



Junior School Newsletter

End of Autumn Term 1



Friday 20th October 2023

Welcome to Foxhills Junior School for our new academic year!

It has been a fantastic start to the new academic year and we have been so impressed with how well the children have settled into school life. Here is a roundup of the wonderful things your children have been up to throughout their first half term as well as some important notices and dates for your diary.

Year 3 For our first project, we have been learning all about prehistoric Britain. In History, we learned all about how nomadic people lived and survived and debated which pre-historic period we would have liked to live in. In English, we started by re-telling stories set in the Stone Age and then we wrote non-chronological fact files, using the knowledge we have gained. In science, we made links in our learning between stone and rock, so we found out all about different types of rocks, and how they formed. We also learned about fossils and the fossilisation process, which we found really interesting. We've also completed our first two units of maths. We secured our

knowledge of numbers in our place value unit and then used that knowledge to learn a new column method of addition. We got creative looking at the famous sculptor Barbara Hepworth and we created sculptures, inspired by her work and painted them to look like they are made of stone, bronze or iron. The children have all been amazing and we are really proud of how well they have settled!

Year 4 Year 4 have been 'Under the Canopy' this half term learning about the rainforest and how changing environments are impacting different habitats around the world. We took a visit to our school nature area to explore lots of micro habitats and found many different insects and plants living there. Visitors from Monkey World came to talk to us about the orang-utans and how their rainforest habitat is being destroyed. After, we researched other animals who are endangered and looked at ways we can help protect them.

In English, we have read different types of poems and wrote our own based on the sights and sounds of the rainforest. We also

looked at different fables and wrote our own with the moral treat those how you wish to be treated yourself.

To end the half term, we are taking a walk to Ashurst Park following a planned route and then using our map skills to draw a map of the park with symbols and grid references.

Year 5 Year 5's first project, Mythology Masters, began with an ancient Greek day which immersed them into the culture and beliefs of the ancient Greeks. They used this knowledge to explore how this period of history compared to others they have already learned about. In writing, the children revisited their understanding of paragraphing and used this to write a recount of their Greek day. In reading, the children read a variety of Greek myths and learned how to infer character's thoughts and feelings. In art, we introduced 'perspective' and 'horizon' and the children used this knowledge to draw a two-point perspective drawing of the Parthenon. In maths, the children have developed their knowledge of place value (up to 6 digit

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numbers) and have secured formal written methods of both addition and subtraction.

Year 6 During year 6's first project, Frozen Kingdom, the children explored Ernest Shackleton and his crew's journey to Antarctica by reading William Grill's recount. They developed their inference skills by using the text to infer Shackleton's leadership characteristics and evaluated the author's use of language and the affect this has on the reader.

In writing, the children developed their use of cohesion to link their sentences and paragraphs together, as well as how to use dialogue to convey character and to move a story forwards. They applied these skills to create an entertaining short narrative based on a moment in time of Shackleton's journey. Additionally, children wrote in the role of Shackleton, writing a formal letter informing a crew member of their successful application to the crew. They learned how to use formal language and tone, as well as the subjunctive form.

In geography this term, the children learn about the ten

biomes and the skills needed to plot a route on a map. Additionally, the children learned to describe features on a map and comparing this with photographs. In art, the children were tasked with creating a mixed media collage of an Antarctic scene. They explored compositions and focal points and collage techniques. The Year 6 team were blown away by their final pieces and the creativity the children showed.

On 3rd October, we were fortunate to have Professor Griffiths, an Antarctic scientist, visit us and share his fascinating insight into his experience of visiting Antarctica. The children and staff were blown-away by his stories and passion.

Important Notices

No Drive Zone

08:20-08:45

15:00-15:25



COVID/Illness

The current advice which is taken from government guidance for education settings, under the section on "Managing specific

infectious diseases: A to Z" and then clicking through to the "Respiratory infections, including coronavirus (COVID-19)": [Managing specific infectious diseases: A to Z - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/managing-specific-infectious-diseases-a-to-z).

Please note that the guidance states the following:

- It is **not** recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.
- Child **stay home** if they have a high temperature and are unwell, until they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to return to school.
- Children can still attend school if they have mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, who are otherwise well.

School Playground Gates

We are making some changes from after half term the Year 3 gate will now be for Year 3 /4 to enter and exit from at the end of the day and the other gate will be for Year 5 / 6. This

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should hopefully reduce congestion at the main gate.



Holiday clubs / activities

Don't forget you can find out information about local events on our school website.

<https://foxhills-junior-school.secure-primariesite.net/local-activities-clubs-events/>

Unclaimed bike

This bike has been in the juniors bike area since before the summer holidays and is missing its owner! Please claim if it is yours.



Foxy Fireworks

Letters have gone home regarding our **Foxy Firework event on Friday 3rd November**. You can find out more information on how to purchase tickets on our website under the PTA tab.

<https://foxhills-junior-school.secure-primariesite.net/friends-of-foxhills-pta/>

Dates for your Diary

23rd-27th October – Half Term

Monday 30th October – School Term Starts

30th October -2nd November – Year 6 Bikeability

Thursday 2nd November - Open Day 2 (Year 3 Admission 24/25)

Friday 3rd November – Foxy Fireworks

Monday 13th November – ‘Be Bright Be Seen’

Wednesday 15th November – Music for Youth Proms

Thursday 16th November – No school led clubs today

Friday 17th November – Children In Need

Thursday 23rd November – Year 6 Natural History Museum

Friday 24th November – Dress Down Day – Rainbow Hamper Donations

Monday 27th November – Open Day 3 (Year 3 Admission 24/25)

Wednesday 29th November – Books at Bedtime

Monday 4th December – Bags 2 School

Thursday 7th December – Flu Vaccinations

Friday 8th December – Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 8th December – Winter Fayre

11th – 15th December – PTA Gift Shop

Wednesday 13th December – Juniors Disco

Friday 15th December – Last day of Term

Tuesday 2nd January – Inset Day

Wednesday 3rd January – Term Starts

<https://www.foxhills-jun.hants.sch.uk/diary/grid/2023/01/>



Inset Days for the Next Academic Year 2023-2024

- Tuesday 2nd January 2024
- Monday 19th February 2024

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