



Felix

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Spring 2 Newsletter

Head Teacher's Message



Dear all,

It has been another great term, and the children have so many great experiences! I would like to thank all of the staff for the opportunities the children have had. This includes sporting trips, a bus trip for reception, playground proms, cooking and food tasting in DT lessons, swimming lessons and this is naming just a few!

Staffing updates:

Elm- we will update you on staffing for Elm for next half term. Mrs. Hunt is absent.

Mrs. Spurling will continue to teach Cedar class during Mrs. Holmes' absence.

Mrs. Cleland (SENCO) is staying for 1.5 days a week to continue to support in the SEND team and Mrs. Spurgeon.

Term dates:

Thank you for your continued support, we look forward to seeing you after the Easter period. Please remember there is no school Monday 21st April as this is a bank holiday and we have a PD Day on the 22nd April. The children are due back on the 23rd of April. If your child is transported by taxi, please let them know of the pd day and transport not being needed.

In the Summer term, we have our last PD Day on Friday 23rd May.

Wishing you a wonderful break,

Jess Hearn
Headteacher



Whole School News

Attendance

This year's attendance so far is 92.2%.

We have seen a lot of coughs, colds and sickness bugs this half term so far.

Please remember that if your Child is absent, please report this before 9am via an Arbor message, Email or a phone call to 01394 283374 option 2. No contact will result in an unauthorised absence mark and as you are probably aware the government have introduced compulsory measures in order to improve the national attendance this year.

I would like to say thank you all for your support this term in bringing your children into school and notifying us when your child is poorly, including abiding by the 48hr sickness policy.

I wish you all a happy half term and look forward to seeing you all back on Wednesday 23rd April 2025

Kind regards

Mrs Howieson

Hop To It!



As you know we are taking part in the Ipswich Art Trail again this year, which means we have had the delight of fundraising for our hare this time.

We held a competition for the design to go on the hare and had some lovely ideas entered. 1st place was awarded to Eva (Elder) for her bright, bold design that we felt reflected all the nature within our school grounds and reminded us of Spring and new beginnings. Huge congratulations to all our artists for coming up with such imaginative ideas.

Mrs. Carr used Eva's design as the inspiration for the overall design on the hare. Keeping all her original colours and ideas. We have named our hare 'Sunny Buttercup Meadow' and she will be on show over the summer somewhere on the art trail in Ipswich. Watch this space for news of her exact location!



Pastoral



At last, some warmer weather to enjoy.

I am sure more children will be arriving on scooters/bikes etc. but please can we remind them to be mindful of other parents/children and that they need to be walking from the bottom gate once in school and not riding.

Also, mobile phones are not permitted to be used by children or adults on the playground, mobile phones should also be handed first thing in the morning for safety and if not handed in we cannot be responsible if anything happens to the phone.

Please also know I am always at the gate in the morning/afternoons in case anyone wants to speak to me of any concerns they may have, or you can contact me via email or DOJO.

I am aware for the Year 6's SATs and Residential is coming up and there may be some worries so I am happy to help where I can if needed.

Please also remember there are food banks and other help in the Local community if you would like anything specific message me and I will try and point you in the right direction.

Lastly, this term I will be celebrating 20 years working for Maidstone/ Causton/ Set Felix/ Felix Primary and have seen lots of changes and children along the way. Hope you all enjoy the warmer weather and hope it will continue.

Mrs. C



Enrichment

We enjoyed a very exciting visit from Graffiti classics, a comedic string quartet as part of the Playground Prom series.

We learnt about the different instruments of the string family whilst listening to a range of classical music with a comedic twist. We were all invited to dance, clap and move along to the music.

The group aim to make classical music fun and exciting and I am sure the children will all agree that they did just that.

We were also very honored to have the Mayor of Felixstowe attend the concert.



Forest Schools

This term we have been able to enjoy time outside! No rain.

Activities this term have included, clay goblin faces, the year six have enjoyed learning how to do Nordic Braiding to make friendship bracelets to share.

Popular class have used a variety of tools to make their own bug houses.

We have had a few days using the forest area in the main playground. Out here we have played a lots of games including "find my tree" and "123 where are you?" We also made seed bombs to take home.

Looking forward to next term.

Mrs Long and Mrs Schrier



Clubs

Gardening Club

Gardening Club has started for 2025. Not only do we have an after school club, but we have lunchtime Gardening Club three times a week.

This has been busy so far and the children are enjoying digging, planting and weeding. We have started to plant seeds in indoor greenhouses. This will enable the seeds to sprout and get stronger before we plant them in our raised gardens.

We are asking parents and children to help with growing plants and flowers at home that we can use for our Suffolk Show School Garden Competition. Our topic is 'The Secret Garden'.

All help is appreciated.

Drama Club

What a fun Drama club we have had this term.

The children have done amazing things with their singing and acting and even got involved with teaching each other dances. There are some true thespians amongst us. It has been a delight to see the children's confidence grow. We have been learning the song from Disney's Brother Bear 'I'm on my way' and the children have really enjoyed this as well as the karaoke versions of songs they have chosen.

We have worked on improvisation in our acting and been doing 'tiger-obics' in our dancing.



School Council

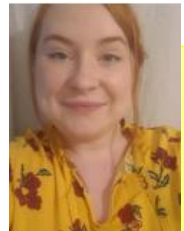
At the beginning of this term, we were lucky enough to be selected to give feedback to park planners by the council. Well done everyone that followed the link and gave feedback.

Our next meeting will be the Wednesday 23rd of April where we will discuss our plans to book a cake sale and to man stalls at the school fete. I look forward to hearing your ideas and raising money!

Youth Forum

I would like to say a massive thank you to our Youth Forum ladies. They were amazing at both meetings we have been to. At our most recent meeting, we were challenged by a team from Suffolk council to design the new build estate by the grove.

The year 6's were very eloquent and respectful in discussing their dislikes about the new build plans. Whilst, giving amazing ideas on how to make the new buildings suitable for Felixstowe. A handful of council members and other teachers spoke of how they were a pleasure to have at the meeting and how the girls honored our school. I am extremely proud girls, well done!



P.E and Sports Clubs

We've had an extremely busy half term as far as far as PE and sport is concerned.

The children have attended 6 different events, starting with the Felixstowe schools swimming gala where the children attending put in an amazing performance against some incredible swimmers from other schools.

Next up was the U10's Girls Football Festival at Portman Road. We took 7 girls to play in a 4 a side football tournament, the girls did amazingly well without losing a single! Played 4, Won 3, Drew 1 and Scored 7.

I took two separate groups children who regularly attend after school Dodgeball club to two Dodgeball festivals where the children behaved and performed impeccably.

Then came the U11's Football Tournament at Felixstowe High School. We took two teams, and our A team finished 2nd! All children did amazingly well and to finish 2nd is a brilliant achievement!

Last event of this term is the RHS cross country but I'll have to let you know how well that has gone in the next installment after Easter.



Specialist Support Units: Pine

Wow, we cannot believe how fast time has sprung and Spring term has nearly finished. We would like to think the children have had a lot of fun on their learning journey as well as improving their life skills and independence.

Stone

We spent a long time exploring our own bodies in Science and PSHE, understanding the location of certain organs and bones and what to do if we are hurt, physically and mentally. This knowledge has developed into learning about the skeletons in certain animal groups- please ask your children what an exoskeleton is and where it is found on a snail.

As the weather is improving, the children have been gardening, trying to grow fruit and vegetables from seeds. This is all new to Miss Hart, so thankfully Mrs. Fish and Miss Summers were on hand for advice. As I write this, there are sprouts growing and of course, I will keep you updated.

In mathematics, we have spent a long time understanding the value, adding and subtracting money. To embed their knowledge, we created a shop outside where the children can buy fruit and vegetables using money. When you take your children food shopping, see how much they know about money. They have worked hard on this concept and their perseverance has certainly been displayed.

Finally, the children loved reading *The Wolves in the Wall*. Stopping at certain points and creating suspense has been the highlight, it is wonderful to see so much enthusiasm from the children. They are working hard on their retrieval skills.

A big focus from the school is presentation, so we are having handwriting sessions, writing the full date in their books and targeting capital letters and full stops, but in Pine we also understand that this is a big ask;

“Little things make big things happen.” Identifying, understanding and embedding those little steps is a massive achievement for our wonderful children in Pine. Each one of them has made a significant development, and that is thanks to all their hard work in class and at home. It is certainly a team effort, so thank you to all the incredible staff in Pine and to parents/guardians at home. We hope you have a lovely break, and we look forward to seeing you in Summer.



Specialist Support Units: Poplar

We have had a wonderful half term where the children have engaged in many exciting learning activities.

As the weather has started to improve, we have enjoyed watching the daffodil bulbs spring to life around us. We have very much enjoyed being able to get into the forest school area where we have enjoyed working on our own individual projects whilst gaining a deeper understanding of the nature around us.

In maths, some of us have been learning about lighter-heavier, smaller-larger, taller-shorter. We have had a lot of fun learning about new mathematical vocabulary and using it correctly in testing ourselves.

Some of us have been learning about fractions and whilst we found converting improper fractions into mixed numbers, we persevered and showed an incredible growth mindset whilst showing resilience showing dedication in our school values.

Literacy has seen us complete lots of narrative writing based on different texts as well as some diary writing. A small group have enjoyed narratives such as the Rainbow Fish as well as All Aboard the London Bus. We loved learning about the important landmarks in London. The children immersed themselves in The Great Fire of London and produced wonderful diary writing entries. The children impressed us all and we are very proud of the learning they produced.

We have continued to learn all about the Ancient Egyptians in humanities and we enjoyed being able to replicate sentences using the hieroglyphics which they used. We also enjoyed creating our own alphabet using our imaginations and encouraged each other to work out the messages we had scribed. Of course, we thoroughly enjoyed learning about mummification and replicating this process on small dolls.

Science has seen us learning about life cycles and we have had so much fun learning about the important development stages in our lives. We have also enjoyed learning about the life cycle of plants and watching the growth of plants in our own school gardens.

We will continue to use Numbots, Times Tables Rockstars and Lexia to support your children at starter activities in the mornings and afternoons. We encourage your children to also complete learning on these apps at home. We would also all like to become timetables experts and would appreciate it if you continued to support your children in this area at home.

We cannot wait to continue to share all our exciting learning experiences and achievements with you, and we will continue to do so on dojo. Feel free to contact a team member at any point if you have any questions.

We hope the children have a rested holiday and look forward to welcoming them back to summer term and all the exciting learning opportunities which await them.

Kind regards,
Poplar Team



Specialist Support Units: Elm

We had a fantastic half term where the children engaged in lots of fabulous activities. We have been thinking about Spring, learning about spring lambs and how the trees and plants change. It has been great to watch the daffodils growing around us.

In Maths, some of us have been thinking all about subtraction. We have been talking about all the different ways to say subtraction. We have been learning about methods that can help us with subtraction problems, we have mastered using number lines, part and whole models, using our fingers and even thinking in our heads!

Some of us have been thinking about place value and the order of numbers, we have had a lot of fun in our maths sessions playing lots of number ordering games!

In our PE sessions we have been focusing on ways to move. We have been balancing, running, jumping and skipping. We have had fun going round obstacle courses which even helped our catching, throwing and aiming skills. Well done Elm!

We had so much fun in our phonics sessions. In Blue Group we have been learning all about our tricky red words, we are becoming fantastic at spelling these! In Green Group we have been focusing on our set 2 sounds and using these sounds to segment and blend words. In Purple Group we are having the best time with our phonics bucket, the children love experiencing sensory objects whilst learning about sounds.

We have been very busy in Art. We began the term making spring lambs whilst talking about Spring. The children loved decorating their lamb and adding it to our garland. We also made a class rainbow using a paper chain; they all did so well! We also used paint and glitter to create our own Easter designs, it was so lovely to see all the vibrant creations the children made, some even made more than one to create an Easter egg basket!

Within our class discussions we have been thinking about Pancake Day – which the children loved. This was followed by a Pancake Day tuff tray, the children enjoyed making their own pancakes and it was amazing to see all the imagination in their flavour combinations. We also discussed Mother's Day; the children all spoke about the best ways to show appreciation for the grown-ups in our lives, some ideas included making art, baking cakes and cuddles!

We hope the children have a lovely Easter holiday and look forward to welcoming them back in the summer term and all the exciting learning opportunities which await them.



K.S 1

Acorn

It has been another exciting term in Acorns. Our topic has been travel and transport and the children have enjoyed learning about different modes of transport and how these have changed over times. We have also found time to celebrate pancake day, world book day and St Patrick's day.

In our Write Stuff lessons we read All Aboard the London Bus. The children enjoyed going on a virtual bus ride around London and experiencing a virtual underground train. They also enjoyed exploring different London landmarks and recreating these out of our construction resources. Our second story this half term was Where The Wild Things Are. We enjoyed being wild things and making scary faces. We also practiced our best roars. The children also enjoyed having their own "rumpus" in the classroom.

In maths we have been looking at numbers to 10. We have been exploring how these numbers can be composed. We have also been finding one more and one less. The children have discovered odd and even numbers and how to find these. We have learnt about 3D shapes and enjoyed going on a shape hunt around the school.

With the lovely weather we have been experiencing over the last few weeks we have been making lots of use of our wonderful garden. The floor is lava has become a favourite game, and we have been developing our gross motor skills whilst making long bridges and stepping stones. We have also been enhancing our fine motor skills by chalking on every available surface.



Whole School News

Cedar

What a busy Spring term we have had! Lots of growing going on in Cedar Class. Some plants have had everything they need (including lots of water as the children all like to help with that job!). We have been making observations to see which plant is growing best. The one in the cupboard with no sunlight, hasn't made much progress. In maths Mrs. Spurling has been busy teaching Super Cedars all about measuring. Lots of new mathematical vocabulary to learn-tallest, shortest, heaviest, lightest. You can help us at home by encouraging us to use this vocabulary when we are out and about with you. We started to practice measuring when we made pancakes. Cedar Class can definitely confirm that they enjoyed making and tasting them - not a single piece of pancake left!

In English we have been writing a story about a wombat who loses his Mummy in Australia. It is amazing to see the difference in the children's writing and their enthusiasm for retelling stories. We celebrated World Book Day by dressing up and writing our own books. Super illustrations and writing Cedar Class, well done!!

The school year is flying by and we will soon be into the summer term. Please continue to read with your child every day if possible and to practice their phonics. If you need any support with this, please do ask. Enjoy the holidays and we look forward to seeing you all at the start of the summer term. In preparation for what we hope will be an amazing summer, please ensure your child has a named sunhat and water bottle in school every day. Sunscreen put on at home in the morning, thank you.



Whole School News

Elders

What a super term we have had in Elders. We have focused on our schools' values. Trying to ensure we are Kind every day. We are trying our best to achieve and trying to show resilience in our learning. This is something we will continue to improve on as the weather warms! In English we have been learning lots of facts about pirates to help us write a factual report on how pirates lived. We particularly enjoyed our special pirate day. Where we found treasure and created our own maps.

In maths we have been looking at measurement and mass. Using our rules and meter sticks to measure things in the classroom. We spent time weighing objects in grams and kilograms. The children have enjoyed the practical side of maths, giving them control over their own learning. In science we have been learning about planting and growing our own green beans, whilst in Geography we have learnt about all the continents of the world! The children have been incredibly proud of everything we have done this term. Including constructing slider cards in design and technology. Some of the children turned these into Mother's Day cards.

As the weather warms up, please could you send your children to school in summer hats, sun cream and lots of water. We also encourage you to read at home with the children to practice the key skills they will need as they move up the school.

Well done Elders for another super term! We look forward to guiding you into our last term together and we cannot wait to see how you will show off your kindness, resilience and how much you will achieve in the summer term.



K.S 2

Cherry

Just as the blossom is appearing on the trees, the children in our class have been coming into blossom too, working hard on their learning and developing all of the different skills they will need as they progress up through the school.

In maths, we have enjoyed learning to calculate the perimeters of different shapes, even when we don't know the lengths of all of the sides! Most recently, we have been fractions experts – we can tell you what fraction of a shape has been shaded, what fraction of a litre there is in a jug and we can use a fractions wall to compare different fractions. We are continuing to build our confidence with our times tables.

In English, our writing tasks have included penning poems about a mischievous thief who steals the plumpness of pillows, the stickiness of toffees and the crunchiness of cornflakes from our houses. And when the newsletter goes to press, we will have authored our own stories about a day when a trip to the beach is cut short by a fierce storm!

In guided reading, we have loved hearing about the adventures of Picklewitch. Thankfully, none of the children have tried to turn us into a frog or a mouse! Yet!

The children have also worked on their DT skills where they had the opportunity to design, make and evaluate a pitta bread with fillings of their choice. The children enjoyed the making element in particular and created a range of combinations.

In science we have been exploring light sources and to celebrate Science Week we also carried out an experiment to test the effect of friction on moving vehicles.

We have spent some time using the Chromebooks in computing and developing our skills on Scratch. Humanities has given us the opportunities to explore ancient Egyptians and climate and weather.

We wish you a very happy Easter holiday and we will look forward to welcoming you back to the classroom refreshed and ready to learn.



Whole School News

Rowan

It has been another wonderfully busy term in Rowan class.

We have loved learning about fractions in maths and are becoming experts at converting improper fractions to mixed numbers and vice versa. We have also used fraction walls to find equivalent fractions and add 2 or more fractions.

In our English lessons we enjoyed reading 'Farther' and we were super impressed with the independent writing the children produced, continuing the storyline with their own ideas. We have also been travel agents and produced some persuasive writing too – well done everyone!

Our science topics this term have included sound and electricity. We especially enjoyed exploring how we could change the pitch of different instruments and learning about the inner workings of the ear! During our electricity unit, we have learnt how to make an electrical circuit with a battery, a light and a switch.

As part of Science Week, we became chemists, investigating whether large or small particles of material dissolved fastest in water. We used sugar cubes, granulated and caster sugar!

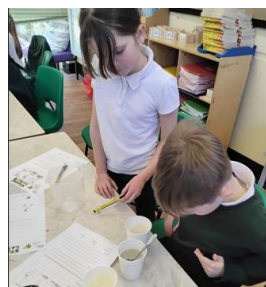
We have also learnt how careful we must be with batteries, especially button batteries which can be swallowed by children and babies. We learnt that these should always be kept well out of reach.

A definite highlight of the term has been learning the ukelele in our weekly music lessons. We have loved learning various songs and everyone has showed resilience as learning an instrument isn't always easy!

We have continued to focus on our school values of achievement, resilience and kindness and as always, we see these in action every day. Keep it up!

The year 4 Multiplication Check is edging nearer – we are continuing to practice each day to help everyone reach their potential. Keep on keeping on – lots of TTRS practice at home please to support this.

Thank you for your continued support – as always, any questions please do ask. Mrs Beck, Miss Matthews & Miss Atashkar



Whole School News

Maple

Wow! We have had a super term!

In English, the children have written some fantastic poems. In Mrs. White's group we wrote about animals that do things that annoy us and in Mr. Humphrey's group they wrote about their favourite animals. Both poems were displayed outside our classrooms either on the wall or in the class books, we hope you managed to have a read whilst visiting at parents evening.

In maths, the children explored fractions, decimals and percentages using lots of different resources. This then led us to perimeters areas where we got to use our multiplication skills and Mrs. White even put a cheeky decimal number to extend our learning!

The children really enjoyed DT - food technology, this half term with Mr. Humphrey. I have loved hearing, seeing and even tasting some of their homemade pizzas and hedgehog bread.

In computing, we have been programming crumbles by using a program on the chrome books to sequence our sparkles, make a dancing man and some even combined these together. It has been fantastic watching the children use their knowledge from year 3 and year 4, where we worked with scratch, and applied it to another program. Collectively Maple class have worked as a team and helped each other debug and take their learning further.

We also had science week and as we were looking at the human body, we decided to look at why we should only flush the three p's down the toilet. The children explored, predicted, observed and monitored the effects of different materials and gave reasons for why only the 3 p's are to be flushed down the toilet.

As always please remember to read 4 times a week, reading diaries are checked on a Tuesday and access TTRS at least 10 minutes a week, this is also checked on a Tuesday.

I am so impressed with all the children's learning and their progression this term; you truly deserve a fabulous break and can't wait to see what next term offers.



Whole School News

Willow

Well it has been a busy half term but not the most exciting – lots of revision for SATs! However, the children should be very proud as they have worked hard and this is reflected in the scores they achieved in the practice SATs we did near the end of term. A special well done to those children who have attended the after-school SAT booster clubs.

We have had some fun, including the Playground proms and several sporting events.

We are sending home some SATs revision packs to support with keeping the children ticking over!

Just a few questions a day will help to keep those brains active.

In English, some of us have written a warning story about listening to our parents! I have been bowled over by the children's vocabulary and sentence structure!

Fancy some interactive games that are fun but will also help with your SATs?

[Free interactive KS1 and KS2 SATs revision resources - BBC Bitesize](#)

[Interactive Online Maths Games for Kids | DoodleLearning](#) (You will need to create a free parent account!)

We hope the year 6 children will join us for SATs breakfast on the week of the SATs – keep your eyes peeled for an email with details!



Additional Information:

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are excited to invite you into your child's class for a reading cafe. This will be an opportunity to come in and read with your children during the Summer term. Our art studio will be transformed into a buzzing cafe with books from a range of cultures and genres which are tailored to suit all learners. Staff are on hand to model reading for pleasure and to answer any questions about reading strategies. This is a great opportunity for adults and children to come together to share their love of reading.

Please see the dates assigned to your child's class:

| Class | Date and time |
|-------------------|--|
| Acorn | Wednesday 23 rd April 2.30-3.15pm |
| Cedar | Wednesday 30 th April 2.30-3.15pm |
| Elder | Wednesday 7 th May 2.30-3.15pm |
| Cherry | Wednesday 4 th June 2.30-3.15pm |
| Rowan | Wednesday 11 th June 2.30-3.15pm |
| Maple | Wednesday 18 th June 2.30-3.15pm |
| Willow | Wednesday 25 th June 2.30-3.15pm |
| Elm (in class) | Thursday 12 th June 2.00-2.45pm |
| Poplar (in class) | Friday 20 th June 2.00-2.45pm |
| Pine (in class) | Friday 27 th June 2.00-2.45pm |

We will be providing a recommended reading list for you to take away from the session.

We can't wait to see you there!

Thank you to everyone who has supported our school community this term. Have a happy school holiday. Can't wait to see you next term.



Website:
www.felixprimaryschool.org



Contact:
01394 283374



Email:
office@felixprimaryschool.org