FORDCOMBE NEWS

Friday 31st October 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

I hope you all had a great half term break - it was lovely to see the children back looking smart at ready to go! Welcome to our new families who have joined us this term too.

We started this term by recapping our vision:

School Vision

We look to Jesus who teaches us that we can:

- **'be a light'**, that we are all unique, all worthy, all capable of growth;
- that through finding success at school all children and adults can **'shine their light'** with pride and confidence;
- and that through Christ's love and guidance we can **'share God's light'**;

inspiring others so that all in the Fordcombe family flourish and achieve fullness.

It is our privilege at Fordcombe to help all our children to shine brightly and be proud. If your children have achievements outside of school to be proud of, please do let us know as we would love to hear about it and celebrate with them!

Kind regards, Julie Burton

SCHOLASTIC

Book Club

Our new Scholastic Book Club is up and running! Go to https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/fordcombe/digital-book-club to browse the latest books and order online. For every **£1** you spend in our Book Club, our school will earn **20p** in Scholastic Rewards.

Please place your order online by **November 7th, 2025.**

Office update:

Mrs Bell and Mrs Wooley have had a re-model in the front office and are loving the extra space! The front door is now secured so please do just ring and we will let you in. The office is usually attended apart from Tuesday afternoons. However, the emails and phone messages are monitored so please do leave a message and we will get back to you!

Swimming!

It's always a busy week when we have our swimming weeks but it's incredible to see how much progress the children make in these intensive sessions. No photos (for obvious reasons) but some quotes from the children:

"I got to learn butterfly and I'd not done that before."

"I really enjoyed it and I thought it was really fun going with my classmates. I learnt how to do a safety jump, which was cool."

"My favourite but was all of it! I like dolphin and front crawl stroke."

"I really enjoyed it. I've never done swimming with my school before and I really enjoyed being with my friends and learning new things. A surface dive was new to me and I improved strokes I already know."

One child loved Mrs McBride's deck shoes but I am sure they also loved the swimming…!

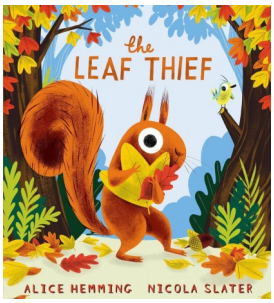
We are already looking forward to our next sessions in the new year.

Remembrance Day

On the lead up to Remembrance day, we have the usual selection of poppy related items available for you and the children.

Please do send children in with donations in an envelope marked with their name.

Ash



Ash class have been talking all things Autumnal and really enjoyed the story The Leaf Thief. It is all about a squirrel who thought the animals were stealing the leaves but it was the wind!

They have also been very busy learning all about 2D shapes and their properties. We had fun finding the shapes they had been learning about in the classroom.

The children have used their phonics books for the first time and are having a go at writing short words. They are also blending sounds together to read some early words. It is so thrilling to see their progress!

Beech

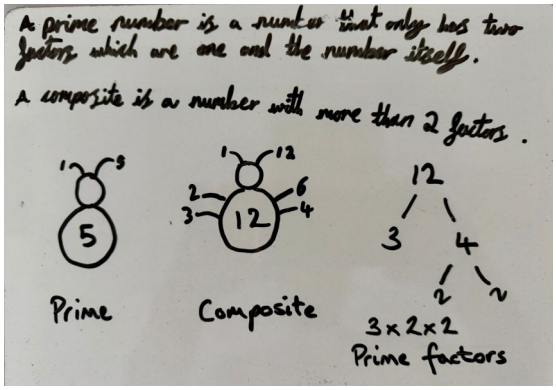
Beech class have been *bugging* Miss Huskisson this week with all their amazing knowledge about minibeasts and micro habitats.

There has been lots of hard work in maths where we have been counting in tens and grouping all sorts of interesting things into groups of ten.

We have enjoyed our new sensory tent and begun thinking about all the ways our world is wonderful.

Oak

This week in Oak class, we have been exploring prime and composite numbers. Year 6 extended their learning to include prime factorisation.

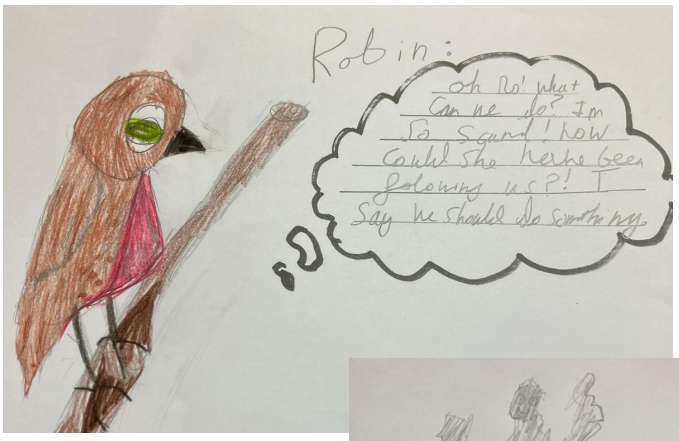


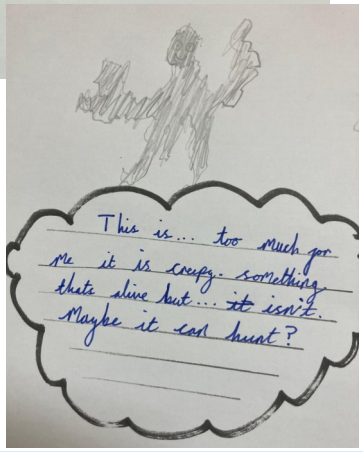
In English, we have been reminding ourselves how to use apostrophes, and also learning how to use expanded noun phrases and related clauses to deepen our description.

On Friday, we brought all these skills together to write character descriptions of either Odysseus, Circe or Polyphemus!

Elm

In Elm class, we have been considering what characters in our books may have been thinking. We have then had a go at writing in role.





Celebrating our values this week:

Polina- showing love
Miran - for persevering
Charlie - for persevering in maths
George - persevering in writing

Attendance

Oak and Elm class have topped the polls this week with a good 97%!

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

Please remember that punctuality also counts…!

Stars this week:

Jensen - working hard
Vinnie - amazing maths
Zoe - dramatic reading
Leo - amazing work
Gabby - great start

Lunch leader awards:

All of Ash class for increasing independence!

Did you know…?

Hallowe'en was originally rooted in Christianity? It is part of the festival of Hallowide with All Hallows Day, remembering the saints of the past and All Souls Day, remembering those departed.

Dates for your diary

November

Friday 7th	Open Morning
w/b Monday 10th	Anti-bullying week
Tuesday 11th	Act of Remembrance
Thursday 13th	Parents Consultations (3:40 - 6:30, sign up will be available on Arbor from Monday 3rd)

December

Monday 1st	Christingle and Non-uniform day
Sunday 7th	Christmas Fair
Tuesday 16th	Nativity
Friday 19th	Christmas Church service and a special visitor in school…

Other early dates for your information:

February 26th	Parents Consultations
June 15th	Residential
July 3rd	Sports Day (Join us at 12:30 for a picnic before activities start)
July 13th	Oak Class production
July 20th	Leavers' Service at the Church
July 21st	Awards Assembly and Leavers' send off

Please contact us via the office if you have any questions about your child's learning or their well-being at Fordcombe Primary School.

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