

Dear parents and carers

In the new term we hope you will join the staff in welcoming our new head of school, Charlotte Fautley.

This is a message she has written about her aspirations & experience:



*I am a forward facing and creative leader with leadership experience across inner London schools. I have a strong knowledge about all year groups as a result of my experience teaching across all phases. I have led KS1 and KS2 SATs and worked as a moderator for the local authority for both. My degree was in English Literature, where my passion lies. I am an avid reader who will digest books in a couple of hours! I like to encourage this love of literature in pupils in my care.*

*I am excited about joining Princess Frederica to continue building on the secure foundations and excellent community relationships, whilst bringing my fresh enthusiasm and experience.*

### **What has been happening this term?**

**Nursery** have had a fantastic term getting to know each other and learning the routines of our school. We have discovered and enjoyed many storybooks together and had loads of fun both indoors and outside, exploring and experimenting with materials and natural resources. We hope everyone has a restful and joyous Christmas and New Year! See you in January.

Ms Greenaway

This term has been amazing for **Reception Dandelion**. The children have grown so much, and I love their enthusiasm for learning. It's been a privilege to be part of their journey, and I can't wait to see how they continue to grow by the end of the year. Thank you for all your support.

Ms Perez

**Reception Buttercup** have made an excellent start to their school careers, and it is a pleasure to work with them. The team couldn't be prouder of the children's learning and behaviour, and we love the fun, positivity and curiosity they come to school with each morning. We would like to thank all of the families for working closely with us to help the transition to school life, and we look forward to the new term.

Miss Bourne

What a term for **Year 1 Sage**! I am so very proud of the children for managing the giant transition from Reception to Year 1 with courage and enthusiasm. The children loved exploring

their senses by conducting sensory investigations, including one rather tasty one, and very much enjoyed bringing the Nativity Story to life with different activities. They have worked so hard on their handwriting and reading, and the transformation has been incredible – well done everyone! I would like to thank all of the parents for their incredible support and, most of all, the wonderful children for persevering even when it's tricky. Wishing you all a joyful Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Miss Moore and Mrs Eugene

This term has been a fantastic one for **Year 1 Thyme**. We have discovered that we have a class full of authors! The children have written several stories based on well-loved books like *One Day in the Eucalyptus Tree* and *Wild*. No doubt you'll see their names in your local bookshop in years to come! We have also learned how to mark-make in art, play the violin in music, read Braille in science and read maps in geography. To end the term with a bang, the children put on a dazzling Nativity show and wowed their parents with their beautiful singing. Most importantly, they have been learning to be brave, kind and resilient, and have worked together brilliantly as a team this term. We're looking forward to more adventures in 2026!

Ms Mulry

**Year 2 Honeysuckle** have settled confidently into Year 2, making a big leap from Year 1. We have thoroughly enjoyed two exciting trips that have expanded our learning in science and history. Also, we would like to say a huge thank you to our fantastic parent volunteers for their support. The children have engaged in thoughtful and meaningful discussions across the curriculum, linking learning from *Amazing Grace* in our English unit with our history topic on Space Pioneers and aspects of RSHE. We ended the term on a high note with our wonderful Nativity performance, and I am very proud of the class. We are now looking forward to all that the new term will bring.

Miss Callum-Clarke & Mr Zambuto

In **Year 2 Thistle**, this term has been packed with memorable learning experiences. We were captivated by *The Bog Baby* and wrote brilliant retellings of this story, now proudly displayed in our classroom. Science lessons sparked great curiosity as we explored animals and living things in their habitats, topped off with a visit to the Lookout in Hyde Park to bring our learning to life. As historians, we discovered inspiring space pioneers such as Neil Armstrong, Katherine Johnson and Mae Jemison, learning how their achievements inspired many other people to explore space. In maths, we have developed effective strategies for addition and subtraction and are growing in confidence when applying them. Our geography work took us across the United Kingdom, where we explored the human and physical features of the four countries. In art, we experimented with a range of media to create striking owl paintings.

We ended the term on a joyful note with a visit from Santa, a delicious Christmas lunch and a lively class party. We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Ms Bastick

**Year 3 Hawthorn** have had a fabulous start to Key Stage 2! All of the children have settled in wonderfully. We have really enjoyed all of our learning, especially our geography unit on "The

United Kingdom". We have had a brilliant time reading books like *Ug*, *The Mousehole Cat* and *Bill's New Frock*, and have produced some amazing writing related to these texts. The children have been amazing representatives of the school on two lovely school trips, and the countdown to our residential is already on! Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
Miss Dunne and Ms Chandaria

What a fantastic first term it has been for **Year 3 Bramble**. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know all of the children, and we have shared some wonderful experiences together, including school trips where behaviour was exemplary and enjoyed by all. They are a kind, supportive class with fantastic ideas, and they are also wonderful authors and illustrators. We have shared many laughs along the way, and I cannot wait for the terms ahead.

Ms Davis

As **Year 4 Apple** comes to the end of a wonderfully positive term, I would like to say a huge thank you for your continued support. It has been a term full of energy, growth and plenty of laughter, and the children have worked incredibly hard throughout. It has been joyful to see the children so engaged with the story of *Krindlekrax* and our topic of Ancient Egypt. I look forward to seeing you all in 2026 with another busy term ahead, which includes our class assembly on 30th January.

Mr McCann

**Year 4 Cherry** enjoyed making Pharaoh masks this week to go with our Ancient Egyptian unit. We started by cutting out the shape on cardboard and masking taping masks to it. Next, we had lots of fun getting messy using papier-mâché to secure it all into place! Yesterday, we started painting our masks, and we are looking forward to completing them after the holidays – they look amazing, and the children should be proud of themselves. We have also enjoyed doing lots of festive arts and crafts and using our new giant Jenga set that we got from a very special visit from Santa!

Ms Reddington

We would like to wish all the children and families of **Year 5 Ash** a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! What a brilliant start to the academic year it has been. Getting to know the children has been an absolute joy as we've learned, laughed and explored together. The children should be incredibly proud of everything they've achieved this term. Their hard work, enthusiasm, teamwork and growth have truly shone through. Highlights included our fantastic assembly and the memorable educational trips we enjoyed together. Well done, Year 5 Ash! Enjoy a well-earned break — we can't wait to see you in the new year, refreshed and ready for more adventures!

Ms Brookes / Ms Foster

This term, **Year 5 Birch** has shown great enthusiasm, kindness and teamwork. Our highlights include our visit to the Army Museum, where pupils took part in an engaging workshop on forces, linking closely to our science learning. We also visited the Victoria and Albert Museum to explore Early Islamic Civilisations, exploring historical artworks which deepened our understanding of this time period. We enjoyed developing our scientific observation and enquiry

skills outdoors, when we examined the effect of heat on different materials in a bonfire. Recently, we enjoyed the opportunity to visit and sing with children from our partner schools.

We have loved reading our high-quality texts in English: *Oranges in No Man's Land*, *The Iron Man* and *The Explorer*. In maths, we learned and applied new calculation strategies, including short division and column multiplication involving two-digit numbers, building both accuracy and confidence. Our greatest achievement of this term was delivering our fantastic class assembly! Overall, it has been a busy and successful term, and we are looking forward to more learning next year.

Ms Brommage

As a PGCE student, I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know each child in **Year 5 Birch**. Their curiosity of the world and sense of humour made each day unpredictable in the best way. Witnessing their growth and confidence in class has been the most rewarding part of my placement.

Ms Zia

As we come to the end of this term, I wanted to take a moment to express my profound appreciation to you all for your support in helping the children to settle beautifully into life and learning in **Year 6 Oak**. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May your holiday season be filled with God's love, laughter and all your favourite things. Thank you for an incredible term, and I look forward to seeing you all in the Spring Term!

Mr Duker

**Year 6** Chestnut have enjoyed a fantastic autumn term packed full of learning, laughter and fun. We have particularly loved studying the works of Shakespeare in English this year, and the children have been impressing family and friends alike by reciting some of his more famous lines of prose! They continue to develop into well-rounded writers capable of writing across a wide range of audiences and purposes. In maths, we have developed our sense of number and investigated how to approach arithmetic tasks in the most efficient and accurate method. Across the rest of the curriculum, we have enjoyed learning about the Benin Empire, Christianity, globalisation and the science of light. Both classes performed wonderful final class assemblies, and we have been on a number of trips already. The children have taken on their roles as buddies to Reception children with enthusiasm and impressive maturity. We look forward to a well-earned rest and the return to school in the new year. Merry Christmas to all!

Mr Larke

## Music at Princess Frederica

This week we enjoyed lots of singing, recorder playing and steel pans concerts. We are all very proud of our talented musicians and thanks must go to Mr Clarke, the steel pan teacher and of course Mr Tang who works incredibly hard leading music across all three

schools in our federation. On Monday evening our musicians played at a Lifefull carol service in St Clements church. Mr Tang led the children in years 5 and 6 from all three schools in a big sing in the afternoon and the combined chorus was joyous and absolutely beautiful.

Our musicians also put on a great performance at St Martin's church this morning. The string ensemble and the brass band played incredibly well and the singing from the whole congregation was joyful.

Music lessons are due to recommence in the first week of January.

However, Ms Kang's lessons will be on Wednesday just for that week.

Pitch Pals- please see the attached document regarding pitch pals- an app designed to improve musicality for younger children.

#### **PE at Princess Frederica**

Thank you for all your support this term to myself, the school and especially the children.

September seems such a long time ago now, when we all came back together after the Summer break. It has been wonderful getting to know all the new children in Nursery and Reception and introducing them to the fabulous world of PE and Sport at Princess Freds. All the children have worked so hard, learning new skills and using a range of different equipment.

To the children who have represented the school in different competitions and festivals this term, thank you for always giving every game, run or activity your very best and for being excellent ambassadors for the school. There are many more events to come in the new year.

As always, the children make me very happy and proud so a BIG THANK YOU to ALL the children for this.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all and your families.

Mr Chantler

#### **Little Wandle Phonics**

As we reflect on our first term using the Little Wandle phonics scheme, we are delighted with the progress that the children are making. All children (apart from those with significant additional needs) are working at or above the expected standard for phonics. Our Reception children particularly have made an exceptional start to their reading journeys and we are very proud of them. Thank you for your continued support with reading practice at home and for your donations towards the home reading books which

accompany the scheme; we are very grateful and we hope that you are finding the books enjoyable.

### **Head Girl and Head Boy Report**

In Monday's assembly we read the second part of the Nativity story. On Wednesday we had Christmas lunch which was delicious. It was also Christmas Jumper day and Father Christmas visited each class. Yesterday we had our class parties. In year 6 we made cards for our buddies wishing them a Merry Christmas and we watched a Christmas movie.

We have really enjoyed our first term being head boy and girl and we wish you a very Merry Christmas.

Jess and Vishan

### **Languages at Princess Frederica**

After many years learning French in Key Stage two, we have decided that the children will start learning Spanish in the new year. We are very lucky to have a native speaker in the school, so Ms Perez will spend one day a week teaching Years 3 to 6 next term. Her class will be covered by Ms Bramble and Ms Hurley on Thursdays. Spanish is the most studied modern language and is spoken in 21 countries across the world with over 400 million native speakers. Furthermore, many words are similar to English, making vocabulary acquisition quicker.

### **Birthday Books**

As we begin a new calendar year at Princess Frederica, we are delighted to reintroduce our Birthday Book Initiative.

To celebrate their birthday, all children are warmly invited to bring in either a new book or a previously owned book in very good condition to donate to their class library. This is a lovely way for children to mark their special day while helping to enrich the reading resources available to everyone in their class.

Each class teacher will create a Birthday Book Box, where these donated books will be kept and enjoyed by the children throughout the year. All donated books will be carefully catalogued and will include a Birthday Book label, recognising the child who kindly donated it.

If your child's birthday has already taken place this term, they are still very welcome to bring in a book to donate. Likewise, if your child's birthday falls on a weekend or during a school holiday, they can bring a book into school on the next school day.

We would love as many children as possible to take part in this initiative. The more birthday books that are donated, the richer and more varied the literature your child will have access to in their classroom.

If you are looking for ideas for suitable books to donate, you may find it helpful to use resources such as The Reader Teacher ([www.thereaderteacher.com](http://www.thereaderteacher.com)). This website offers 100 recommended reads for every year group, organised into the following categories: fiction, non-fiction, read-alouds, poetry, picture books and graphic novels.

Thank you for your continued support in fostering a love of reading at Princess Frederica. I look forward to seeing Birthday Books boxes filled over the coming months.

Mr McCann

## **DEI working group meeting - January**

As part of our ongoing efforts to foster an inclusive environment and to support a sense of belonging for everyone in the Princess Frederica community, we invite parents to join a diversity, equity and inclusion working group. Your voices and experiences are an important part of helping us understand how we can continue to grow as a community.

Our first meeting will take place online on **Thursday 15th January at 19:00 - 19:45**. We will share a zoom link to the meeting closer to the date.

The meeting will be co-facilitated by Rebecca Brierley, who leads on diversity, equity and inclusion across LifeFull Schools, and Sally Touré, a member of our parent community.

This initial session will be an open, welcoming, non-judgemental space for parents to share their reflections on what is working well and where there are opportunities to strengthen our sense of belonging, and diversity, equity and inclusion. We look forward to listening, learning and exploring together how this work can continue to develop within our school.

Kind regards,

Rebecca Brierley  
Director of School Improvement, Learning and Curriculum Development.  
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Lead

## **School Gateway**

Please could you check the School Gateway over the holiday period and make sure that any outstanding debts are paid for after school clubs, music lessons, nursery fees and residential trip deposits. Many thanks.

## **Freds Spirit Wear is back!**

We're excited to share some specially designed winter items for our Freds community, available now on the Spirit Ink website. These are offered at a low cost, and every purchase helps support our school.

Take a look and place your order here:

<https://spirit-ink.co.uk/collections/princess-frederica-full-collection>

### **Thank you**

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to all our parent volunteers who give up their time to come into school and help out. Our parent readers are invaluable as we all know the most important skill children need is being able to read fluently. Alexandra and Roula have helped keep our library in order and catalogued new books. Thank you to all those who have donated books - but no more for now please - we are overwhelmed!

Thank you to Barbara and all of the PSA team who work so hard to organise events for both fun and fundraising. Thank you also to the class reps who have supported teachers and helped with communications and organisation.

### **Dates for your diary**

Monday 5th January - start of the Spring term

Monday 5th January at 10:00am - church service at St Mark's

Thursday 15th January 19:00-19:45pm - online DEI meeting

Monday 19th January - Year 5 trip to Gurdwara

Thursday 22nd January - Year 2 trip to the National Army Museum

Monday 26th January - Year 3 trip to Brondesbury Synagogue

Monday 9th February - Year 4 trip to Nesaden Temple

Friday 13th February - end of half term

### **Class assemblies at 10:00am in the main hall**

Friday 16th January - 4 Cherry

Friday 23rd January - 3 Bramble

Friday 30th January - 4 Apple

Friday 6th February - 3 Hawthorn

Friday 13th February - 2 Thistle

Friday 27th February - 1 Sage

Friday 13th March - 2 Honeysuckle

Friday 24th April - 1 Thyme

Friday 1st May - Reception Buttercup

Friday 15th May - Reception Dandelion

Friday 12th June - Nursery

**PSA cake sale dates:**

22nd and 23rd January - Year 2  
26th and 27th February - Year 3  
19th and 26th March - Year 6  
23rd and 24th April - Year 4  
14th and 15th May - Year 5

Have lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year  
With kind regards

Nicola Christopher