

THE OTTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF OTTERBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.



Dear Families

It's not a regular occurrence but just occasionally I get to step away from the school to see more of the experiences we offer the children. Today, I had the absolute pleasure of watching our girls and boys football teams in a competition organised by Southampton FC. The way that our children conducted themselves, supported each other, demonstrated true teamwork and exhibited incredible sportsmanship was something that fills me with pride. It is one of our aspirations to give to all children who want it, the opportunity to represent the school. The children I saw today couldn't have represented it any better. The result was pretty impressive too with the girls taking second place and the boys topping their table. The next round beckons! Thanks need to go to Mr O'Dowd and Miss Squibb for organising our teams, and I need to give a special thanks to Liam Godfrey for managing the girls team. I now need to find a way to go to more sports events in the future!

Best wishes for a good weekend.

Mr Geraghty

The Future of FOS – A message from our committee

*Our Parent Teacher Association, "The Friends of Otterbourne School" (FOS) play a huge part in bringing together the school community, but they are desperately in need of new volunteers, particularly those with children in the younger years of our school who can help shape the future of fun and fundraising at the school. The current FOS committee consists of a small team, many of whom have children in Year 5/6 and will soon be leaving the school. Our current treasurer and our chair will both be stepping down at the AGM in March but they are both keen to stay a while longer for a transition period to support any parents who would be willing to take on these roles. The AGM will take place in school on **Friday 6th March at 2pm** and, to guarantee the future of our PTA and the various activities they organise for the children and community, we will need to elect a new chair and treasurer. All are welcome to attend!*

If you are interested in joining the committee or would like to find out more about the role of treasurer or chair, you can also email hello@friendsotterbourne.org

FOS Event Update

Last night the FOS meeting took place to review the Autumn Term events and look ahead to the rest of the year. The following events are in the plan, however some are only provisional at this point as more volunteers are needed before we can guarantee they will run. If you would like to offer to help organise one of the highlighted events, please email hello@friendsotterbourne.org

Friday 30th January – Family Quiz (please see the poster at the end of the newsletter for more information)

Friday 13th February – Wear What You Love Day and Bake Sale

Friday 13th March - Wonder Woman shop

Thursday 26th March – Easter Egg Hunt (volunteers needed)

Saturday 16th May – May Fayre (volunteers needed for BBQ, raffle prizes, food and drink and other features)

Friday 19th June – Hero Shop

Friday 3rd July - Sports Day Event (volunteers needed to organise food and drink)

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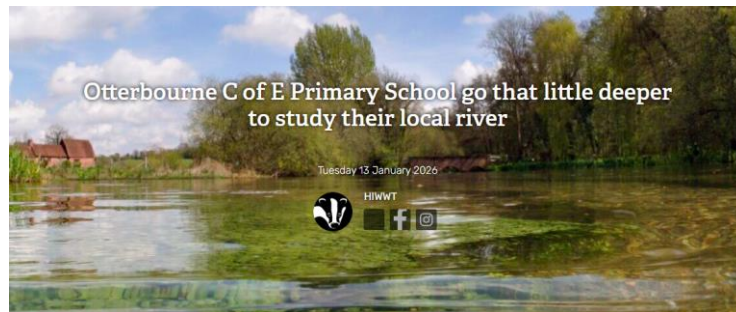
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Year 5/6 Rivers Project

Last term, you may remember hearing about our English and geography learning linked to our local chalk streams which led to us creating persuasive speeches to deliver to the local MP. We worked very closely with the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Trust on this unit of work, and they have just published a blog about the project. Please follow the link below to read more about it:

[Otterbourne C of E Primary School go that little deeper to study their local river | Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust](#)



LEARNING IN ACTION PHOTOS



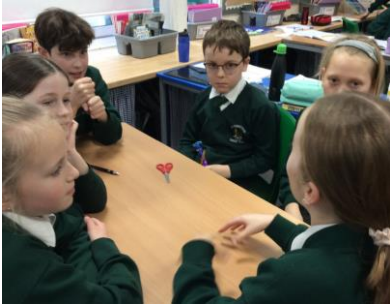
Year 5/6 children have been developing their understanding of chronology by ordering different periods of time they have learnt about through their school journey.



Year 3/4 children have launched their new geography unit 'Water, Water Everywhere?' with a hunt for sources of water in our school grounds. Sparrow Class discovered that precipitation can be snow, hail and rain during their hunt when they found that most of the water in our school grounds was frozen.

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Year 5/6 children have been practising their positive learning power of 'Active Listening' this week in their history lesson. They learnt about the different ways in which Ancient Greek states were governed and each group was given a different role and the question, "How do you feel about the way your city state is governed and why?". The children practised using sentence starters to help them respectfully build on and challenge the ideas of others and ensured everyone was included in the discussion.



After discovering the ice and snow last week, this week Otter Class had a great time splashing and exploring the puddles during their Forest School session. Mrs Bertacchini demonstrated her best balancing across the log obstacle course and the children joined in developing their core strength, co-ordination and balance whilst learning to take measured risks.

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FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT

PROVE YOU'RE THE CLEVER ONE IN THE FAMILY!
COME AND JOIN US AT OUR FIRST EVER FAMILY FRIENDLY QUIZ & BINGO NIGHT

Bring along your own snacks and we'll provide a cash/card bar.

Prizes for the winners and all money raised goes to the school.

FRIDAY 30TH JAN 26

FROM 5:30PM IN THE SCHOOL HALL, QUIZ STARTS AT 6PM

TICKETS
£3 INDIVIDUAL TICKETS
£10 FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR
2 YEAR OLDS AND UNDER GO FREE

Tickets can be purchased on class lists and any size team can enter – and we can pair you up with other families on the night, to give everyone a fair chance!