FREETHORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Friday 26th September 2025



Photo Credit: Swallow's class

AUTUMN TERM 1
Dates for the Diary

- 3rd October - School Photos
- 7th/8th October - Parent Cafes (2pm)
- 10th October - Mental Health Day (non-school uniform wear yellow)
- 14th October - Harvest Festival with Soup and Bread (3.30pm)
- 22nd October - Children's showcase of work (3.30-4.25pm)
- 24th October - Halloween Wacky Hair Day/non-school uniform
- 24th October - last day of Autumn 1

A message from your Heads of School

A warm welcome to all our families here at Freethorpe Primary School, we can hardly believe we have been back a matter of weeks with children old and new settling into school life seamlessly. It brings us so much joy to see a happy, vibrant school with children fully embracing new classrooms, teachers and thriving in their learning.

Children are already embodying our new core connections: advocacy, wellbeing, citizenship, creativity, collaboration and independence. These values are seen in all that we do, whether it be supporting a friend in need, working effectively with others or taking ownership of their learning.



Watching our Year 6 friendly faces supporting our new starters in Goldfinch for the first time has been simply wonderful. The care, patience and laughter we have all witnessed in these moments together spoke volumes about the kind young people are Year 6 are becoming.

Our first topic has taken us outdoors and into nature (the place to be!) and it's been brilliant to see the children so engaged. They've been asking questions, investigating, working together and sharing ideas. There's a real buzz of excitement around learning and we're loving every minute of it.

Thank you, as always, for your encouragement and support. You are all a pivotal part of our Freethorpe Primary community. We're off to a fantastic start and I can't wait to see where the rest of the year takes us.

NURSERY/PRESCHOOL

ROBIN



A message from Robin class adults

We have had a really lovely start to the school year, we have been really impressed at how well all the children have really settled in, the previous children have welcomed new friends and have helped them to find their way around preschool.

We have been learning about who is who in school, looking at photos of familiar adults and talking about their role in school. Mrs Morris is a big hit at the moment and ALL the children want to take over the lunch register each morning to say hello!!



We will continue to develop our family photo wall, as these are being sent in. The children really enjoy looking at this and talking about their families. We will be looking at ourselves for the rest of this term, creating portraits of ourselves and our friends using collage materials.

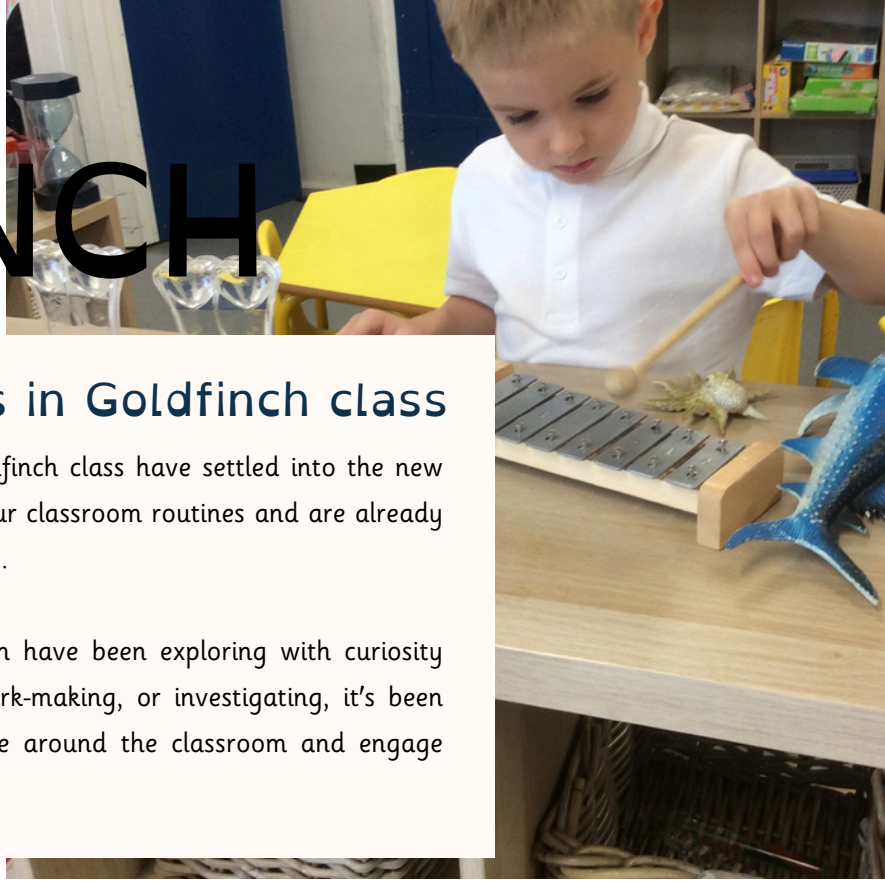






RECEPTION/Y1

GOLDFINCH



A message from our adults in Goldfinch class

We are so pleased with how well the children in Goldfinch class have settled into the new school year! They have quickly become familiar with our classroom routines and are already showing independence and enthusiasm in their learning.

Across our areas of continuous provision, the children have been exploring with curiosity and creativity. Whether it's building, role-playing, mark-making, or investigating, it's been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they move around the classroom and engage with different learning opportunities.



In Phonics, we've made a fantastic start. The children are showing great listening and participation during our sessions. We're really proud of their early progress!

Maths learning has also taken off with great energy! The children have been developing their number sense through practical activities, games, and problem-solving challenges.

As part of our discussions around Autumn and Nature Noticed, the children have been talking about the changes in the natural world. From falling leaves to conkers and the changing colours, they've loved observing signs of the new season and sharing their thoughts. Our nature walks and outdoor learning have been full of excitement and thoughtful observations.







IOur Year 1 children have taken on a special responsibility so far this term – they are helping to look after our class garden beds! With great care and teamwork, they have been weeding and making sure everything is looked after.

Well done to all of the children for such a positive start to the term. We're excited for everything the coming weeks will bring!

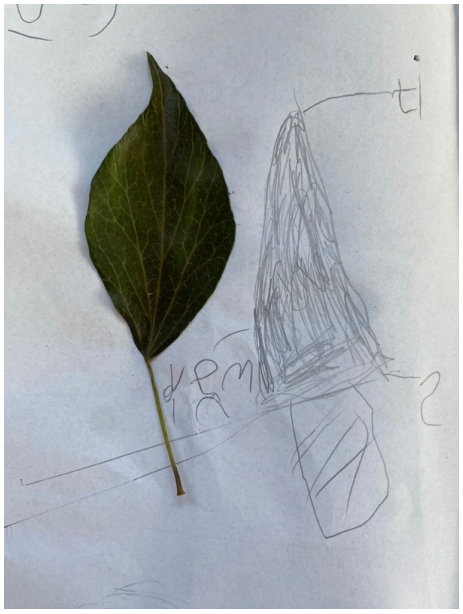
Y1/Y2

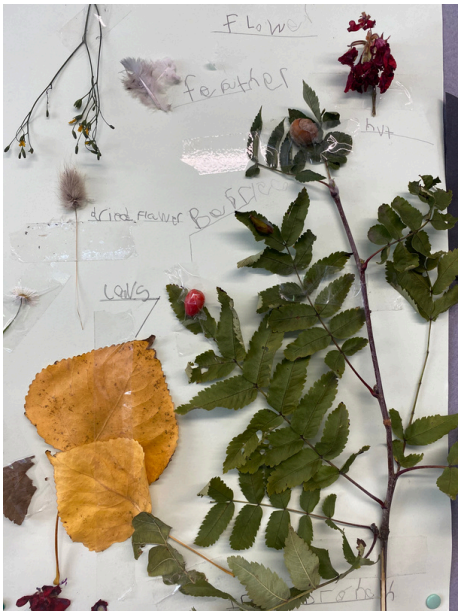
BARN OWLS

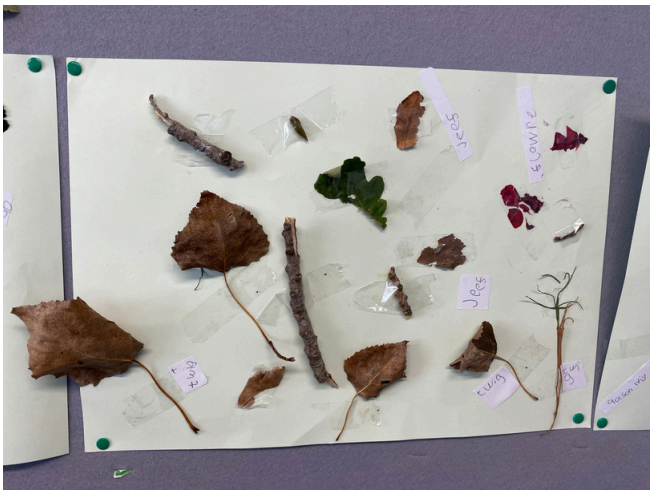


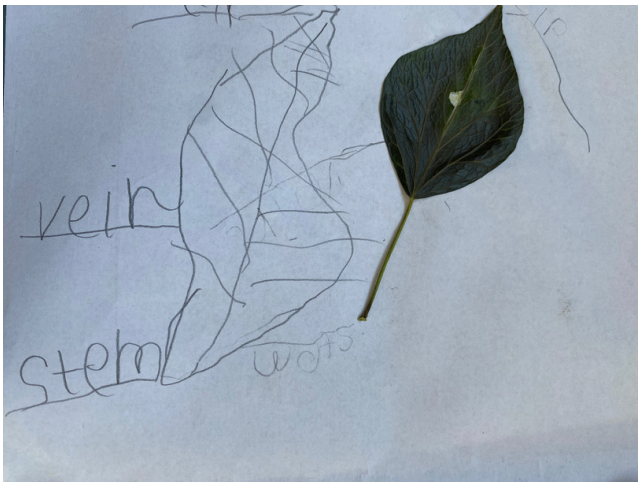
A message from staff working in Barn Owl class

Barn Owls have really enjoyed the Nature Noticed Project. They have loved being outside looking closely at nature and examining natural objects in close detail. They have looked at the signs that show us autumn is in full swing, chasing falling leaves, finding dropped apples, and hunting for chrysalises, acorn collecting squirrels and hedgehogs getting ready to hibernate. The children have thoroughly practised their sketching skills, sketching leaves, bark, apples and conkers.









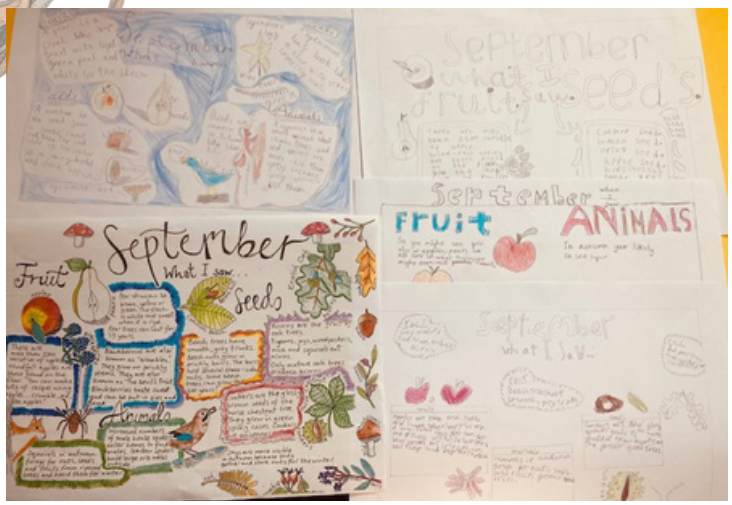
Y2/Y3

SWALLOWS

A message from adults working in Swallow class

Swallow Class have had a lovely start to the new school year with our topic Nature Noticed. We have explored our outdoor areas and learnt about the different fruit trees growing there: apple, pear, quince and medler. We have picked windfall apples and tasted different varieties. We can tell the difference between coniferous and deciduous trees, and we can recognise a tree from the shape of its leaves. We have added many items to our nature collection from moths in their chrysalises to acorns and conkers. We've worked as nature detectives deducing where giant seed pods have come from (honey locust trees) and spiky seed balls (plane trees). All of this information, we have gathered together into our double-page nature journals which we will look forward to showing you at our next Family Cafe!





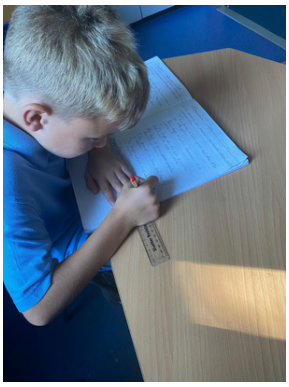




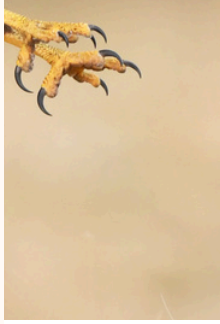
Y4/Y5

BUZZARDS









A message from our adults in Buzzard class

Buzzard class have settled in wonderfully to the new school year, and have thoroughly enjoyed our topic, 'Nature Noticed'. We have spent some time exploring different trees and leaves, and practised our sketching skills during mindful nature walks, observing and taking note of our surroundings. We've taken our research and findings and brought them together for our nature journal writing in English. We have also had some meaningful conversations in PSHE, as we have discussed the impact of bullying and the importance of not being a bystander when we see bullying taking place. As we always say in Buzzard class, we treat others the way we want to be treated! We have continued to work hard in Maths, as we are focusing on addition and subtraction, as well as practising our times tables. It's been lovely to see so many people practising their times tables at home!







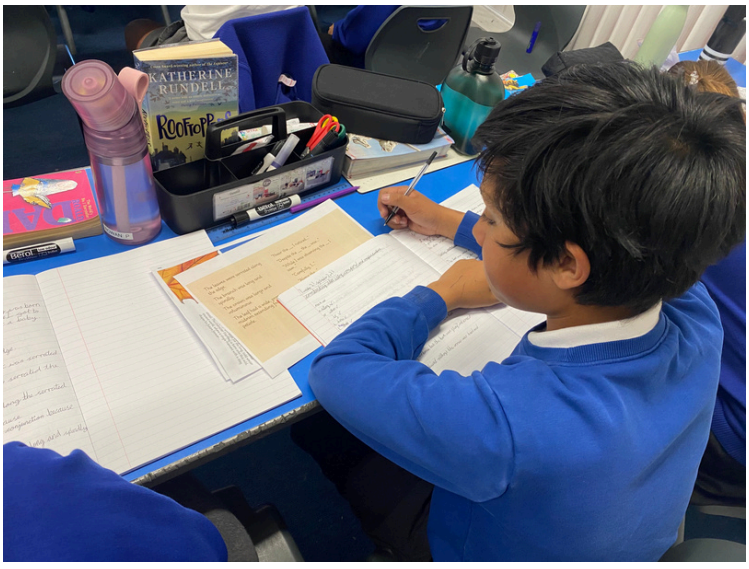
Y5/Y6

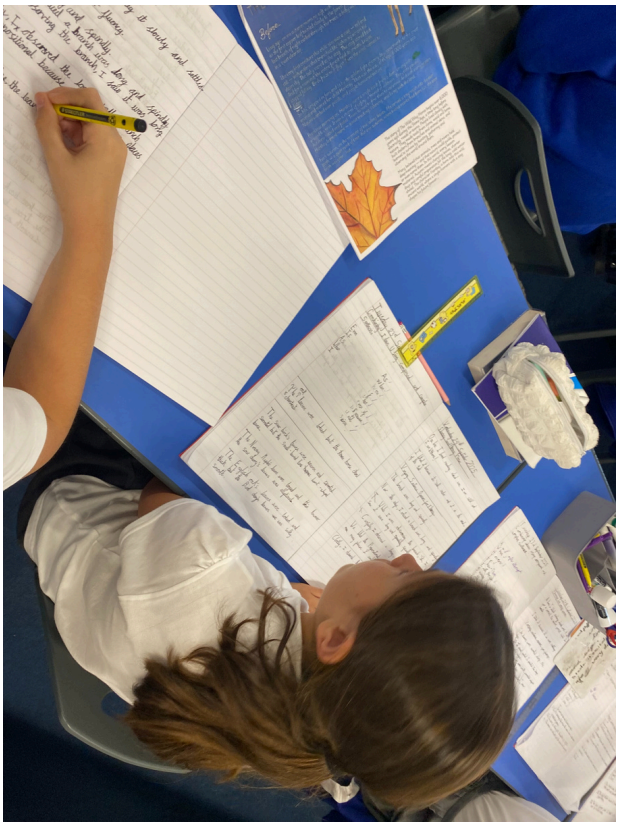
KINGFISHER



A message from staff working in Kingfisher class

It's been an incredible first few weeks in Kingfisher class: we've begun to settle into routines and build a strong class community. We've really enjoyed our first project "Nature Noticed". We explored a variety of trees and leaves and practised our sketching during mindful nature walks, carefully observing our surroundings. We then drew our research and observations together in English to create entries for our nature journals. We've paired this with our Science lessons, where we've explored variation, characteristics and inheritance of living organisms. In reading, we've explored and analysed three different texts connected to our theme, building our vocabulary, retrieval and inference skills. This has been greatly supported by the extra reads we've seen logged at home. In maths, we have been exploring the properties of numbers to 1000, allowing us to estimate values on a number line as well as compare and order sets of numbers.





Well Done!



At Freethorpe, we take great pride in recognising and celebrating pupils who demonstrate positive behaviour, kindness, and a commitment to our core connections. Throughout the term, children who have been positive role models, made excellent progress in their learning, shown compassion, or contributed positively to our school community are celebrated in a variety of ways. Each week, pupils are recognised in our celebration assemblies, where we highlight their achievements in front of the whole school. We also make positive phone calls home to share these successes with families, and some children are invited to our special Fine Dining experience as a reward for going above and beyond. Additionally, pupils can earn house points for good ideas, kind actions, and positive contributions to class and school life. These moments of recognition help build confidence, promote our school values, and ensure every child has the opportunity to shine.

6

phone calls home so far!

Number of children who have received certificates:



TOGETHER WE CELEBRATE

Harvest Festival - 14th October

Families are welcome to join for soup and bread from 3.30pm

Harvest Festival is a time to celebrate the food we eat, the changing seasons, and the many people who help bring food from the land to our tables. It reminds us to be thankful for what we have, while also thinking of those who may have less.

Every apple picked, loaf of bread baked, or meal shared is part of a bigger story – one of hard work, care, and community. Harvest gives us a chance to pause, appreciate, and to share what we can with others.

Things you might like to talk about at home:

- A food that feels special or traditional for your family, and why it matters to you
- Where our food comes from, and how it reaches our plates
- Why giving and sharing with others is such an important part of Harvest
- How we can show gratitude for the everyday things we sometimes take for granted

When children grow up understanding the importance of thankfulness and generosity, they learn how small acts of kindness can make a big difference.

If your family would like to contribute to our Harvest Festival collection, please bring any tinned food to the school office where it will be donated to our local food bank. Thank you in advance for anything you can spare.





SHOWCASE OF LEARNING

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming Parent Showcase for our topic 'Nature Noticed', taking place on 22nd October from 3:30pm in your child's classroom. This is a special opportunity to explore a gallery of work, presented as authentic outcomes that reflect the children's learning journey throughout the topic. The showcase will highlight the new knowledge they've gained, the skills they've developed, and the ways they've worked both independently and collaboratively. In the meantime, we encourage you to ask your child questions about their topic and learning—this is a great way to spark meaningful conversation and help them rehearse and reflect on their new learning. We look forward to celebrating their achievements with you and sharing the wonderful ways they've noticed and explored the natural world around them.