FREETHORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Monday 24th November 2025



AUTUMN TERM 2

Dates for the Diary

- 3rd November Year 6 Swimming (Mondays for this term)
- 14th November Children in Need (Wear PJS)
- 3rd December Children's Showcase of Work
- 9th & 10th December KS1 Christmas Story and Carols
- 11th December KS2 Halvergate Concert
- 17th December Christmas Bonanza
- 18th December Christmas jumper day and Christmas lunch
- 19th December Last day of term

A message from Ms Roberts & Mrs Andrews

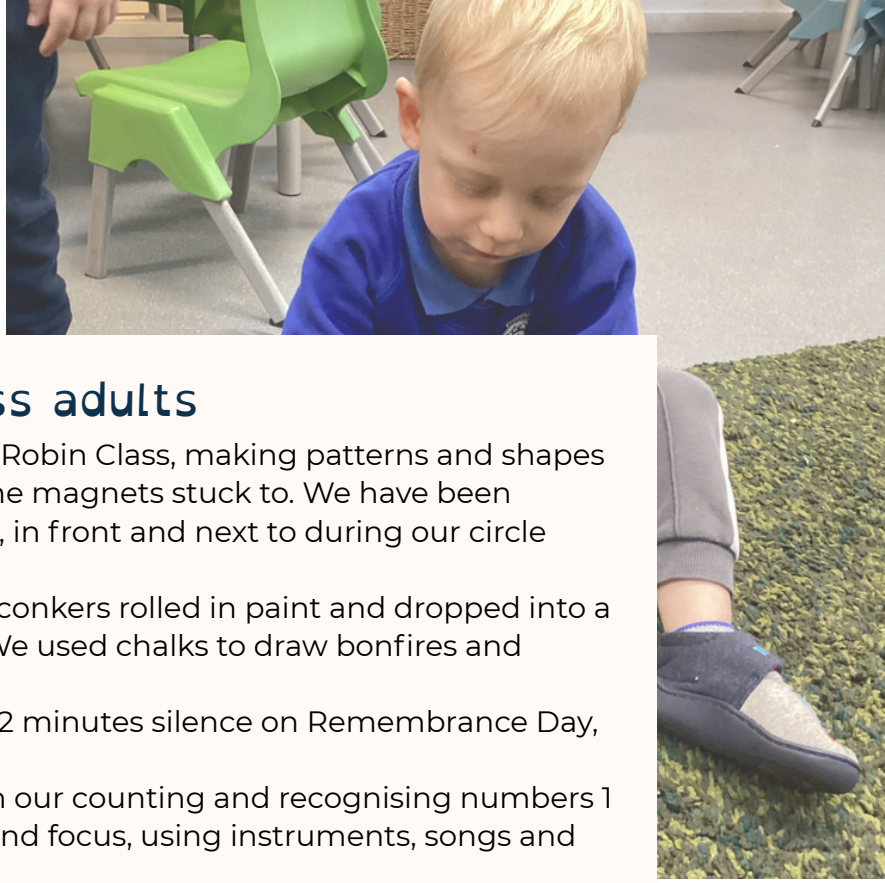
Welcome to the latest edition of our school newsletter! As headteachers, we are delighted to connect with you and share the vibrant life of our school community.

Our students have been actively engaging in both academic and extracurricular activities. From classroom learning to sports, arts, and community projects, we are proud of the dedication, creativity, and curiosity our students display every day.

The festive season is upon us, and we are thrilled to invite you to join us in celebrating this special time at Freethorpe over the fourth coming weeks. This term, our students have been preparing their showcase of work, Christmas performances and preparing for our Christmas bonanza event to share the joy of the holidays with our school community.

NURSERY/PRESCHOOL

ROBIN



A message from Robin class adults

We have enjoyed exploring with magnets in Robin Class, making patterns and shapes as well as seeing what objects in the room the magnets stuck to. We have been looking at prepositions, on, under, in, behind, in front and next to during our circle times.

We enjoyed making firework pictures using conkers rolled in paint and dropped into a box which we shook to create our pictures. We used chalks to draw bonfires and talked about the displays we went to.

The children were amazing standing for the 2 minutes silence on Remembrance Day, we were really proud of them.

During maths we have been continuing with our counting and recognising numbers 1 - 5. In literacy we have been doing lots of sound focus, using instruments, songs and games to identify sounds.

With the wet and cold weather now upon us, we have been amazing changing from our outside wellie boots to inside slippers independently.







RECEPTION/Y1

GOLDFINCH



A message from our adults in Goldfinch class

Goldfinch class has been immersed in the fascinating world of materials through our exciting Woven Worlds project. The children have been curious investigators, exploring a wide variety of everyday materials and discovering whether they are natural or manmade. One of our favourite activities was checking the labels on our own clothes to see what they were made from—there were many surprises! Our learning journey took us deeper into the story of wool.



We began by watching videos of sheep being shorn, gaining an understanding of where
wool comes from and how it is collected. The children were captivated by the shearing process and asked wonderful questions about how the fleece becomes the fabric we wear.

Next, we had the chance to handle and explore real fleece. The class loved feeling the texture and noticing the differences between the fibres. We learned how raw fleece is brushed and carded to untangle and clean the fibres, and the children enjoyed trying this process themselves. Their teamwork and attention to detail were fantastic!
To bring everything together, we used the wool we prepared to create our very own felt pictures. By layering natural fibres, adding colourful wool, and using some natural dyes we designed some felt artwork. This hands-on experience helped the children appreciate the journey from sheep to textile and allowed them to express their creativity in a new medium.
In English, our Year 1 children have been enjoying work linked to a Wallace and Gromit animation. We used the film to spark our imagination, making predictions about what might happen next and sharing our ideas in our writing. The children have been developing their use of nouns and adjectives to add detail and interest to their sentences, and we have been practising using capital letters and full stops correctly including when writing names.



Our Reception children have now learnt all the letters and sounds of the alphabet and have made great progress in developing their blending and segmenting skills. Keep looking out for our ‘Sounds of the Week’ Facebook post to hear what the children have learnt that week. Their letter formation is also improving beautifully as they gain confidence in their early writing. They have continued exploring traditional tales with Little Red Riding Hood and The Three Billy Goats Gruff. The children have enjoyed retelling the stories, acting out the characters, and joining in with the repetitive language—bringing these well-loved tales to life in our classroom.
Goldfinch class showed their respect for Remembrance Day by observing the two minute silence after some discussion about the significance of the day and the poppy. They painted some beautiful poppy pictures after also enjoying the short animation, Poppies.

Y1/Y2

BARN OWLS



A message from staff working in Barn Owl class

Barn Owls have loved taking part in the Woven Worlds project!
We have enjoyed exploring real fleece—touching it, smelling it, and examining it closely. The children followed the journey of raw fleece from shearing to washing, carding (separating the fibres), dyeing, and finally felting. They created their own felt mats and then used coloured fleece to make beautiful felted hanging ornaments.
We also practised using the wax-resist technique to create beautiful watercolour pictures of sheep grazing in a field. The children loved watching how their sheep magically appeared as the paint washed over their artwork!
In English, we have been using Wallace and Gromit: A Close Shave as our writing stimulus. We have been perfecting our sentence writing, focusing on using capital letters and full stops, and adding adjectives within noun phrases to make our writing more interesting. We have also been identifying and using proper nouns that require capital letters.
In maths we have continued to look at addition and subtraction, as always, using manipulatives to help us visualise the concepts.









Y2/Y3

SWALLOWS

A message from adults working in Swallow class

Swallow Class have really enjoyed the Woven Worlds project. They have thrown themselves into life as it would have been for an Iron Age child. They have written imaginatively about living in roundhouses as part of tribes on hilltop forts. They know how Iron Age tribes protected themselves from attack and the food they would have eaten. They know how roundhouses were built and the livestock they would have kept.

We have looked in detail at how important weaving was in this period of history and we have examined every stage of the process from the fleece as it comes off a sheep, to the wool and the different types of looms used. We have even worked hard at producing our own piece of weaving which we shall be displaying at our next showcase!

For Remembrance Day, we looked at how it would feel to be an evacuee. We wrote postcards home and imaginative pieces about evacuees as they waited at the train station to leave the cities for the countryside. We were so interested in this topic that we began to read Michaal Morpurgo's Friend or Foe in class.

In maths, we are continuing with addition and subtraction and how to work out number bonds to 100. We also have our daily 5 x table challenge and almost everyone has made it onto the Leaderboard!

In science, we have moved onto states of being: solids, liquids and gases which will lead to interesting conversations as the weather gets colder and we can see water freezing outside.

Christmas is, of course, around the corner and we have produced beautiful oil pastel and watercolour candle paintings as templates for Christmas cards. We have also been working hard to learn our Christmas songs and the poems we will be performing in the nativity and the Halvergate carol concert. We hope to all see you at both events to help us celebrate Christmas!







Y4/Y5

BUZZARDS

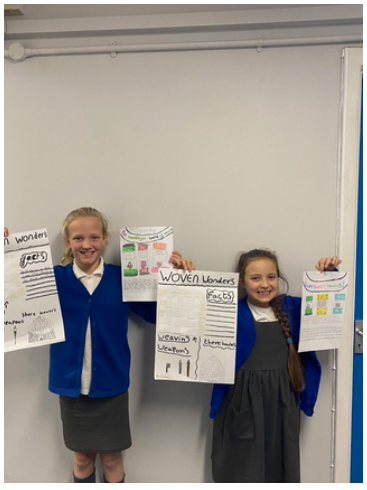


A message from our adults in Buzzard class

It's been a fantastic few weeks for Buzzards class! Our class has produced some fantastic writing in English inspired by One Plastic Bag by Miranda Paul, capturing both the heart of the story and its powerful message. Through their work, the students explored how a single idea can spark meaningful change, just as Isatou Ceesay transformed her community by tackling plastic waste. Their writing has opened up important discussions about the impact of plastic pollution on our planet and the simple steps we can all take to look after the environment. It has been inspiring to see the children think creatively, act thoughtfully, and consider how they, too, can make a positive difference in the world.
In Maths, the class has shown great focus and determination as they worked on organising and comparing three- and four-digit numbers. Alongside this, the children have continued to make excellent progress in their times table practice. Their hard work and enthusiasm are really shining through, and it's wonderful to see their confidence in maths growing.
We've delved into the captivating art of weaving and explored how cultures around the world have used natural materials to craft a variety of items. Throughout our learning, we've seen that weaving is more than a practical technique—it's also a way to share stories, preserve traditions, and express cultural identity. This has been an exciting new skill for Buzzard Class to learn, opening a window into the fascinating world of weaving. Along the way, the class has shown great resilience and perseverance, especially when tackling the trickier challenges the process involves.
In PE, the class has thoroughly enjoyed exploring dance through a unit inspired by The Greatest Showman. Using the film's energetic music and themes of confidence and creativity, the children have worked together to develop expressive movements, thoughtful choreography, and fantastic group routines. It has been wonderful to see everyone supporting one another and sharing their performances with their peers, celebrating each other's ideas and efforts.
The class has been finishing their learning about rocks, fossils and soil in Science, building on their understanding of how these natural materials are formed and why they are so important. One of the highlights of this unit was creating detailed fact files about Mary Anning, whose remarkable fossil discoveries helped shape our knowledge of prehistoric life. The children showed great curiosity as they examined different rock types, explored how fossils are made, and compared the properties of various soils. It has also been lovely to see so many children bringing in rocks and fossils from home and proudly sharing their collections with the class, sparking even more questions and discussions. Their enthusiasm for investigating the world beneath our feet has been fantastic to see.
Rehearsals for the Halvergate Christmas concert are in full swing, and the class has been singing beautifully. Their enthusiasm has made every practice feel extra festive!

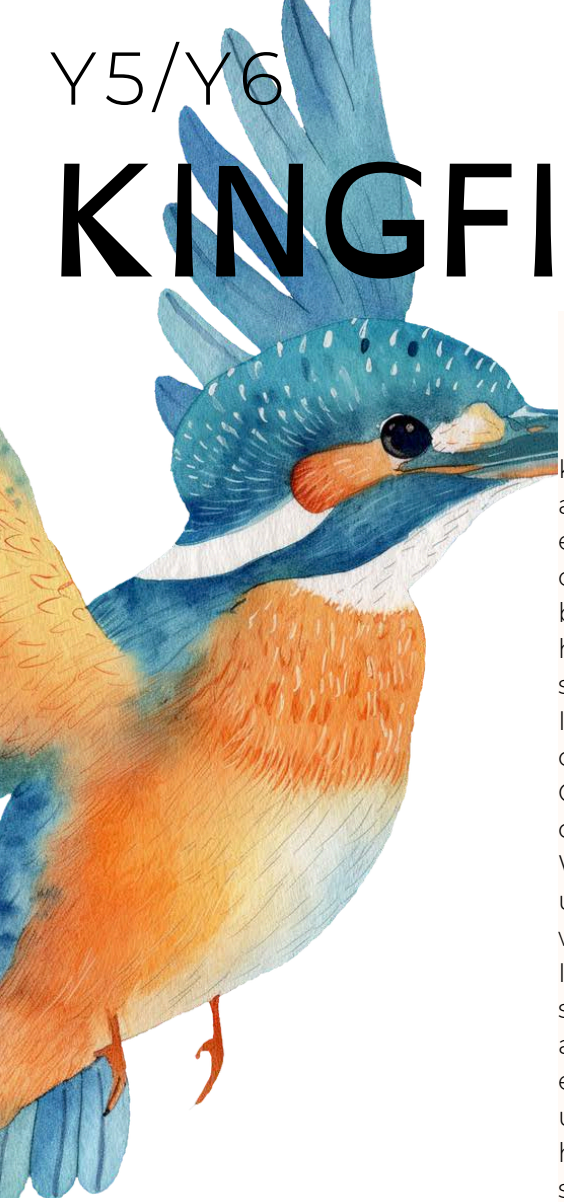






Y5/Y6

KINGFISHER



A message from staff working in Kingfisher class

Kingfisher Class have been working hard these past few weeks as we dive deeper into our Nature's Thread project. We've explored the fascinating world of weaving and how different cultures have used natural materials to create everything from baskets to fabrics. Throughout our learning, we've discovered how weaving is not just a practical skill but also a way of telling stories, preserving traditions, and expressing identity.

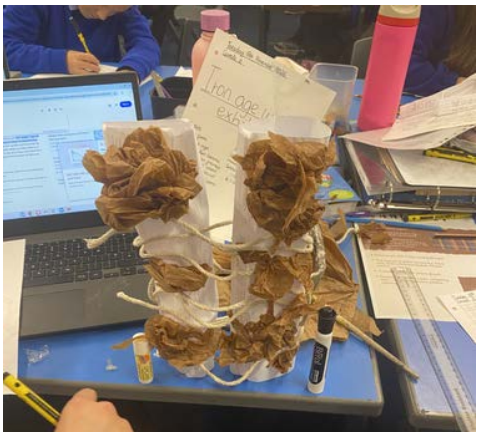
In English, we've explored the impact of weaving and the power of small actions, inspired by One Plastic Bag by Miranda Paul. Children have reflected on how even simple, everyday objects can make a big difference to the environment and our lives. We've also worked on writing our own informational texts, using writing features from the book to explain these ideas in a way that engages the reader.

In Maths, we've continued to build on our addition and subtraction skills, with a particular focus on rounding numbers and using mental strategies to solve problems. We've also been exploring repeating patterns within our project, focusing on using different shapes to create pattern squares. This has helped us understand the relationship between numbers and shapes while also connecting with our weaving activities.

This theme has also inspired us in Science, where we've been begun to investigate the properties of materials, including magnetism, and reflecting on how we use natural materials in everyday life. We've wrapped up our unit on evolution, adaptations, and fossils and are now focusing on understanding how materials can be used in different ways.

In PE, we've started our eco-warrior-themed dance lessons, focusing on how we can help protect the planet. Some children have also been making great progress in swimming. It's wonderful to see so many children eager to improve their skills.

We've had some fantastic independent projects as well. Children have worked hard on creating museum exhibits, writing scientific video scripts, and researching the weaving traditions of cultures around the world. It's been amazing to see the depth of their learning and creativity!







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.



phone calls home so far!

Number of children who have received certificates:



TOGETHER WE CELEBRATE

The Christmas Story and Carols with KS1- 9th/ 10TH December & KS2 Halvergate Concert 11th December

Families are welcome to join in the Christmas spirit

The most wonderful time of the year is just around the corner, and we're getting ready to celebrate the Christmas festivities next term! As we move into the festive season, our classrooms I'm sure will be buzzing with excitement.

In the coming weeks, students will be taking part in a variety of Christmas-themed activities, from art and craft projects to learning festive songs and stories about kindness and giving. It's a special time for our school community to come together, have fun, and reflect on the joy of helping others.

Christmas Events Season, also including:

🎅 Christmas Concerts and Carols
🧦 Festive Jumper Day & Christmas lunch
🎅 Christmas Bonanza
🍪 Christmas Class Parties





SHOWCASE OF LEARNING

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming Parent Showcase for our topic 'Woven Worlds', taking place on Wednesday 3rd December at 3:30 - 4:25pm . 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.