

# The Federation of St. Giles and St. John



## Love to Learn: Learn to Love

Planting seeds of happiness and enjoyment.  
Living and growing together.

## Summer Term 2026

### Newsletter



Welcome back to the summer term.

We have already made an exciting start to the term with the year 5 and 6 residential to Cardiff and the year 3 and 4 residential visit to the Pioneer centre. We have a lot more exciting learning to look forward to in the term ahead.

#### Staffing

This term we have welcomed back Mrs Smith to Kinlet CE Primary School following her maternity leave. We have also welcomed Mrs Topham to the team at Kinlet too. She is settling in well to her new role as teaching assistant. Mrs Topham is covering Mrs Bonell's maternity leave. Mrs Bonell will start her leave at the end of next week. We wish her well for her coming leave.

We still have a vacancy for the cleaner in charge/caretaker role at Kinlet. If you know of anyone who may be interested in this role, please contact the administrator at Kinlet.

#### Governor News

Since our last newsletter, we have two new governors who have joined our governing body. Mrs Crichton is the local authority governor and Reverend Sally

Wallace-Jones has joined as a foundation governor. They will be making visits to both schools to support our ongoing self-evaluation work.

#### Christian Values

Our Christian values this term are service, hope and wisdom.

#### Curriculum Development

This term we have been reviewing our safeguarding procedures. This is in response to an audit conducted by an external adviser requested by the school to review and evaluate our policies and procedures. At the end of last term, we also took part in the Safer School review at both settings, which was also very productive and formed part of this ongoing self-evaluation work. This term we will be updating our online safety policy and we have already completed a prevent risk assessment for both settings. We shall also be updating our relationship, sex and health education policy so that we are compliant for the September 2026 deadline. The updated policy will be shared with you in the coming term. We continue to subscribe and deliver personal, social and health education using a programme called Jigsaw. This programme has been updated so that it is fully compliant with the new requirements from September. We will also be having further training on therapeutic approaches to teaching as a whole team. This will be led by Ms Watson following training that she has done.

#### SEND Provision

Mrs Smith, from Farlow, is the special educational needs co-ordinator and works across both schools to co-ordinate the provision for pupils in both settings.

#### Contact

Please do make contact, if you have any worries or concerns. We are usually available before the school day begins and we are always happy to make an appointment to meet face to face to discuss your concerns or worries at a time which is mutually convenient.

### Jewellery

We would like to remind everyone of the jewellery that can be worn in school.

- Pupils may wear a watch, but not one capable of taking photos.
- Only one stud earring is permitted in each ear lobe. Please note that this will have to be removed for P.E.
- Bracelets and rings are not to be worn.

This forms part of our Health and Safety policy in school to prevent injury and accidents to our pupils.

### Free School Meals

Please check to see whether you are entitled to free school meals.

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/>

If you need any help with the application process, please make enquiries at the school office. Children eligible for free school meals trigger additional funding for the school, which would benefit the children in many ways.

### Labelling of Clothing

Please may we also remind parents of the importance of naming the children's clothing especially jumpers, fleeces and polo shirts which can get lost very easily.

### Leave of Absence in Term Time

The Leave of Absence Policy adopted by the Governing body of the Federation of St. Giles and St. John is in line with the national guidelines which state that headteachers are only allowed to authorise any leave of absence when an application has been made in advance and circumstances are exceptional. The annual family holiday is not an exceptional circumstance.

### After School Clubs

KS2 Tennis Club - Wednesdays starting 15<sup>th</sup> April for 6 weeks - 3.20-4.15 pm

Gymnastics Club - Wednesdays starting 3<sup>rd</sup> June for 6 weeks - time tbc

All clubs need to be booked and paid for on ParentPay before the club starts.

### Medical/Dental Appointments

If a pupil needs to attend a hospital, dentist or GP appointment, a letter must be provided to prove absence. If a pupil does attend the GP for any reason and is absent from school then parents can request a 'print screen' of the consultation from the doctor which they do not have to pay for, or an appointment card/signed compliments slip from the reception. This is necessary for safeguarding/attendance monitoring purposes.

Thank you.

### Forest School Kit

Please can parents ensure that when the children are visiting the forest they wear the following kit:

Plenty of layers of clothing including long sleeved tops and long trousers (no shorts, jeans or short sleeved tops)

And bring in a labelled bag:

Waterproof coat and trousers;

Sun hat when the weather is hot

Wellies

Thank you.



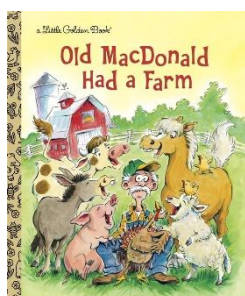
## News from Class 1

Welcome back to the summer term. We are hoping for some good weather so we can enjoy a lot of outdoor learning this term. Children in Reception will continue to have their red books sent home every Friday. This gives parents and carers the chance to see some of the things we have been learning each week and shows the phonics and maths focus for the week. This term, children in Year 2 will be given spellings to take home and learn each week. They will be sent home each Monday, and children will need to practise them over the course of the week. Please try and support your children to learn their spellings each day rather than just once, as this helps them to remember them in the long term. Please also continue to read with your child at least three times each week for a few minutes. It really does help their reading confidence and fluency.

### English

We will be focusing on writing accurate sentences this term, which will build strong foundations for children's confidence in writing as they progress through into Key Stage 2 and beyond. We do lots of practical activities to support this learning to make it engaging for the children, and we link this work to stories we are reading in class. Our topic on farming will also be used, and children will be writing sentences to go with pictures we have taken on our visits.

We will be reading stories set on farms this term, and we will make our own class books in the same style. We will focus on the features of story books e.g. front cover, author, illustrator, blurb, and end pages. We will use a range of stories. Some will be rhyming stories and others will be traditional stories, and the books we write will be in the same style as the books we share at story time each day.

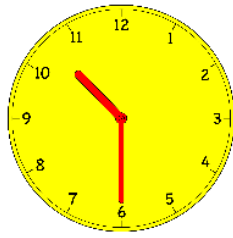


We will look at how the author engages the reader by using exciting verbs, and we will use these verbs in our own sentences to make our writing engaging to read.

### Mathematics

Our first topic this term is division. We will focus on recognising equal groups and will look at division as putting a total number of things e.g. chocolate buttons into equal groups and looking at what the division sentence would be. We will also look at division as sharing equally. Throughout this topic, which is often challenging for young children, we will use a range of mathematical equipment and sweets - both of which help children to understand this challenging concept. Following this, we will look at measuring length and height using non-standard measures and then progressing onto using metres and centimetres. After this, we will turn our attention to learning about fractions, which links well to the previous learning on division. We will use practical examples to learn about halves and

quarters of shapes and of quantities and explore how two quarters is equal to a half. After half term, we will be learning about telling the time. Children in Year 1 will learn to tell the time to the hour and half-past the hour, and children in Year 2 will also learn quarter to and quarter past the hour. Children in reception will continue to work on recognising quantities without counting and learning number bonds of numbers up to 10.



### Science

Our first topic is all about plant and animal habitats. We will explore the school site, the forest school and the Foxholes to find out which plants and animals are living in our local area and what they need to be able to thrive. We will also set up some birdfeeders and monitor the different



birds that visit them. We are planning a whole school visit to explore different

habitats later in the term.

Our second topic is about electricity. Children will learn how to keep safe around electrical appliances as part of this topic. We will find out what we use electricity for and then move onto learning how to make simple electrical circuits. We will investigate what happens if we add more bulbs or if we add a switch to our circuits.

### Religious Education

We will begin with thinking about what stories are special and why. To start with, we will explore some of our favourite stories and why we like them so much. We will then look at stories from the Bible, including our key story of the Good Shepherd and the story of David the shepherd boy from the Old Testament. We will then turn our attention to stories from Judaism and Islam and compare the messages of stories from different faiths. After half-term, we will be thinking about how we can care for others and why it is important. Again, we will be using Bible stories including the story of Jairus' daughter and thinking about the messages for Christians in these stories and thinking about how we can treat others with kindness and why it matters.



### Computing

We are learning about digital writing. We are using purple mash to learn where the keys are on the computer keyboard, and we will be using the software to write simple stories and captions linked to our farming topic. We will also focus on internet safety and what to do if you are worried about something online.

### Design and Technology

This term, we will be making moving pictures. We will begin by looking at a range of books which use different mechanisms. We will learn how to make effective flaps using a range of different materials and

shapes, and then we will learn how to make sliding mechanisms and simple levers. Throughout this project, children will work towards making their own moving picture book linked to our farming topic. We will then evaluate our books and make improvements if we need to.

### **Art**

This term, we are going to work on our exciting projects to display at the Farlow P.T.A. fete and show in September. We are going to combine the skills we have acquired over the course of the year to produce a 3D model of a farm, using sculpture, paint, drawing, and collage techniques to create something unique and special. We will spend some time designing our farm and practising different techniques before making our final versions.



### **P.E.**

The focus this half term is on athletics skills and the sessions are led by staff from Lacon Childe school. The children will learn running, jumping, and throwing skills and they will prepare for sports day later in the term. We will also be having gymnastics sessions at Farlow and Oretton village hall after half- term.

### **Music**

Music is an integral part of every day in our class. We do lots of work on rhythm, linked to speaking and listening activities, and we

also sing every day. Lots of the songs this term will link with our topic on farming e.g. Old Macdonald. We also use songs to explore rhyme. In music sessions, we will be learning about how to play glockenspiels, and we will learn about how to keep in time with others and play together. Hopefully, we will perform together to parents towards the end of term to show off our new skills! We are also working with Cleeton St. Mary church on a project linked to the local area. The children will perform with a live band at a concert later in the term, and they will also be involved in writing their own special song about the local area as part of this project.

### **Geography**

Our topic is all about farming. We will begin by looking at the farmland around school and thinking about what farms are used for. We will be visiting Home Farm on the Attingham Park estate as part of this, and I also hope to visit a dairy farm so that children gain an understanding of the different types of farms. We will think about why farming is important.



### **P.S.H.E.**

Our first topic is all about friendship and how to make good friendships. We will explore what it means to be a good friend and how to solve problems when we disagree

with others and remain friends. We will explore how it is important to use kind words when talking to and about others and why this is important. We will also talk about using a calm space to help us to remain calm when we feel upset.

After half term, we will be learning about how to deal with change. We will think about how we have changed since we were babies and the things we enjoy doing now compared to when we were younger. We will also learn to name body parts as part of this unit. We will think about how much we have changed over the last year at school by exploring what we can do now and what we are better at than we were at the beginning of the year. We will also talk about our memories and how we can look back at our favourite times, and we will talk about any worries we may have about change.

## News from Class 2

Welcome back to the summer term! We have another term of exciting learning planned for the term ahead. We also have lots of visits planned to enhance and embed the learning done in the classroom. This term our topic is history led on the Egyptians.

### English

This term our focus in English is to further develop our story writing skills. We will be reading stories linked to our history theme on the Egyptians. We will be exploring how the writers have used language to hook and engage the reader with a particular focus on sentence level work. Inspired by these models, the children will then write their own pieces of writing to describe settings and characters. They will use success criteria to guide the editing of their work.

The children will also be writing to inform readers about their research on the Egyptians. They will be reading a wide range of texts to see how the information is organised on a page and how ideas are put together in sentences.

This term we will be adapting how we develop spelling within years five and six. Every Monday the children will be given a spelling pattern to review and learn throughout the week. We will discuss the pattern during Monday's spelling and grammar session before the children are given time to identify some



words that fit the pattern. The following Monday they will be tested on a selection of words that fit that specific pattern. We adopted this approach last summer and the children responded positively. The aim is to focus more on the spelling patterns rather than the memorising of a selection of words, therefore improving spelling more broadly. Years three and four will continue their learning about suffixes and various graphemes for certain sounds found commonly within words. They will also be learning some common prefixes and begin to look at homophones (words which sound the same but have different meanings). During our grammar sessions this term we will be focusing on grammatical features of writing such as: progressive or continuous tenses, modal verbs and present perfect form. We will also be identifying some areas of grammar which need reviewing and embedding towards the end of the summer term.

During our Tuesday English sessions, we will be learning to write biographies. We will discuss what a biography is and its purpose to the reader. We will explore some features from short extracts in a variety of biographies before researching

a common subject on which to base our biography on. Following this we will choose our own subject to research and write a biography about. We will also review and practise editing skills throughout the writing process.

## Mathematics

To start the term, we are completing our work on fractions. The children in year five and six will be learning how multiply and divide fractions and the children in year three and four will be adding and subtracting simple fractions and finding fractions of quantities. In year six, they will also be learning about ratio and solving problems through applying their knowledge about this topic. After the children will be focusing on a unit on decimals and making links to contexts set in money and measures.

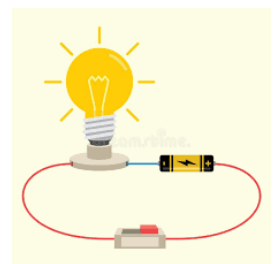
In mathematics in our Monday and Tuesday sessions, years three and four will finish off their work on length and perimeter where they will be calculating perimeters of rectilinear shapes and a variety of other polygons. They will then revisit time. This will begin with reviewing how to tell the time on an analogue clock to the minute as well as how to read time on a digital clock. The children will then be solving simple problems involving durations and conversions between minutes and seconds. Later in the term, the children will be moving on to learn about money. This will include how to correctly write money notation, converting between pounds and pence as well as solving simple problems with money including finding change.



Years five and six will be finishing their learning about volume and capacity by comparing volume and then estimating both volume and capacity before moving on to converting measures. This includes converting some units from the imperial system as well as the metric system. This area of maths will also look at time conversions and timetables. They will also be working to solve problems based around all areas of mathematics towards the end of the summer term as a way of reviewing and embedding the areas of mathematics they have covered so far.

## Science

In science the children will be learning about electricity in the first half of term and plants and animal habitats after half term. The children will be exploring how to make different circuits using a range of different components. They will explore the effect of adding more components to a circuit and increasing the power of the batteries to the brightness of the bulbs or the speed of the motor.



They will record their circuits using diagrams and in year 5 and 6 they will learn how to interpret and draw the electrical symbols to represent the components. After half term the children will be learning

about plant and animal habitats. The children will be learning how the plants and animals are adapted to living in the environment. We will be visiting Catherton Common to study the features of a heathland habitat and the Discovery centre at Craven Arms to learn about pond and meadow habitats.



### Computing

In computing, years three and four will explore photo editing. This will include developing their understanding of how digital images can be changed and edited, and how they can then be re-saved and re-used. Throughout this unit they will use Paint.net to rotate, crop and clone images. They will also consider both the positive and negative impacts that editing images can have. Years five and six will use the Scratch programming environment to develop their knowledge of writing programs and using selection to control outcomes to design a quiz in response to a given task. They will implement this as a program. Throughout this unit they will embed their knowledge of identifying conditions and outputs within programs and practise using selection via the If...then...else control block.

### Religious Education

In religious education, the children will finish their learning about what Christians believe Jesus did to save people. They will learn about the terms salvation and incarnation and how these link with what Christians believe about Jesus. They will also consider their own responses to the idea of sacrifice and think about what sacrifices they believe would be good to make the world a better place. Later in the term, we will explore the question, For Christians, what was the impact of Pentecost? The children will be introduced to (reviewed for some) the story of Pentecost particularly looking at symbolism within the story and the artwork that depicts it. We will explore, through text from the bible, what happens at the end of this story and therefore the impact this had at the time. We will link our ideas to previous learning about the Trinity of God and also to Christian beliefs today about what the 'kingdom of God' looks like. Towards the end of the term, we will be focusing on how faith helps when life gets hard. In looking at this, we will look at several faiths including: Christianity, Hinduism and some non-religious views, drawing similarities and comparisons between them to explore this idea from varying points of view as well as developing and exploring our own ideas around this subject.

## History

In history the children will be learning about the fascinating Egyptian civilization. The children will place this period in the historical timeline and discover all about their lifestyle and achievements. The children will be reading Egyptian myths and explore the significance of the gods and goddesses to the people living in this period. They will be exploring key historical concepts through the study including: agriculture, trade, settlement and kingdom. They will hopefully be making comparisons and links to other historical periods we have studied.



## Geography

In geography they will learn about the importance of the River Nile to the Egyptians. They will locate Egypt on a world map and draw maps to show the River Nile and the significant settlements which established near to it.

## Art

In art the children will be exploring hieroglyphics and using ink pens to create their own messages using the symbols. They will also be exploring the pottery made and used in this period. They will produce their own pots inspired by the designs studied.

## Design and Technology

In design and technology, the children will be learning about pulley systems as part of a mechanical control unit. They will explore how pulley systems can be used to lift loads in existing products and then carry out focused practical tasks to make their own system. Their final brief will be to design and make their own pulley system to lift a specified load.

## Music

This term, we will be learning a range of songs linked to the local area in preparation for a festival later in the summer term (details to follow when we have them!) We will be working with a local composer and musician to write our own song about the area to perform at the festival alongside a live band. We will also continue to learn more notes on the descant recorder, and we will be playing songs as a class. The music we listen to will be 20<sup>th</sup> Century music and we will see how composers use different effects to paint a musical picture. We will compose our own music to represent our local area.

## French

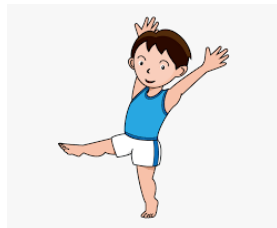
This term, we will begin with a focus on phonics in French so that we can decode words we do not recognise. We will then move onto learning about fruits and how to ask for different fruits in a shop and to talk about which ones we like and don't like. Our final topic is learning about habitats, which links with our learning in science this term.

## Personal Social Health Education

In P.S.H.E the children will be exploring two units. The first unit is focusing on relationships, exploring friendships and revisiting what bullying is and exploring how to deal with bullying. The second topic is focusing on the changes that pupils experience in transition to new classes and schools. This topic will also cover work on how their bodies change as they grow up. Details of the programme to be covered with pupils in year 5 and 6 will be shared with parents/carers later this term.

## P.E.

In P.E. the children will be developing cricket skills and small sided games led by Miss Eldridge from Lacon Childe. After half term, they will be having gymnastics lessons led by Miss Wain. These will be delivered in the Farlow and Oretton village hall.



In addition, the children will also be developing their athletics skills in preparation for Sports' Day. They will be practising their jumping, running and throwing skills.

## HOMEWORK

We really appreciate your support and engagement with your child's learning.

Reading - Please could you listen to your child read at home and log it in their reading diary.

Maths homework - Homework is given out on a Friday and should be completed and handed in by the following Wednesday. Times table practice should also be done on a regular basis. The children have access to Times table rock stars and Table trainer on Number Gym to help with this practice.

Thank you for your support.



## Dates at a Glance - Summer 2026



**LEARN SOMETHING  
NEW THIS SUMMER**

### April

- 13<sup>th</sup> - Summer term begins
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 study and snack afterschool club
- 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> - Year 5 & 6 Cardiff residential
- 15<sup>th</sup> - KS2 tennis afterschool club
- 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> - Year 3 & 4 Pioneer Centre residential
- 30<sup>th</sup> - Bags2School collection

### May

- 4<sup>th</sup> - May Bank Holiday - School Closed
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Class 1 visit to Home Farm, Attingham
- 11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 SAT's Week
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Class 1 visit to Acton Scott Heritage Farm
- 19<sup>th</sup> - Class 1 visit to Mawley Town Farm
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Class 2 visit to World Museum, Liverpool
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - KS2 summer sports festival at Lacon Childe

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - School closes for half term**

**1<sup>st</sup> June - School re-opens**

### June

- 2<sup>nd</sup> - School photographer
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Gymnastics afterschool club
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Whole school visit to Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre
- 17<sup>th</sup> - PTA meeting in school, 6:30pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 Crucial Crew - Bridgnorth
- 24<sup>th</sup> - KS2 Area Athletics at Lacon Childe
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 Leavers service at Hereford Cathedral
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Class 2 visit to Tutankhamun: The Immersive Exhibition, Birmingham
- 30<sup>th</sup> - Class 2 visit to Catherton Common
- 30<sup>th</sup> - Song on the Hill concert

### July

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - School sports' day at Kinlet Primary School
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 transition day at Lacon Childe
- 7<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 transition day at Lacon Childe
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Back up sports day date
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Parents' evening - whole school
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Leavers' forest party
- 17<sup>th</sup> - Leavers' service at St Giles' Church, Farlow

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July School closes for summer holidays**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July - PD Day**

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September - PD Day**

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September - school re-opens**

Please note - these dates are subject to change, please check weekly flyer for any updates and more details.

