



Fairstead Life

16/10/15

Dear Parents,

I am sure that I am not alone in being amazed that the half term holiday is upon us! The weeks have flown by and have been full of excitement as the children have embraced their learning with enthusiasm and verve.

A huge thank you to all the children who came in to school last Saturday. They were a great credit to the school and I was very proud of them all. Our tour guides, from Years 5 and 6, were exemplary and greatly appreciated by all our many visitors. It was, indeed, a very busy and vibrant morning.

It has been a pleasure watching all the school take part in their Harvest Festivals today. From our very youngest children in Nursery to Year 6, all gave their very best. Many thanks to you all for supporting them and for all the very generous gifts which have been collected, with thanks, by Newmarket Open Door. They will ensure that all are put to very good use.



Nursery

This week, Nursery children have been busy making rock cakes. It is lovely to see them working collaboratively.



Reception



This week, Reception have been thinking about all the food that is collected at Harvest time. They painted some pictures of their favourite harvest food and talked about how important combines, tractors, scarecrows and windmills are too! They then made a large loaf of bread for the Harvest table.

They harvested seeds from some sunflower heads and put the seeds on the bird table. We hope the birds enjoy them.



Year 1

Year 1 enjoyed making bread this week using the stone-ground flour which they were given from Pakenham Water Mill on their visit last week.



Year 2

As part of their Creative Curriculum, Year 2 have been using Carroll Diagrams in Maths and Science to sort different shapes, animals, food stuffs and even their friends! They then applied their learning by creating their own criteria for sorting too.



Year 3

The Dental Nurse came for a return visit on Monday. The disclosing tablets led to an early Halloween look by dyeing everyone's mouths and lips purple, but by the end of the session her advice on choosing the right brushes and toothpaste and detailed instructions on proper cleaning had restored Year 3 to their beautiful selves.



Year 4

In DT this week, the children have been experimenting with different folds when creating their pop up models. Here, Wade is demonstrating his box fold whilst Finlay and Ryan are demonstrating their mouth folds.



Year 5

Year 5 have concluded their Science topic this half term by looking at how plants grow from bulbs. Using magnifying glasses, the children examined the anatomy of a variety of bulbs. They were most surprised to find out that the bulb stores its own food and is therefore able to grow without soil! They 'planted' bulbs of daffodils and onions to investigate if this is true. We will keep you posted!



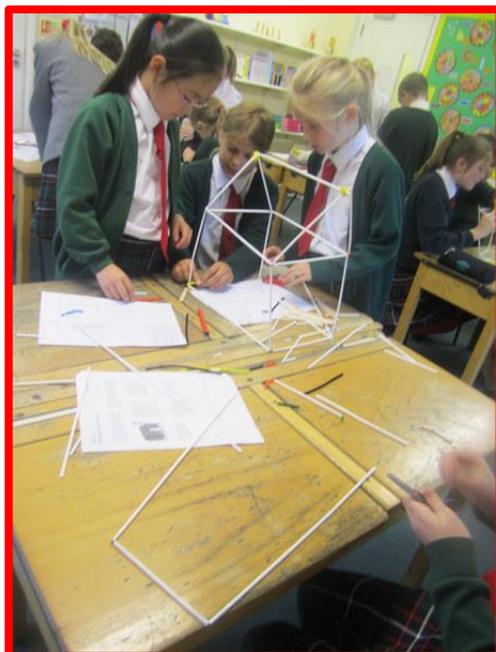


Year 5 and 6 Geography

Combining Geography and DT, Years 5 and 6 worked together to design and build a Bangladeshi house. Art straws, pipe cleaners and scissors were all that were used to build a house strong enough to cope with the floods the region experiences.

Friendship Bench

You will have spotted our lovely new teak bench which goes all around the oak tree in the playground. This was bought from the funds raised by Leavers' parents who kindly donated their deposits to the school.



Breakfast Club

From half term, this popular facility will be open to children from 7.30 am. Hopefully, this will be of help those of you travelling on to work.



Years 5 & 6 School Trip

On Monday 2nd November, Years 5 and 6 are visiting Coldham Windfarm. This is a fantastic opportunity to look at renewable energy sources and hands-on activities. Children will need to bring a packed lunch and have their school coats with them.

Autumn Glow Festival

5 pm – 7 pm Saturday 7th November

Tickets are now on sale for the Autumn Glow Festival. Organised by our Parents Association, this year's spooky "Autumn Glow Festival" includes a bonfire, a fire eater and a Dress The Guy competition! Tickets cost £5 each and an order form is attached.

In addition to the e mail addresses in the Calendar, you may find it useful to have your class teacher's e mail address. Please do not expect an immediate reply within the teaching day; however, we will endeavour to reply within 24 hours.

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During half term, we say Happy Birthday to:
Luc Seddon (Year 4) and Lily Smith (Year 5)

With my very best wishes for a lovely half term with your children.

Lynda Brecken