

Term 1 Newsletter



SALFORD PRIORS CofE ACADEMY

OCTOBER 2025

WELCOME TO OUR End Of Term Newsletter

As we come to the end of a busy and exciting term, it is a pleasure to reflect on the many achievements and memorable moments that have filled our school community with pride. From the youngest pupils in Reception settling into school life, to the older children embracing new challenges and opportunities, there has been a real sense of growth, enthusiasm, and togetherness. This newsletter shares just some of the highlights from across the term, celebrating the hard work of our pupils and staff, and the continued support of our families.



Bell Boating

This term, our pupils were given the exciting opportunity to take part in Bell Boating, an activity that proved to be both adventurous and great fun. For many children, it was their first experience of being out on the water, and the sense of teamwork and excitement was clear to see. Laughter, smiles, and plenty of splashes made the day a truly memorable one.

Beyond the fun, Bell Boating offered our pupils a valuable life experience that they will carry with them. Trying something new outside the classroom encouraged resilience and perseverance, while also helping the children to build confidence in their own abilities. Experiences like these can often spark a longer-term interest in outdoor activities or water sports, broadening horizons and inspiring future passions.



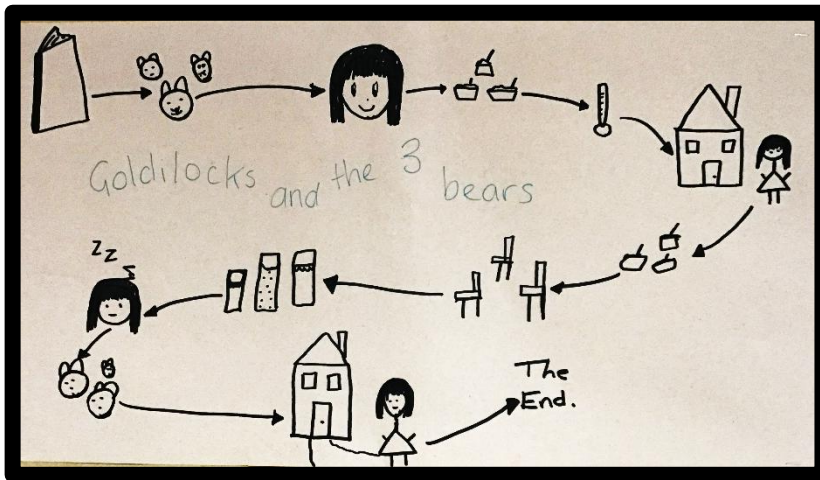
As well as learning practical skills, the pupils discovered new ways to work together and support one another. Bell Boating highlighted the importance of communication, cooperation, and trust—all while enjoying themselves in a unique setting. This blend of challenge, teamwork, and enjoyment is a powerful reminder that learning can happen in many different environments, and we are delighted that our children had the chance to take part.

Reception



Our Reception pupils have now completed their very first term at primary school, and what a busy and exciting start it has been! This first term has been full of new experiences, challenges, and achievements. The children have adapted wonderfully to the routines of school life and have shown great enthusiasm for every opportunity presented to them. Most importantly, this term has balanced structure and guidance with the vital element of play, ensuring that learning feels meaningful and enjoyable.

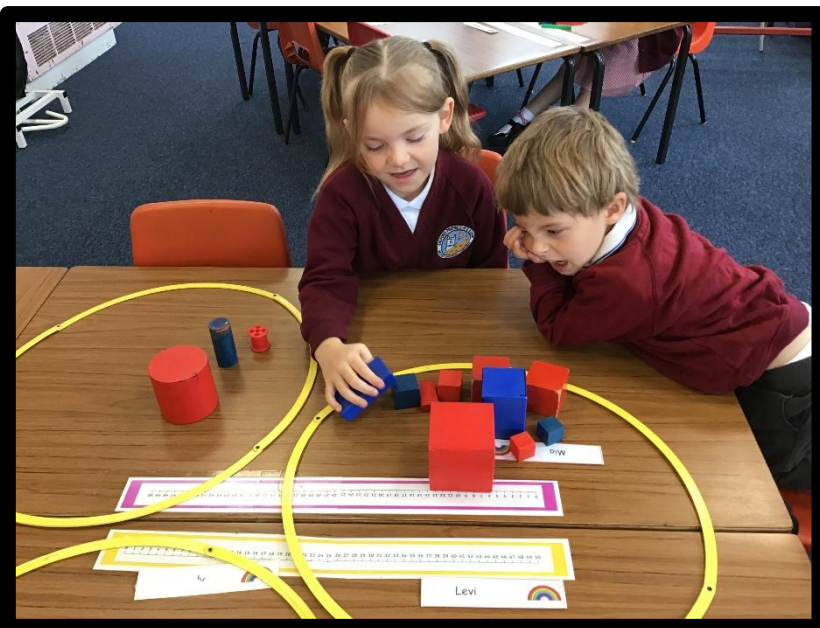
Play has been at the heart of our learning journey, providing the children with opportunities to explore, experiment, and create. Through play, pupils have been able to develop curiosity, resilience, and independence while building confidence in their new environment. This child-led approach has been carefully supported with adult guidance, allowing children to make links in their learning and build foundations for future success.



Storytelling sessions have encouraged imagination, while opportunities for writing and re-enacting stories have developed early literacy skills in engaging and meaningful contexts. Taking on the roles of characters and acting out events has allowed children to deepen their understanding of narrative, while also boosting confidence in speaking and listening.



Collaboration has also been a central part of the Reception experience this term. Working in small groups has given children valuable opportunities to practise turn-taking, sharing, and listening to one another's ideas. These social skills are crucial in building a positive classroom community where everyone feels valued and included. It has been wonderful to see the pupils grow not only in their academic abilities but also in their capacity to work together with kindness and respect.



Mathematics

In mathematics, pupils have been introduced to important concepts through the use of concrete resources such as counters, blocks, and sorting objects. These hands-on experiences have supported active engagement and helped to secure early mathematical understanding. A memorable activity this term involved exploring Venn diagrams, where children sorted items into sets and identified similarities and differences. These experiences have provided an excellent foundation for logical thinking and problem-solving.



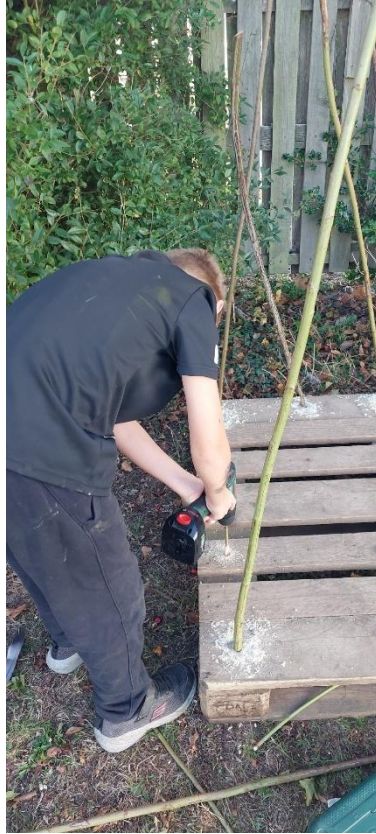


Music

A particular highlight this term has been the introduction of weekly music tuition. Music has provided not only great joy but also powerful benefits for the children's development. Research shows that regular musical experiences strengthen memory, improve listening skills, and enhance language development. In addition, making and enjoying music together has helped the pupils to build friendships, cooperate as a group, and express their emotions in a safe and creative way.



Forest School



Multiplication Facts

This term our focus in maths in Key Stage 2 has been on rehearsing multiplication facts to build fluency and automatic recall. Each day the children spend 10 minutes practising their times tables, which helps them become quicker and more confident when working with numbers.

As part of the national curriculum, all Year 4 pupils in the UK will take the Multiplication Tables Check later this academic year. This short online test is designed to assess how well children can recall their multiplication facts up to 12×12 . To support your child, we kindly suggest that parents take opportunities to practise times tables at home whenever possible.

In our Key Stage 2 classrooms, the interactive Mathematics table is updated regularly to provide fresh and engaging activities for pupils. This space allows children to freely explore maths concepts, practise skills they have been taught, and enjoy learning in a more informal and hands-on way.

The table is designed to support both collaborative group work and individual practice, giving pupils the chance to discuss ideas with peers or work independently at their own pace.

By changing the activities often, we ensure that the table remains exciting and motivating, helping children to build confidence and enthusiasm for mathematics.

Practise, Practise



$$2 \times 4 = 8$$

$$2 \times 40 = 80$$

$$2 \times 400 = 800$$

$$2 \times 4000 = ?$$

$$16 \div 2 = 8$$

$$160 \div 2 = 80$$

$$1600 \div 2 = 800$$

$$16000 \div 2 = ?$$

$$10 - 2 = 8$$

$$100 - 20 = 80$$

$$1000 - 200 = 800$$

$$10000 - 2000 = ?$$

Reading



Reading continues to be at the heart of learning across the school, and this term we have been emphasising the importance of reading regularly and enjoying a wide variety of texts. Pupils benefit from dedicated reading time and a calm, inviting space in their classrooms, where they can immerse themselves in stories, information books, and poetry. Developing the habit of daily reading helps children to strengthen their vocabulary, comprehension, and imagination, while also nurturing a lifelong love of books.

To further support this love of reading, we have introduced a new initiative: *Drop Everything and Read*. Every Tuesday and Thursday morning, just before lunch, the whole school pauses to enjoy a few uninterrupted minutes of reading. This shared experience reinforces the value we place on books and allows children to see reading as both a personal pleasure and a community activity. The enthusiasm for these sessions has been wonderful, and pupils look forward to the quiet enjoyment of their chosen texts.

Looking ahead, we are delighted to share that the Key Stage 2 library will be undergoing a re-style and refurbishment in the coming weeks. The refreshed space will feature lively, engaging, and thought-provoking literature to inspire all readers, while still honouring the classics that have stood the test of time. Our aim is to create a welcoming environment that encourages pupils to explore new genres, discover favourite authors, and see reading as an exciting journey that opens up endless possibilities.



Adaptive Learning Provision



This term we have adapted one of our learning spaces to better support pupils who benefit from a lower sensory environment and more room for self-regulation. The space provides a calm and structured setting where children can feel secure and ready to learn. It has already been very well received, with pupils showing greater levels of focus, calmness, and enjoyment in their daily routines. As a result, many of these children are experiencing more productive and positive days at school.

Alongside this, timetables for pupils with additional needs have been carefully structured to closely follow the recommendations of specialist teachers. This consistency, combined with daily lessons in social skills and emotional regulation, ensures that pupils are not only supported academically but are also developing the personal tools they need to thrive. We are delighted with the progress they have made this term and look forward to building on this foundation in the months ahead.

Meditation and Snuggles



On the last day of term, Key Stage 2 pupils had the special opportunity to experience a sound-bath, an immersive sound experience where participants listen to music created by chimes, bells, singing bowls, and other percussion instruments. These carefully chosen sounds are designed to promote rest, ease, and wellbeing, and evidence highlights their therapeutic value in helping participants feel calmer, more relaxed, and at peace. The 30-minute session was led by the Head Teacher and offered a new and exciting way for pupils to explore mindfulness and relaxation within the school day.

The children approached the session with great enthusiasm, and for some, the excitement made it difficult to remain still at first. However, once the experience was underway, pupils quickly settled into the atmosphere and enjoyed the calming sounds around them. Almost all pupils expressed how much they valued the session, with many requesting that it becomes a regular feature of school life.

We are pleased to confirm that the next sound-bath will take place on **Friday 5th December**, and we look forward to sharing this enriching experience with the children once again.

Reflection from the Head Teacher

As we reach the end of this first term, I am delighted to share what a fantastic start we have had to the new academic year. Pupils have adapted confidently to their new class structures and routines, showing resilience, enthusiasm, and a real appetite for learning. We have been particularly pleased with the impact of individual and small group tuition that some children are receiving. These sessions are already accelerating progress and helping to close important gaps in knowledge and skills, ensuring that every child is supported in reaching their full potential.

This term we have also been very happy to welcome Mr. Shah to our teaching team. Mr. Shah has been working closely with groups of children across the school, focusing on strengthening comprehension skills, consolidating key mathematical foundations, and ensuring that both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils have dedicated support time. His contribution has been a valuable addition to our provision, and we are already seeing the positive effect his expertise is having on pupil confidence and attainment.

As we look forward to the upcoming break, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our pupils, parents, and carers a restful and enjoyable holiday. Whether it is spending time with family and friends, enjoying a well-earned lie-in, or curling up with a good book, I hope everyone finds time to recharge and return refreshed for the new term ahead. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Mrs. D. Gibbs-Naguar
Head Teacher

Upcoming Events

November

First Day of Term 2 – 03rd

- **Forest School** – *every Monday*
- **Non-contact Boxing** – *Lunctime Club – every Friday*
- Music Tuition
- Plastic Waste - Visitor Assembly – **05th**
- Warwickshire Health – Weighing & Measuring – **06th**
- Switch Off Week – *sustainability awareness* – **10th – 14th**
- Remembrance Day – **11th**
- Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal
- Public Speaking Workshop – **Key Stage 2 – 25th**
- **Celebration Assembly – 28th**
- Singing at Salford Priors Lighting Up Event – **29th**