October 2026 Issue

NEWSLETTER

Ferry Lane Primary School *Pride in Excellence*

Upcoming dates

Monday 2nd November

All children back to school

Tuesday 3rd November

Year 1 Visit to Canal Museum

Thursday 5th November

Fire Brigade workshops - Years 2 & 5

Friday 6th November

Year 2 visit to Young V&A Museum

Monday 9th November

Class Photos

Monday 16th November

Year 2 Visit to St. Paul's Catherdral

Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week

Tuesday 17th November

Cinema Trip for 100% Attendance pupils, Years 1-6

Monday 23rd November

Year 5 visit to Courtauld Gallery

Friday 27th November

Cinema Visit for Whole Class Attendance -winning class for Autumn 1



Dear Parent/Carer,

As the leaves begin to change and the crisp autumn air settles in, we are fully embracing the new season as a wonderful backdrop for our learning at Ferry Lane. It's been the perfect weather for our Forest School activities and outdoor learning. We've had a number of events and workshops this month, including our Steel Pan and Drama workshops and we've had a number of exciting visits, including The British Library for Year 6 and the Science Museum for Year 6, amongst others. A highlight was the Year 4 & 5 visit to the British Museum to see the **Bayeux Tapestry**!

Our Halloween Disco was a great success, organised and led by the PTFA which saw some spooky music and moves that was a great way to end the term! We'd like to remind you to please support the PTFA where you can, and please encourage friends and family to contrubite to their fundraiser here: https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/ferrylanefundraising

We'd like to remind you of our Soup Festival taking place on 6th November and you are welcome to join from 3.30pm on this day for a bowl of our warm, seasonal soup.

We'd like to wish all our families a very happy Dwali after half term break for those who are celebrating.



We look forward to welcoming you back to school on **Monday 2nd November.**

Steel Pan Workshops









Jade & The Beanstalk Theatre Trip – Years 3,4,5 and 6













Forest School












Ferry Lane Primary School
AUTUMN
FRIDAY
6TH
NOVEMBER
2026
2PM-3PM
FOR VISITORS
&
3.30PM-4.30PM
FOR CHILDREN AND
FAMILIES
SOUP
FESTIVAL
Traditional soups from around the world will be
served in the school's community hall
All welcome!



Reception: Kristof, Neveah

Year 1: Boran, Charles

Year 2: Aadam, Dylan

Year 3: Elisa, Ellie

Year 4: Frankie, Inayah

Year 5: Archie, Minteou

Year 6: Dolker, Tasmin



Attendence: Well done to Nursery and Year 4!

A very special well done to Year 4 who are our Class Attendance Winners for this half term, with an overall attendance of 96.5% who will be treated to a cinema visit!

In addition to this, we now have rewards in place for individual children in Years 1-6 who achieve 100% attendance over a half term, and become part of the Golden 100 Club! The children with 100% for the first half of the Autumn term will also be attending a cinema trip in November!

Class	Attendance for this month
Nursery	★★★★★ 🏅
Reception	★★★
Year 1	★★★
Year 2	★★★
Year 3	★★★★
Year 4	★★★★★ 🏅
Year 5	★★★
Year 6	★★★★

Nursery








The nursery is buzzing with excitement, and the children's absolute enthusiasm shows just how much fun they are having! Our Nursery children have had a wonderful few weeks exploring their environment with great interest. They have been busy mastering several nursery rhymes, complete with actions, and they have done a fantastic job learning new words and movements. The children particularly enjoyed our number songs and music focused on understanding feelings. We also explored a variety of stories together, enthusiastically acting out the different characters. In our creative sessions, everyone had fun using a range of tools to investigate mark-making, and we look forward to continuing this exploration next term.



Thank you to all of our families for your continued support, and to the parents who attended our recent parents' evening. We wish you all a restful and happy half-term break!






Reception



We've had a wonderful few weeks in Reception exploring the changing season of autumn and learning all about harvest time. The children have thoroughly enjoyed a rich variety of engaging activities designed to help them observe, investigate and appreciate the natural world around them.



We've been noticing how the leaves are changing colour and falling from the trees, and the children have loved collecting, sorting and examining them closely. These autumn treasures have inspired our creative work, as well as some exciting maths and pattern-making activities. A big thank you to all the parents who went on autumn walks with their children to collect natural treasures from the season. The children were so proud to share their special finds with the class!



Our learning has also focused on harvest vegetables. The children took part in observational drawing, using real vegetables to study their shapes, colours and textures. They demonstrated fantastic concentration and an impressive attention to detail! We also got creative in the kitchen, making and tasting pumpkin biscuits, which proved to be a big hit with everyone.

During our weekly Studio Cultivate workshops, the children have had a fantastic time discovering more about the changes that take place in nature during autumn. They have planted seeds, explored a variety of bulbs and learnt about lacewings, developing their curiosity and understanding of the natural world through hands-on experiences. They have absolutely loved these opportunities to explore, discover and learn!



We've also enjoyed sharing some wonderful seasonal stories, including *Leaf Man* by Lois Ehlert, *Pumpkin Soup* by Helen Cooper, *The Leaf Thief* by Alice Hemming and *Oliver's Vegetables* by Vivian French. These stories have sparked fantastic discussions and inspired a wealth of follow-up activities, from role play and story sequencing to artwork, cooking and exploring the importance of healthy eating.



It has been particularly wonderful to see the children making such impressive progress in phonics**.** They are quickly learning their Set 1 single sounds and are becoming increasingly confident at orally blending sounds together to hear words. We are so proud of their enthusiasm, growing confidence and eagerness to apply their new skills!

We are incredibly proud of how engaged, curious and enthusiastic the children have been throughout their learning this half term. Thank you, as always, for your continued support at home and for helping to enrich the children's learning experiences.

We wish all our families a restful and enjoyable half-term break, and look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting half term of learning and discovery!

Year 1

It has been a busy and enriching month of learning as we wrapped up our first half term.

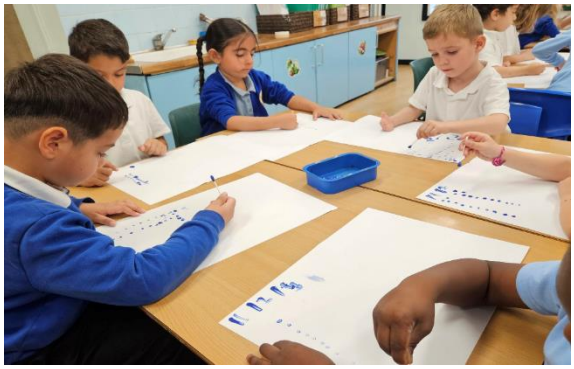
In literacy, the children thoroughly enjoyed exploring classic texts like The Gruffalo and Owl Babies. They brought these magical stories to life by role-playing different scenes in the classroom, discussing the deep dark woods and woodland settings, and sharing thoughts on their favorite characters.

Our outdoor learning was equally inspiring, with the children taking part in autumn leaf printing during Forest School—a creative spark we cannot wait to build upon when we return next term.

Our creative and practical explorations continued into music and mathematics. In our music sessions, the children have been diving into vibrant sound worlds, experimenting with various percussion instruments to compose and perform their own original pieces in front of their peers. Meanwhile, in maths, we have been tackling the concept of place value. The children used cotton buds as a hands-on way to fill tens and units columns, practicing how to match their physical groupings to the correct written numerals.
We are proud of how hard the children have worked and the wonderful progress they are making. Thank you for your continued support across this term's adventures. We hope you all have a wonderful, restful, and safe half term break, and we look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for even more creativity next term.



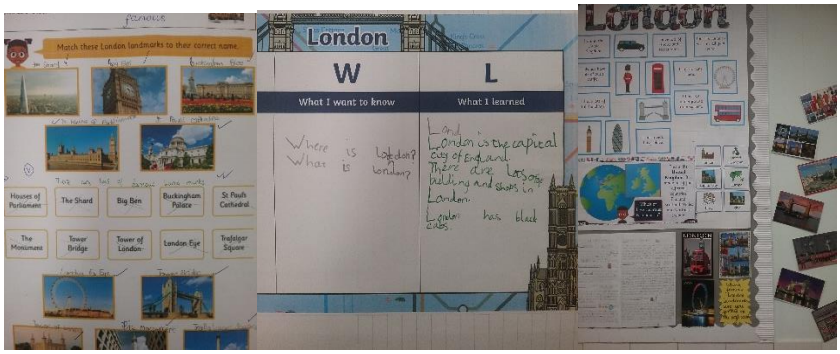






Year 2

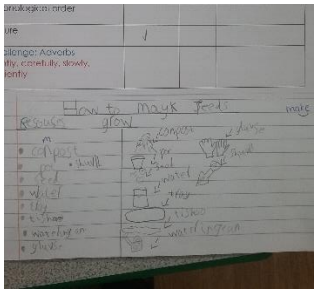
In Geography, we have been exploring London! The children learnt about some of London's famous landmarks and practised using compass points to give directions and locate these landmarks on a map. We also explored the countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom. The children discovered that London is a busy, vibrant city that attracts millions of tourists from around the world, particularly during the summer months. It has been wonderful to see their curiosity grow as they develop their geographical knowledge and map-reading skills!

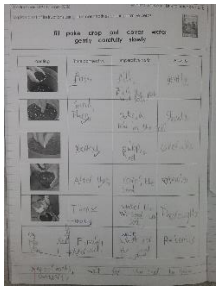


In English, we have been reading *Eddie's Garden* and exploring adventurous vocabulary to make our writing more exciting and engaging. We learnt how to use time connectives and imperative verbs to write clear, step-by-step instructions. The children then wrote their own instructions for planting a bean seed and put their writing into practice by planting their very own seeds! This provided a wonderful link to our Science learning about plants, allowing the children to apply their knowledge through a hands-on activity. We look forward to watching our beans grow!

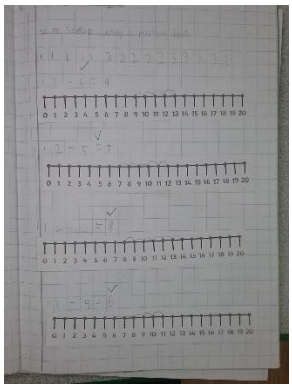


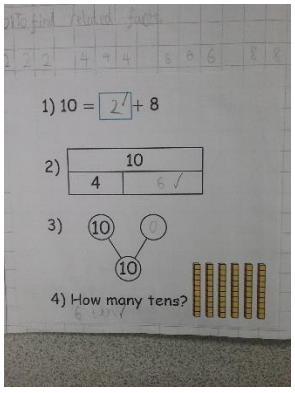


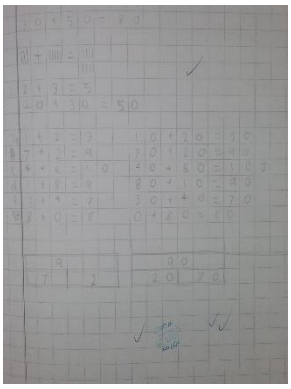




In Maths, we have been developing our addition and subtraction skills. The children have been practising finding 10 more, 10 less, 1 more and 1 less than a given number. We have also explored partitioning numbers, using number bonds to 10 and 20, and learning how to add by making 10. To support our understanding of subtraction, we have been using practical resources such as tens frames and number lines to help us represent calculations and find the answers. The children have been building their confidence in using different strategies to solve number problems and explain their mathematical thinking.







Year 3

Our Year 3 pupils have enjoyed an incredible month of discovery, diving into new topics through a variety of engaging lessons and activities. In Maths the pupils are further developing their skills in addition and subtraction across 10 and 100. Practical resources such as diens and counters have helped the children to visualise numbers, strengthen their understanding of tens and ones, and use place value knowledge to support accurate calculations and check that their answers are correct.





In Science, Year 3 have enjoyed learning about the different parts of a flower and how plants produce new plants. Through a range of practical activities, the children have explored how water travels through plants. They have made predictions, observed changes and compared results to develop their understanding of variables and scientific processes.

In ICT, the children have been learning about computer networks and exploring how files travel from a sender to a recipient across a network. They have been developing their understanding of how information is shared between devices and the important role networks play in communication. Well done Year 3, excellent effort! Have a wonderful break everyone and and keep reading Year 3!





Year 4

This has been an incredibly busy month filled with lots of activity and lots of learning. As we wrap up Autumn 1, Year 4 should be quite proud of how well they've settled in and how much they've accomplished.



Students are now in the addition and subtraction unit for Maths, working towards solving four-digit equations with two exchanges. In English, lessons based on the short film, 'Marshmallows' was enjoyed by everyone and the work they produced showed it. For students who enjoy History as much as Year 4 does, this month will be difficult to top! They were fully engaged in their HEP unit on the Roman Republic and it showed in the homework projects they brought in. October is Black History Month and they learnt about several important people and events, even producing a work of art inspired by Jean-Michel Basquiat. Finally, a trip to the British Museum to see the Bayeux Tapestry provided them an experience that most people only dream about.



There was also a trip to the Science Museum, a hip-hop theatre performance at the Bernie Grant Arts Centre, and an Irie Steelpan workshop. They are a lucky bunch, for sure, but totally deserving after all their hard work this month.





Year 5

Year 5 students have been working incredibly hard on mastering four-digit addition and subtraction. To build a deep understanding of column addition and subtraction, the children used hands-on place value grids and counters to physically see how regrouping and exchanging works. It was wonderful to see the classroom buzzing with concentration and teamwork as they tackled these complex written methods. Huge congratulations to all of Year 5 for their outstanding focus and for successfully mastering this tricky mathematical milestone!

In English, we embarked on an exhilarating adventure into the world of poetry, exploring T.S. Eliot's iconic collection, Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats! We dove deep into the whimsical pages of "The Old Gumbie Cat," unlocking the secret meanings behind the verse and discovering the fascinating reason why every cat must possess three distinct names. Inspired by Eliot's brilliance, the children unleashed their own creativity to craft magnificent original poems based on the legendary Jennyanydots. They masterfully experimented with rhythmic refrains, conquered the structured AABB rhyme scheme, and beautifully organized their ideas into powerful stanzas. The classroom transformed into a bustling hub of young wordsmiths, producing an absolutely breathtaking anthology of poetry!

I have a lazy dog in mind, his name is Stripysnow,

He has a zebra-like coat and likes to wear a red bow.

He sits upon my bed or on a mossy, rusty log,

He sits and sits and sits and sits—and that's what makes a lazy dog!

(by Sophia)

Once the clock strikes midnight, she shall awake,

She leads a whole choir of rattling snakes!

She won't let ants eat sugar so they don't get diabetes,

Instead, she gives the baby worms a pile of tasty sweeties.

She guards the house all night until the morning light,

Ensuring in a thunderstorm the little ones don't fright.

(by Minteou)

Sherlockshadow the Magical Dog

I have a magical dog in mind, his name is Sherlockshadow,

He has a black and white coat and he plays in the meadow.

All day he rests on the dirty mat or observes a fog,

He rests and rests and rests and rests—and that's what makes a magical dog!

(By Aiden)

The Spotty Silent Spy

But when the clock strikes midnight, he sneaks to the basement to turn on the light,

He checks the locks and doors to make sure everything is safe and tight.

Then he goes to peek at the foxes on the mat, so they can have a friendly chat,

He teaches them the fishing habits of the wise old water rat!

He leads the midnight drills and teaches them to tie secure knots,

And safely places all the mice inside small wooden pots.

(by Yusuf)









Year 6

We have reached the end of our first half term and I cannot be more proud of the children in year 6 and how they have settled into their role as year 6 pupils within the school and have worked exceptionally hard over this past half term.In English, the children wrote some powerful creative writing inspired by our class novel and wrote their own poems after studying the poems written by the Valerie Bloom, a Jamaican poet. In science they thoroughly enjoyed our hands on investigations exploring the human circulatory system.

In maths we focused on place value up to ten million and mastering the four operations. The children did a brilliant job applying these skills to solving multi step problems, reasoning challenges and learning about 2D and 3D shapes. A particular highlight was our hands on activity creating these shapes from nets.
In History and Geography, the children were very enthused to learn about the ancient Mayas from different sources as well as the causes of climate change, the effects of climate change and what they can do locally to help climate change.
The children need to be completely recharged for the half term ahead but I highly encourage them to keep reading for pleasure and do some times-tables practice.
Well done year 6 for a marvellously successful half term. Enjoy the break and come refreshed to continue on your learning journey.



