

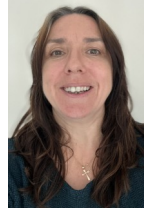
Friday 26th September 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

Although it's been a short week for you, there's been a lot going on at Fordcombe this week! It was lovely to meet Oak class parents this week and thank you for your warm welcome.

Today, the teachers and I spent the day discussing each and everyone of your children and making plans. As ever, I am impressed with the dedication of the staff here and this week's celebrations overleaf are just for them!

We also had visit from the Tenax Director of Education. I know she enjoyed spending some time outdoors with Ash and Elm class. The highlight of the week has to be Oak visit to Temper Temper though - see below.



## Temper Temper

On Thursday, Oak class visited Temper Temper to learn all about how the Mayans used chocolate – we also got to sample some different types of chocolate as well! Our first task was to make a frightening Mayan mask, similar to those they might have used to go into battles. After this, we learnt about the production of chocolate from bean to shelf!"



My favourite part of the trip was when I made the Mayan mask!" – Maya.

"I liked using the different types of chocolate for the Mayan mask and we made them look scary for battle! We also made some small chocolate circles for our family to try." – Lara.



"We enjoyed making the chocolate truffles by mixing in cream, dark chocolate and icing sugar (you can see me in the photo licking the spoon)!" – Isla.

Did you know that most of the 'chocolate' you buy in shops isn't officially chocolate at all? It should be called 'confectionary' instead. I'm sure that if you find a member of Oak class, they will be able to explain why some confectionary bars aren't allowed to be called 'chocolate'!



**Fordcombe**

Church of England Primary School

Email: [office@fordcombe.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@fordcombe.kent.sch.uk)

Tel: 01892 740224



We had a select few for our Act of Worship on Thursday - a chance for Beech and Elm revisit one of our favourite songs: "He's got the whole world in his hands..."  
I'll leave you with that ear worm!



### Celebrating our values this week:

Mrs Takemoto and Mrs Nye-Hopper for their kindness in the lunch hall  
Mrs Bell and Mrs Wooley for their patience and perseverance in the office  
Mrs Scott being generous in the classroom  
Mrs Evans for bringing the joy through music



**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

Beech class had the best attendance this week, with over 95% Well done on stacking up the learning minutes!



### Stars this week:

Mrs Dunbar - for helping our Ash children develop great habits for learning.  
Miss Huskisson - for bring the Victorian school days to life for Beech  
Mrs Treutenaere - for encouraging fantastic writing in Elm  
Mrs McBride - for developing environmental artists in Elm  
Mr Miles - for not eating all the chocolate and leading Oak on a fantastic trip to Temper Temper.

### Dates for your diary

New dates are in italics. Unless it is unavoidable, we will not change the dates for key events such as Sports Day, Inset days, the Award ceremony etc. Dates for curriculum events, Maths Day, Book Week, etc. and those not directly involving parents may be subject to change but give you a flavour of what we are up to this year at school.

| Date                     |                | Activity                         |                                       |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| September                |                |                                  |                                       |
| October                  |                |                                  |                                       |
| Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> |                | National Poetry Day!             |                                       |
| Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> | Elm            | Visit from Folly Wildlife Centre | Donations of meaty cat food, please!  |
| FRIDAY 10 <sup>th</sup>  | Whole School   | Individual Photos                | Please note change of date by Kittles |
| Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> | Whole school   | Harvest Festival                 |                                       |
| Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>  | Whole school   | INSET day                        |                                       |
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>  | Whole School   | Half term break                  |                                       |
| Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>  | Whole School   | Return to school                 |                                       |
| Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>  | Ash and Year 6 | National Child Measuring service |                                       |

### Volunteers needed!

We are looking for some volunteers in three particular roles. Firstly, we always welcome some additional reading support in classes. Along the same theme, we are hoping to get the library opened at lunchtime. Finally, we are keen to get our Forest School area back under control! If you are able to assist in any of these roles, please get in touch and we'll get an application form to you. Thank you to those who have already dropped in a form - we'll get you booked in soon!

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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