	Who does it apply to?	Time	Notes
OCTOBER			
Fri 9 th	All	All day	Dress down day in return for a chocolatey goody
Tues 13 th	Pre-School		Sponsored bike ride
Tues 13 th & Wed 14 th	KS1	09.30am – 11.30am	Lockerley Estate farm visits – Please give permission via Scopay
Wed 14 th	All	All	Last day for shoebox goodies.
Tues 20 th	Y4/5 girls	10.00-11.30am	Girls football Competition - Danebury
	Y4/5 boys	1.00-2.30pm	Boys football competition – Danebury
Wed 21 st	Year R	9.00am- 10.00am	Face to face Reading workshop
	Year R	8.00pm – 9.00pm	Virtual Reading workshop
Thurs 22 nd	All	3.30pm – 5.30pm	FOSS Pumpkin Party
	All	Lunchtime	Bonfire night special lunch
Mon 26th – Fri 30th All HALF TERM			
NOVEMBER			
Mon 2 nd	All	All	Back to school!
Thurs 5 th	Years 1-3	0.9.00am – 3.00pm	Manor Farm trip – Dress up in Victorian clothes – Letter to follow
Fri 6 th	Selected children		Junior Road Safety Officer training
Tues 10 th	Years 4-6	9.30am	INFilm showing of Wonka at the Town Hall
Wed 11 th	Whole school	10.45am	Whole school at War memorial to commemorate Remembrance Day
Sun 12 th	Year 6	9.30am	Remembrance Sunday service in church – year 6 reading
Wed 18 th	Years R-3	1.30pm	Road Safety live presentation
Thurs 19 th	All	9am	Church assembly at St Peter's
Fri 20 th	All	All	Time to shine day – dress in something bright! Road safety awareness
Tues 24 th	Upper Sch	All day	Mayflower Theatre visit – Letters to follow
Fri 27 th	All	Lunchtime	Stir up Sunday lunch – TBC
Thurs 3 rd	All	9am	Church assembly at St Peter's
Fri 4 th	All	3.15pm	Carols around the tree for all and then year 3/4 opening Christmas lights on the High Street – tractor parade at 4pm from outside school
Sat 5 th	All	Am	Christmas tree sale/collection from St Peter's (FOSS run)
Tues 8 th	Year R	Am	Party at The Grosvenor linked to topic
Wed 9 th	Guitar players	9.15am	Guitar concert
Fri 11 th	Years R-2	6pm	Nativity in the church
Tues 15 th	All	Lunchtime	Whole school Christmas lunch
Thurs 17 th	All	All day	Visit to the Christmas play at The Watermill, Newbury – packed lunch there
Fri 18 th	All	1pm	End of school term.