



**Forest Primary School**  
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Friday 11th April, 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

### End of Spring Term Newsletter

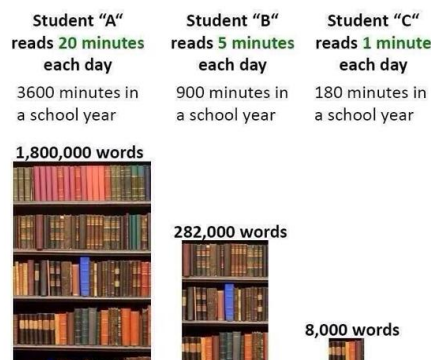
I wanted to begin by saying a massive thank you to all the staff, children and families for making me feel so welcome at Forest Primary. Many staff, children and parents/carers have described Forest as a family to me, I completely agree. I feel very privileged to now be part of the Forest Family!

This term I have enjoyed getting to know the children and the parents/carers. The children have had the opportunity to get to know me through question-and-answer sessions that I have done with each of the classes. Following the initial meet and greet for parents/carers at the whole school nativity productions in December, I have spoken with parents before and after school on the door and met with parents/carers at PTA Meetings. I also met with some of the year group representatives, and they shared what parents believe Forest does well and possible areas for improvement.

This term we have continued to support two local charities. The children created and wore bright ties for Loud Tie Day (Bowel Cancer Guernsey) and raised £198. We entered the Everest Challenge, raising funds for the Le Murier Outdoor Education and Residential Programme. Forest raised a huge £573! We also raised £401.27 for Comic Relief. Thank you so much for all your contributions and well done to everyone!

Forest entered various classes in this year's Eisteddfod. The KS2 choir placed 2nd with 'honours', a massive thank you to Miss Melding for working so hard with the children. Our Guernsey French Team have worked hard with Mr Dye. They performed a song and play, which they wrote themselves. They thoroughly enjoyed this experience. This week Year 5 and our school choir represented Forest by performing songs from Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat, they did a tremendous job representing the school.

It was great to see the children get involved in World Book Day. Many of the children know that one of my favourite phrases is "read, read, read". In February Half Term I introduced a reading challenge. 70 pupils completed the challenge, which is amazing. In assembly this half term we have talked about the importance of reading. At the end of this term Miss King and I met with each of the class teachers to discuss the progress of each child with regards to their academic learning across the curriculum. One of the common trends that came out of these meetings was some of our children are not reading at home. Reading is not only a relaxing pastime, but it also helps to provide a breadth of vocabulary which, in turn, supports children with their writing. Children can often be tired after a busy school day, and may attend extra-curricular activities outside of school, but it is important to try and read little and often.



Some of the children have requested that we do an Easter reading challenge, so this will be coming home today. They can earn house points and a certificate!

On Thursday 8th May we will celebrate Liberation Day in school. The children are invited to come to school on this day in red, white and/or blue or in Liberation themed fancy dress. More information will follow after the holidays. The community have been invited to take part in the L'Eree celebrations. This is not organised by school and staff will not be supervising pupils for this event, however everyone is welcome to take part. Please see the poster below for more information:

**ST. PIERRE DU BOIS**

**LIBERATION 80**  
1945 2025

**Join our L'Eree Parade!**

Our Community welcomes you out west to celebrate with us at L'Eree on this special 80th anniversary.

Join our People's Parade and  
**LET'S PARTY like it's 1945!**

Email to register:  
annethomas@cwgsy.net

**Evening Press**  
Friday May 9th ~ 12.30 ~ Watch from L'Eree common  
**PEACE AND LIBERATION**

Thank you for all your support this term. I would like to wish you all a wonderful Easter, and I am looking forward to seeing you all at the start of the Summer Term.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs N. Wilbraham

### Here are a few highlights from this term...

#### Reception

What a great Spring Term we have had together. I have absolutely loved teaching Reception, they are a great class. We have been working hard on developing the characteristics of effective learning which underpin the early years curriculum; - playing and exploring, active learning and creating and thinking critically.

In Maths, we have been learning to identify, make and order numbers to 10. We have been identifying and naming 2D shapes and finding these in the environment. During continuous provision, the children have had the opportunity to compare masses, find objects that balance and explore capacity.

In English, during Drawing Club, the children have explored the texts of 'We're going on a Bear Hunt', 'Not Now Bernard', 'Jack and The Beanstalk' and 'Where The Wild Things Are'. They have created their own characters, setting and

adventure. The children have been working hard on learning their sounds, applying these in their writing and forming their letters. I'm looking forward to the Summer Term with the children and wish you a super Easter holiday.



## Year 1

We have all learned so much since January. We can now count to much higher numbers both forwards and backwards and we can count in "jumps" of ten; we have learned about halves; we've learned about quarters; and we have discovered different ways of displaying information.

We have been exploring Animals Including Humans and building knowledge and thinking skills as we learn more ways to sort and classify as well as what we need to survive. As Musicians we are building skills in telling stories using sounds from instruments including percussion and tuned instruments.

Art has helped us learn about colour mixing, using paint and two famous artists as inspiration- Clarice Cliff and Paul Klee. Our creativity has been used to tell stories, re-enact scenes from traditional tales and write our own stories with the intent to entertain a reader as well. We have listened to so many stories and read a lot too. We read with adults at school but best of all we read to Evie, our friendly Cockapoo, each week.

We have been in Year One for more than 130 days and we are absolutely 130 days cleverer, kinder and more confident. Imagine how much we will achieve in the summer term!

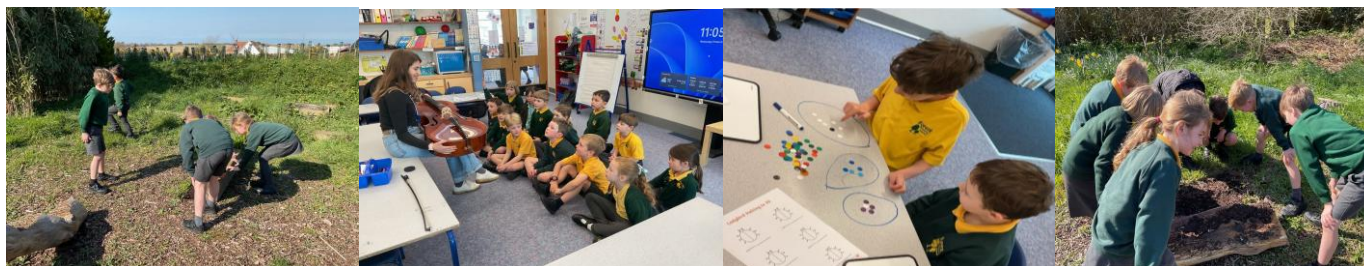


## Year 2

This term, Year 2 has had a fantastic time filled with both learning and fun! We kicked off our guided reading sessions with the captivating book 'Fantastic Mr. Fox', and the children have been thoroughly engaged. In Math, we've been diving into fractions and have made remarkable progress. Our creativity also flourished in DT, where we designed and built our

very own moving monsters! We even went on a nature walk in Science to explore and observe local invertebrates in the outdoor area. Additionally, Mrs. Norris has taken us on an exciting journey through History, teaching us all about castles!

In writing, we really enjoyed creating our own story called 'Lost in the Zoo'. We worked hard to use adverbs to describe how things happened, making our stories come to life in exciting and detailed ways! On top of all of this, we had ten amazing weeks of music lessons delivered by Miss G from the Guernsey Music Service. We even had the privilege of listening to her play the Cello on our very last lesson. How amazing!



### Year 3

Year 3 has enjoyed a fantastic term! We were lucky enough to have Arts for Guernsey instruct us in various art techniques, resulting in the creation of beautiful sea-inspired artwork. In Geography, we explored the fascinating world of volcanoes, while Science introduced us to the concepts of forces, rocks, and soils. Art sessions were dedicated to designing and constructing abstract sculptures, and in PE, we honed our skills in netball, tag rugby, and gymnastics. A special highlight has been our dance lessons with Mr. and Mrs. Penney, where we learned ballroom dances such as the cha cha cha, quickstep, rock 'n' roll, and waltz. History lessons with Mrs. Norris immersed us in Roman civilization, and Religious Education explored Jewish celebrations. We also celebrated Chinese New Year alongside Reception, creating pentatonic melodies and performing a very exciting dragon dance and enjoyed reading George's Marvellous Medicine and the Iron Man.

Beyond the classroom, we visited the Guernsey Dairy, Candie Museum, and the PRCPA, and shared a delightful Cultural Enrichment meal at Les Cotils.



### Year 4

Year 4 have been busy this Spring term. We participated in the Liberation bunting project and are really looking forward to seeing our bunting up in town ready for the 80th Liberation celebrations! We've been lucky enough to have PWC Hive Hackers in this term for our computing lessons delivering coding sessions. The children have been really creative coding their different projects and have learnt all about forever loops. In Geography we have investigated 'Does everyone have

access to safe drinking water?’ As part of this learning, we visited the reservoir with Guernsey water who explained how Guernsey’s water is made safe for us to drink. It’s not been quiet in our music lessons this term as the whole class has been learning to play the trumpet with Mr Hatton from the Guernsey Music Service ready for our concert at the end of term. We’ve also had AJ from the sports commission deliver our first two lessons on Water Safety as part of the AquaSmart schools course which covers various water safety topics, including swimming skills, recognising hazards in and around water and the importance of responsible behaviour in aquatic environments. Next term we’re looking forward to our practical beach session with AJ where we will put our skills into practice and have some fun in the water!



In Year 5, there have been many highlights this term. We have been learning about Computer Science through the Hive Hackers course, with the support of PWC. The children have been taught how to use block coding to make a variety of games, learning about algorithms, sequencing, loops, debugging, conditionals and events. In Maths, Elizabeth College teachers and students came to Forest to put on a ‘Maths Roadshow’ where the children were able to experiment with a range of problem-solving activities. In Geography, we have been learning about coasts: coastal erosion, in particular. The children had the opportunity to go on a visit to Pembroke, Port Soif and Vazon to see the different types of sea defences that Guernsey uses to protect the coastline from sea erosion. In RE, we have been fortunate to have the PACE team come in to teach the children about the Old Testament in the Bible. For Music, Year 5 were given the fantastic opportunity to perform songs for the ‘Joseph the Musical’ performance at The Royal Performing Arts Centre. In PE, the children have enjoyed having the development officer, Scarlett, in to teach them further rules and skills.



## Year 6

Year 6 has had a very exciting term! The children’s favourite topic has definitely been World War II and they have been completely engrossed by our class text, ‘Once’, which is set during the Holocaust. We have also been learning about Coasts, Sikhism and Evolution and Adaptation. In Art, we have enjoyed designing and sculpting clay vases and we have been practising our cookery skills in Design and Technology.

Outside of the classroom, we have been fortunate enough to participate in a myriad of extra-curricular activities. Charles, Elliot and Ben represented the school superbly in the De Putron Challenge and we all enjoyed being super supporters. Several of the girls played in the Island School Netball tournament and we entered a team of climbers into the Everest Challenge. We were also lucky enough to be involved in a photoshoot for the Liberation 80 events at L’Eree Beach.



**PTA**

A massive thank you to the Forest PTA who organised an amazing disco evening for our Reception/Key Stage 1 children and our Key Stage 2 children. Thank you to the Pupil Leadership Team for speaking to their peers and suggesting a playlist for the evening, and an extra special thank you to Mr Bolger for creating the playlist and being a fabulous DJ in the evening. There were some fabulous dance moves! The PTA raised £427.67.

The next PTA Meeting will be on Tuesday 6th May at 6pm at school. Everyone is invited!

**Dates for your Diary!**

Date	Details
<b>Thursday 1st May</b>	Year 3 Sleepover
<b>Monday 5th May</b>	School Closed - May Day Bank Holiday
<b>Tuesday 6th May 6pm</b>	PTA Meeting - everyone is welcome!
<b>Thursday 8th May</b>	School Liberation Celebrations (more information to follow after Easter Holidays)
<b>Friday 9th May</b>	School Closed - Liberation Day
<b>Monday 12th - Friday 16th May</b>	Year 5 France Residential (see letters sent home)
<b>Thursday 22nd May 6 - 7pm</b>	New Reception (September 2025) Welcome Meeting
<b>Friday 23rd May pm</b>	Sports Day (more information to follow)
<b>Monday 26th - Friday 30th May</b>	School Closed - Half Term
<b>Monday 9th - Wednesday 11th June</b>	Year 4 Lihou Residential (see letter sent home)
<b>Tuesday 10th June</b>	Year 6 Transition Visit 1
<b>Friday 20th June</b>	Summer Fayre (timings TBC)
<b>Monday 23rd June</b>	Year 6 Transition Visit 2
<b>Friday 27th June (dress rehearsal) 13:30 Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd July 18:00</b>	Y6 End of year production
<b>Monday 7th - Friday 11th July</b>	Year 6 Camp Residential
<b>Friday 18th July 1pm</b>	End of term (no buses)

### **Attendance Matters! So far so good! But did you know...**

Arriving at school on time and ready to learn is the best possible start to the day for our children.

Did you know that being even 5 minutes late per day can add up to 3.4 school days (more than 20 hours) of learning missed a year?

Parents and carers have a legal responsibility to ensure their children are receiving efficient full-time education. The expectation of the Committee for Education, Sport and Culture and one that Forest Primary School shares, is that our children achieve at least 95% attendance. Any child whose attendance falls below 90%, for whatever reason, including sickness absence and holidays, therefore becomes a serious cause for concern as this will constitute at least 20 days of absence across a full school year.

### **Nut Allergy**

We have several children with a severe and potentially life-threatening allergy to nuts and nut-based products.

Therefore, as a school we would like to ask for your help and support in reducing their exposure to these products.

**We would ask that your child does not bring in, for a snack or in their lunchbox, any packets of nuts. This also applies to their sandwiches, please do not supply peanut butter or 'Nutella' type spreads as they do contain nuts.**