



Fawbert & Barnard's Primary School

Newsletter 15

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a wonderful first term, I want to take a moment to thank you all for your unwavering support and contributions to our school community. This has been a long and eventful 15-week term, and we can certainly tell that the children—and the adults—are ready for a well-deserved break!

This week, we enjoyed the RockSteady Concert, which was a true highlight. It was a delight to see our talented children playing a variety of instruments and singing with such confidence and joy. Well done to all of them for their hard work and enthusiasm!

We also held our Christingle assembly to reflect and celebrate the meaning of Christmas. A heartfelt thank you to the Friends Committee for providing so many oranges for the Christingle activity. The children thoroughly enjoyed crafting their Christingles! Still in the festive spirit, the children have been busy making Christmas cards and calendars. A special mention goes to Year 6, who created stunning watercolour designs for their calendars—do take a look at the next page to see the exceptional quality of their work! And for this term's final Class Corner, Year 1 has shared some wonderful activities they've been working on. I'm sure you'll enjoy seeing what they've been up to.

Looking ahead, we have lots of exciting events planned for next term, and I encourage you to take note of the key dates so you don't miss out on any of the activities.

Regularly, we will now have a Home Learning page in the newsletter to give parents ideas of the key concepts the children are learning in school. This will include practical activities, discussion prompts, and creative ways to support your child's learning at home. By sharing these ideas, we hope to strengthen the partnership between home and school, making learning a shared journey.

I'd also like to share some fantastic news from our School Council. I received a very persuasive letter from the Chair of the Council, requesting permission to host a book sale. I am thrilled to say I gave a resounding "yes" to their proposal. Their enthusiasm and initiative are truly inspiring! You'll find the letter on page 4, along with details of the book sale. I hope many of you will support this wonderful event.

As we continue to foster a love of reading across the school, we are still open to having volunteers join us to help listen to children read. If you can spare just one hour a week, we would love for you to join our volunteering team. It's a fantastic way to make a difference in the children's literacy development and be part of our school community.

Once again, thank you for an incredible term. Your involvement, whether through attending events, supporting activities, or simply cheering on the children, makes all the difference.

I wish you all a joyful and restful Christmas celebration. May it be filled with love, laughter, and cherished moments with family and friends. I look forward to welcoming you back in January 2025.

Warm regards,
Sophia Ovonler
Headteacher







Achievements

Please see below for some of the achievements that were celebrated this week.

AWARD	WINNER
Timestables Rockstar Cup	Year 5
Numbots Cup	Year 2
Timestables Rockstar champion	Paris
Numbots champion	Sydney
STARS OF THE WEEK	
Reception	James
Year 1	Ollie
Year 2	Olivia
Year 3	Wren
Year 4	Samuel
Year 5	Darcey
Year 6	Mason
ANTI-BULLYING POSTER COMPETITION WINNERS	
Year 1	Eloise, Felicity, Amber, Jemima, Jacob
Year 2	Ema, Zak, Nell
Year 3	Wren, Livia, Isla
Year 4	Lyla - Rose, Robbie, Sophia, Margarita
Year 5	Robyn, Daisy, Poppy
Year 6	Scarlett R , Scarlett M, Grace

Congratulations!

Letter from School Council

Dear Mrs Ovonlen,

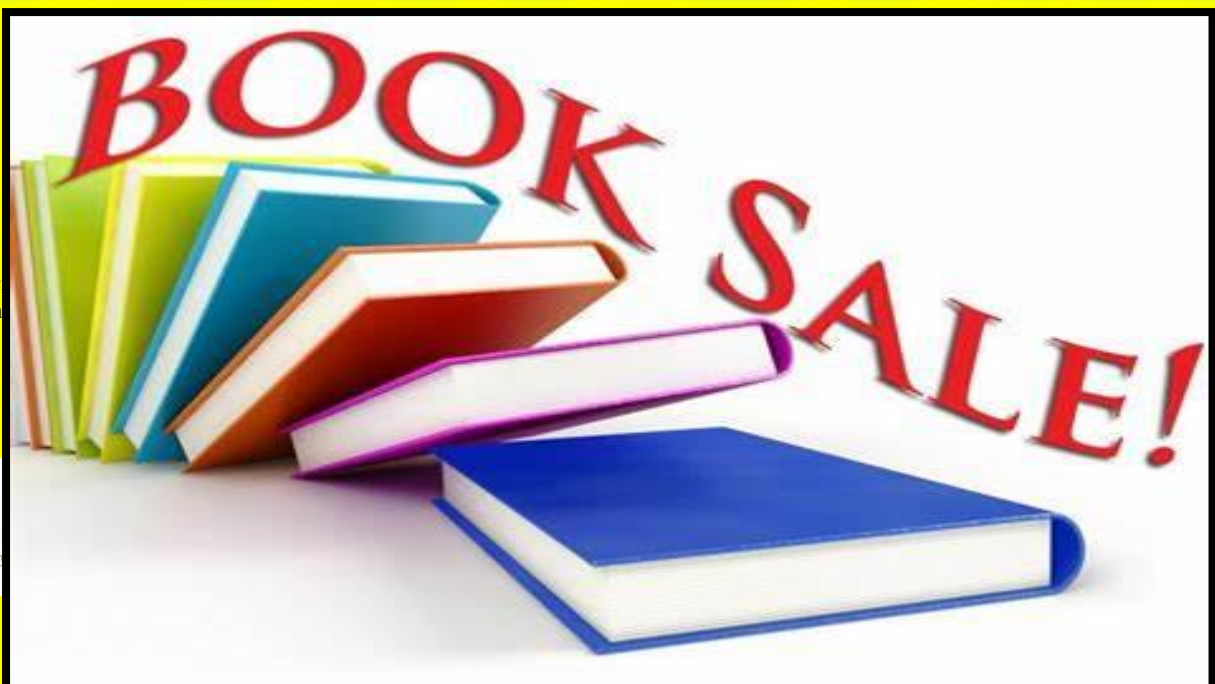
I am writing to you on behalf of the school council to inform you about our proposal for a book sale.

As school council, we are currently devising ideas for this sale. We would like to have the sale in school on the 13th of January 2025. The idea is that our parents and children will donate pre-loved (in good condition) books for the book sale. The book sale will be hosted in the library; it will be open for anyone who is willing to buy. The money raised will go towards getting more books for the school

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan

Chair of School Council.



Year 1 Class corner

What an incredible half term it has been in Year 1! We've been so busy with exciting activities, especially as we got closer to Christmas. Of course, our proudest moment was The Bethlehem Bake Off, our unforgettable school play. The children were fantastic as they dressed up as characters from the Nativity, brought the story to life with a fun baking twist, and sang their hearts out. We were amazed at how well they remembered their cues, followed dance actions, and delivered such a wonderful performance. A big well done to all of them—we couldn't be prouder!

In Maths, we've been diving into numbers within 20. The children have been busy building numbers using various resources, discussing their creations, and exploring new mathematical vocabulary. It's been brilliant to see them growing in confidence and understanding as they work with numbers in such a hands-on way.

Our writing focus has been inspired by the story *The Lost Property Office*, a heartwarming tale about a girl who loses her teddy. The children have worked hard to write the story, innovate their own versions, and have even written diaries. We've been blown away by the creativity and effort in their work, and it's been wonderful to see so many children bringing in diaries from home for show and tell. Thank you for encouraging their enthusiasm for writing—it truly shines!

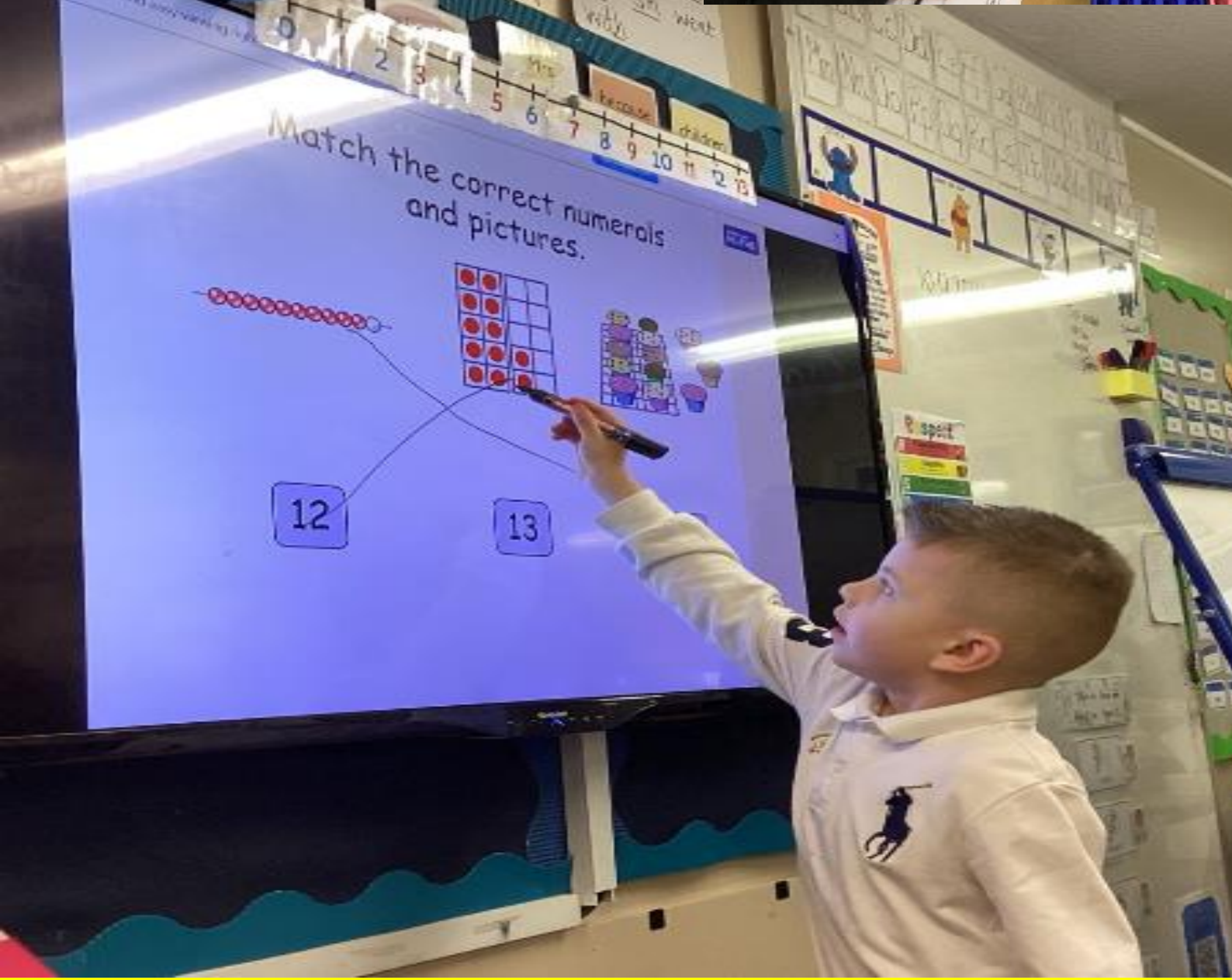
In art, we've been experimenting with shapes and trying out different materials to draw and create with. Using pastels was a big hit, even if it was a bit messy! The children loved exploring how different tools could bring their artwork to life.

We were lucky to visit St Mary's church in Churchgate to explore how communities come together during a celebration. It was so well organised by the volunteers, and we had a wonderful time doing crafts, role-play and a quiz. We finished off with a cake, party ring and glass of squash - just like a celebration! The children represented the school fabulously and made us very proud.

As we wind down to Christmas, there's still plenty to look forward to, including our activity afternoon and the beautiful Christingle assembly. Thank you so much for all your support this term. Year 1, you have made such a wonderful transition and are growing up so quickly! Have a restful break, and we can't wait to see you all in the new year!

Warm wishes,

The Year 1 Team



Calling All Parents and Carers!

Become a Volunteer Reader at Fawbert and Barnard's!

Do you have an hour or so to spare during the school day? Would you like to make a lasting impact on the lives of our children? At F&B, we are passionate about raising the profile of reading and fostering a love of books next term. But we need your help!

Why Volunteer as a Reader?

Reading is the foundation of learning, and with your support, we can:

- Boost children's confidence and fluency in reading.
- Spark imagination and creativity.
- Cultivate a lifelong love for books and stories.

Whether it's reading one-on-one with a child or sharing a story with a small group, your time can make all the difference.

What's Involved?

It's simple! If you have an hour or more to spare during the school day, you can volunteer to read with our pupils. We will provide guidance and support to make your time enjoyable and rewarding. No previous experience is needed—just a willingness to help and a love for reading.

Interested?

If you'd like to get involved or learn more, please contact the school office. We'd be thrilled to have you join us!

Thank you for your support!



Dates for your diary

Autumn Term 2025	
19 th December	School finishes at 13:30
20 th December	INSET DAY
23 rd December - 3 rd January - Holidays	
6 th January	Children return to school
13 th January	Phonics Workshop for KS 1 parents
13 th January	School Council' Book Sale in the library
14 th January	Phonics Workshop for KS 2 parents
15 th January	Year 2 visit to Tower of London
16 th January	Community officer visit to school
29 th January	Scholastic Book Fair
31 st January	Open Book Afternoon
3 rd February	Parents Consultations
7 th February	Open Book Afternoon
10 th February	Parents Consultations
17 - 21 February	Half term holidays
3 rd - 7 th March	World Book Week
6 th March	World Book Day
27 th March	Year 4 visit to Wildlife Park
7 th - 18 th April - Holidays	

access the internet.

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Parents Page



**Safer
Places**

visit our
**Women's
Centres**



Monday - Friday
09:00 - 17:30

Open to any women in the Harlow
or Waltham Cross community.

Support, advice and advocacy relating to
mental health, wellbeing, housing issues,
legal issues, employability, domestic
abuse, sexual abuse and stalking.

www. saferplaces.co.uk
Tel. 03301 025 812

Charity no. 1018832
Company no. 2789572



Home Learning Page

Exploring 2-D Shapes

What are 2-D Shapes?

2-D shapes, or "two-dimensional shapes," are flat shapes that only have length and width. They don't have depth, so they cannot be held like 3-D shapes. Examples of 2-D shapes include triangles, squares, rectangles, pentagons, and hexagons.

How to Recognise 2-D Shapes

Children can identify 2-D shapes by their properties:

- **Sides:** These are the straight lines that form the shape.
- **Vertices:** These are the points where two sides meet (often called "corners").
For example:
 - A **triangle** has 3 sides and 3 vertices.
 - A **square** has 4 equal sides and 4 vertices.
 - A **rectangle** has 4 sides (with 2 pairs of equal sides) and 4 vertices.

Supporting Learning at Home

Here are some ways to explore 2-D shapes with your child:

- **Shape Hunt:** Look for 2-D shapes around your home or outdoors (e.g., a rectangular door, a circular plate).
- **Drawing and Counting:** Encourage your child to draw shapes and count their sides and vertices.
- **Using 3-D Shapes:** Trace the faces of 3-D objects like boxes or cans to explore 2-D shapes.

Encourage Curiosity

Remember, 2-D shapes come in all sizes and orientations. A square can be rotated and still remain a square! Help your child spot these variations to deepen their understanding.

As your child progresses, they'll learn more about symmetry, angles, and how 2-D shapes relate to 3-D shapes. For now, exploring these basics will give them a great start!

Enjoy learning together!

2-D shapes example questions

Year 1

1 Label the shapes.

Use the word bank to help you.

square rectangle circle triangle



Year 2

3 Tick the shapes with 6 vertices.



Talk to a partner about your answers.

Year 3

Draw the shape that is being described.

- It is a quadrilateral.
- It has equal sides.
- The opposite sides are parallel.
- There are no sets of perpendicular lines.
- It has 2 obtuse angles and 2 acute angles.

Year 4

4 Match the types of triangles to the definitions.

scalene

2 sides and
2 angles equal

equilateral

no sides or
angles equal

isosceles

all sides and
all angles equal

Year 5

Teddy draws a shape with four straight lines.

There are four right angles in Teddy's shape.

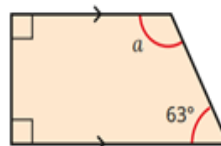
Is Teddy's shape regular, irregular or is it impossible to tell?

Explain your answer.

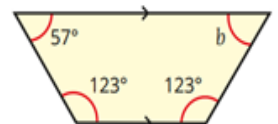
Year 6

3 Work out the size of the unknown angle in each trapezium.

a)



b)



$$a = \boxed{}^\circ$$

$$b = \boxed{}^\circ$$

What is the same and what is different about the trapeziums?