



FARNFIELD ST MICHAEL'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

19.12.2025

Years 5 and 6 Autumn 2 Newsletter

Happy Christmas from UKS2!

We have had a fantastic term with our Discover learning. Although our World War II project has now come to a close, we have enjoyed sharing so many wonderful sessions with the children and diving into the past!

We haven't set the children any homework or new spellings over the holiday (we know they are all in need of a rest), but we would encourage the children to keep reading and review their times tables.

Thank you for all your support this term and we wish you a happy and healthy Christmas and new year!

General Reminders:

Please be reminded that your child's school PE kit should consist of:

- plain white t-shirt/polo-shirt (a change of polo-shirt from their uniform);
- plain black shorts or plain black PE skirt;
- plain black jogging trousers;
- plain black sweatshirt;
- trainers or plimsolls.

The children are to come to school in their kit on their PE days (Foxgloves: Wednesday; Lupins: Tuesday and Friday; Sunflowers: Tuesday).



Please only send your child/ren to school with water in their water bottle, **not** squash, juice or anything fizzy.



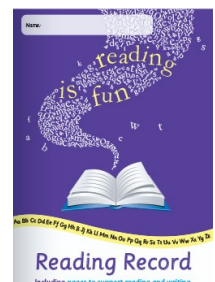
Please be reminded that children should not be wearing any makeup (including nail varnish) to school.

Please ensure you name **every** piece of your child/ren's school uniform and PE kit – including socks and tights.



Please remind your child/ren to have their Spelling Books in school for their spelling test day (Thursday for Foxgloves and Sunflowers and Friday for Lupins, unless told otherwise).

Please remind your child/ren to have their Reading Record in school every day and remember it should be signed a minimum of three times per week.

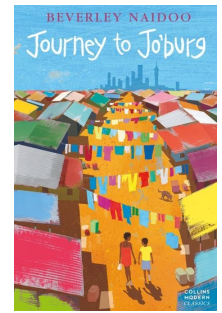


Thank you!

Guided Reading

Over this term, we have looked at a range of skills both in our Guided Reading sessions and our English work.

In Year 5, we have read 'Journey to Jo'burg' (Beverley Naidoo), exploring many important themes such as: love, commitment and the history of South Africa during the apartheid years.



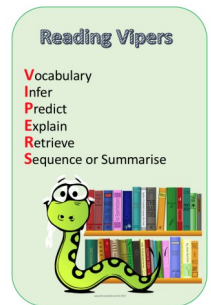
The children have said that the story is full of drama and it has been an emotional read. They have also said that it's really engaging and a page turner as we are worried about baby Dineo.

In Year 6, we have read 'There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom' (Louis Sachar) and explored themes such as: friendship, acceptance, kindness and how everyone deserves a second chance.



A number of children have commented that the story has been relatable and inspiring and some felt there were unexpected twists. Others felt it was funny and yet shows the importance of respecting others for their differences.

We have also focused on our vocabulary, retrieval and summarising VIPERS skills while we have read non-fiction texts (linked to our Discover topic). These texts have required the children to develop their skimming and scanning skills to find the information they need to answer the range of questions.



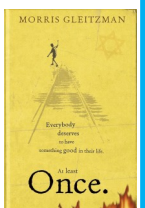
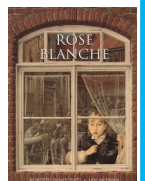
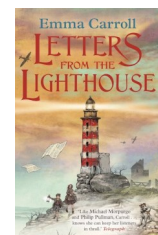
Next half term, we will be back to sharing fiction books—we can't wait to start them!

English

In English this term, we have studied: narrative (through *Letters From The Lighthouse* by Emma Carroll); procedural texts; diaries (through *Rose Blanche* by Ian McEwan); poetry (through *Where the Poppies Now Grow* by Hilary Robinson and Martin Impey); and persuasive writing (through *Once* by Morris Gleitzman).

The children especially enjoyed *Letters From The Lighthouse* and *Once*. If your child would like to read more from these authors, we would recommend their texts—Emma Carroll has a range of historical fiction aimed at children in UKS2 and *Once* is book one of seven in the series (*Then, Now, After, Maybe, Soon, Always*).

It has been wonderful to see the progress in the children's writing over the term and we look forward to seeing their writing develop even more with our next topic!



Spellings

We have been looking at and learning the rules for: suffixes, plurals, igh, ear, our, i before e, and homophones. We have also looked at spelling patterns found in the Years 3-6 National Curriculum spelling words within our English lessons.



It would be supportive if your child/ren could also regularly look at the Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 National Curriculum words as the children have found these patterns tricky to recall. These can be found in their Spelling Book.

Maths

In Year 5, we have learnt about place value, addition and subtraction, negative numbers, multiples, factors, prime numbers, square numbers and cube numbers. We have also begun our work on fractions.

In Year 6, we have now covered place value, the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and all things fractions based.

Both Year 5 and Year 6 have been completing an arithmetic paper weekly.

Please be reminded that both Year 5 and Year 6 children have TT Rockstars homework set weekly and these set games should be completed as part of their other pieces of homework each week. Many thanks for your support with this.



Discover

This term, we have been learning about World War II through the question 'What if we lived through WWII?'. We have learnt about: the local impact, the changing borders, rationing, the Blitz, evacuees, codebreakers, the role of women, propaganda, Kristallnacht, the Christmas truce, make-do-and-mend, and VE Day. We have reflected on the themes within our topic of: justice, compassion, forgiveness and perseverance. Within this, we went on two trips, one to Perlethorpe for an evacuee experience and one to the Holocaust Centre, to journey through Leo's life during WWII as a Jewish child during the war.



We have also studied Earth and Space in Science and Diwali and Hanukkah in our Religious Festivals learning.

Take a look at the school Facebook and Instagram pages for a snapshot of our learning.

'The battle is not yours, but God's.' 2 Chronicles 20 v 15

Wishing you and your family a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!



