



F.T. News

News from First Tower School

September 2025



A Word from the Head

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new year at First Tower! It's been a joy to welcome our new families to the school community. Below is the staff structure for 2025/2026, you will notice there are some new names, I know all the new staff are excited to be working at First Tower and are enjoying getting to know our pupils.

We value the home-school relationship and have an open-door policy where parents are encouraged to speak to staff in the morning when dropping off, or at the end of the day. If you wish to speak to your child's class teacher more formally please contact the school office, in person, via email or telephone and an appointment will be made. If your concern is still unresolved a meeting will be arranged with the appropriate phase leader.

If you have a safeguarding or welfare concern, please contact Mrs Fitton in the first instance via the school office.

I have no doubt that the forthcoming school year will be exciting and fun for all our pupils. Don't forget to check book bags and social media for any updates in-between the monthly publication of our school newsletter.

Best wishes for a relaxing weekend,

Mrs Lyn Linton
Headteacher

Senior Leadership Team

Headteacher	Mrs Linton
Deputy Headteacher	Mrs du Feu
Assistant Headteacher/SEND/CO	Miss Mulhern
Assistant Headteacher/EYFS lead	Mrs Mahrer
Lower Phase Leader	Miss Granger
Upper Phase Leader	Mrs Changachanga

Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Mrs Fitton, Miss Mulhern
Deputy DSL (DDSL)	Mrs du Feu, Mrs Mahrer and Mrs Linton
Online safety	Mrs Mahrer and Mrs Fitton

Teachers and support staff

Nursery	Mrs Mahrer supported by Mrs Jordan, Mrs Truscott, Mrs Barlow
Reception	Miss McCabe supported by Mrs Rae and Mrs J Heptinstall
Year 1	Mrs Havard supported by Miss Taylor
Year 2	Miss Walls and Miss Walters supported by Mrs Beeley (to be joined by Miss Drummond in November)
Year 3	Mrs Gibson, Mr Hocquard and Miss Lane supported by Mrs Dowman, Mrs Laffoley and Mrs Sauvage
Year 4	Mrs Donald, Miss Lishman and Mrs Murphy supported by Mrs Azevedo
Year 5	Mrs Morgan and Mr Bone supported by Miss Colley and Mrs Phillips
Year 6	Miss Lambotte and Mr Bradshaw supported by Mrs E Heptinstall
PPA teachers	Miss Hogan, Ms Laing, Ms Wheeler, Mrs Murphy, Mrs Urrutia

SEN and Nurture

Teachers	Miss Mulhern, Ms Wheeler, Mr Humpage, Miss Laing, Mrs Urrutia, Mrs Ahier (reading recovery)
Support staff	Mrs Blandin
ELSA	Ms Kearns
MLL support	Mrs Mihai

School Office

Ms Bednarczyk	Ms O'Connor
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Catering Staff

Ms Rodrigues Ms Pereira	Mrs Ribeiro Mrs Kardys Ms Axmanova
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DIARY DATES

Inset day Friday 24 October

Half term Monday 27 October—Friday 31 October

Term ends Thursday 18 December

Attendance

Please can all parents be reminded to contact the school office (ideally by telephone) should your child be off sick or attending a medical appointment. We have a legal duty of care to locate any pupils not at school and it takes a lot of time to call parents who have not informed us.

Please remember to complete a 'Leave of Absence Request' if your child will be absent from school. We cannot 'authorise' an absence if we have not received this *before* the period of absence.

Medical appointments should be made out of school hours where possible, however if your child needs to attend an appointment during school time, please inform the school office as well as your class teacher.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs du Feu.

Every lesson counts!	100%	Excellent
Equates to 4 school days off each year.	98%	Impressive
Equates to 7 school days off each year.	96%	Good
Equates to 9 school days off each year.	95%	Nearly there
Equates to 11 school days off each year.	94%	Needs to improve
Equates to 1 month off school each year.	90%	DANGER ZONE!
Equates to 1.5 months off school each year.	85%	
Equates to 2 months off school each year.	80%	

Nursery



Nursery have been enjoying making new friends, exploring their new classroom (both inside and outside) and learning our routines and classroom rules.



We have been learning about Autumn and talking about the changes we can see in our local environment.



We helped to plant some new plants and learnt how to take care of them.



Reception

What a fantastic few weeks Reception have had. I am so proud of how they have all settled in and the maturity they have shown with such a big change. Have a look at what we have been up to! We have loved playing outside...



Reception

We have also enjoyed starting phonics and learning new sounds as well as tasting lots of new and yummy food on Fruity Friday. We made our own marmalade sandwiches and have started doing some Autumn artwork.



Year 1

Wow! What a great start to Year 1 the children have made! Since starting the children have been continuing their continuous provision within the classroom, while completing learning in small groups.

In Literacy we have enjoyed reading *The Tree and the River* and *Jaspers' beanstalk* and the children have had a chance to write and perform a list poem about trees and plant cress seeds and watch them grow.

In Maths we practised using positional language and had car races to see which order they crossed the finish line.



We have also started our Science topic around seasonal changes, and the children went outside and found different signs of Autumn!



Please ensure **ALL your children's belongings have been clearly labelled** with their full name. Children must now bring a coat daily as the weather has gotten colder and we go out to play in all weathers. Children should bring a fruit, vegetables or a cereal bar for snack time only as we have limited time to eat snacks.

Reading books should be read three times a week and their diaries should be signed by an adult and returned to school to be checked by the teacher.

Year 2

What a lovely start to year 2 this month has been!

In maths we have been exploring place value using concrete materials. Working on two digit numbers with whole part models, base ten, and even coins!

In Literacy we enjoyed our learning about the Tree and the River and created our own stories about resilience!



In Science our topic is 'Animals including humans' where we took our first trip as a year group this last week! We had so much fun seeing different animals and classifying them into mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish. We especially enjoyed the Capybara's and Otter's.



Please ensure **ALL your children's belongings have been clearly labelled** with their full name.

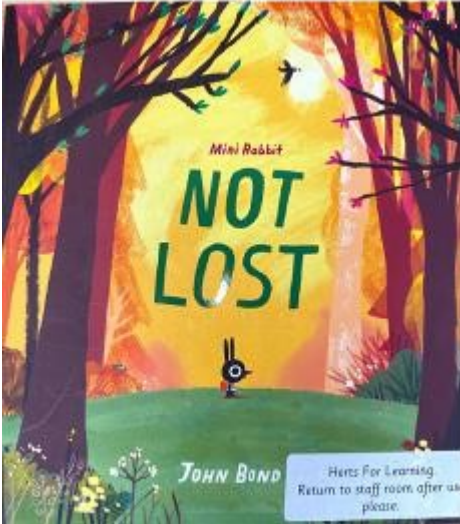
Children must now bring a coat daily as the weather has gotten colder and we go out to play in all weathers.

Children should bring a fruit, vegetables or a cereal bar for snack time only as we have limited time to eat snacks.

Reading books should be read twice and signed by a parent/carer, it is then the children's responsibility to change the books.

Year 3

What a fantastic start to the term Year 3 have had!



In English we have been studying the book 'Mini Rabbit Not Lost'. Over the last couple of weeks we have been looking at different ways to describe a character and their settings. We are going to be writing our own version of the story to send to the author John Bond.

In Maths we have been learning about Place Value. Specifically, looking at how we can re-group numbers. We have been using the base-10 equipment to help represent the numbers.



Year 3 went to the Jersey Festival of Words to see the author Steve Webb. The children had great fun sketching the characters and repeating evil laughs..

In football, we have been learning the skills of attacking and defending, dribbling a ball and passing with control.



Year 4

Year 4 have made a fantastic start to the academic year! The children have settled in brilliantly and should be incredibly proud of the hard work and enthusiasm they've shown so far. It's been a busy and exciting few weeks, with lots of great learning already taking place.

This term, we have started our new topic: 'Railways and Inventions That Changed the World.' The children have been fascinated to learn about the history of the railways in Jersey and where they used to travel. They've asked thoughtful questions and are beginning to understand how transport and invention have shaped the world we live in today.

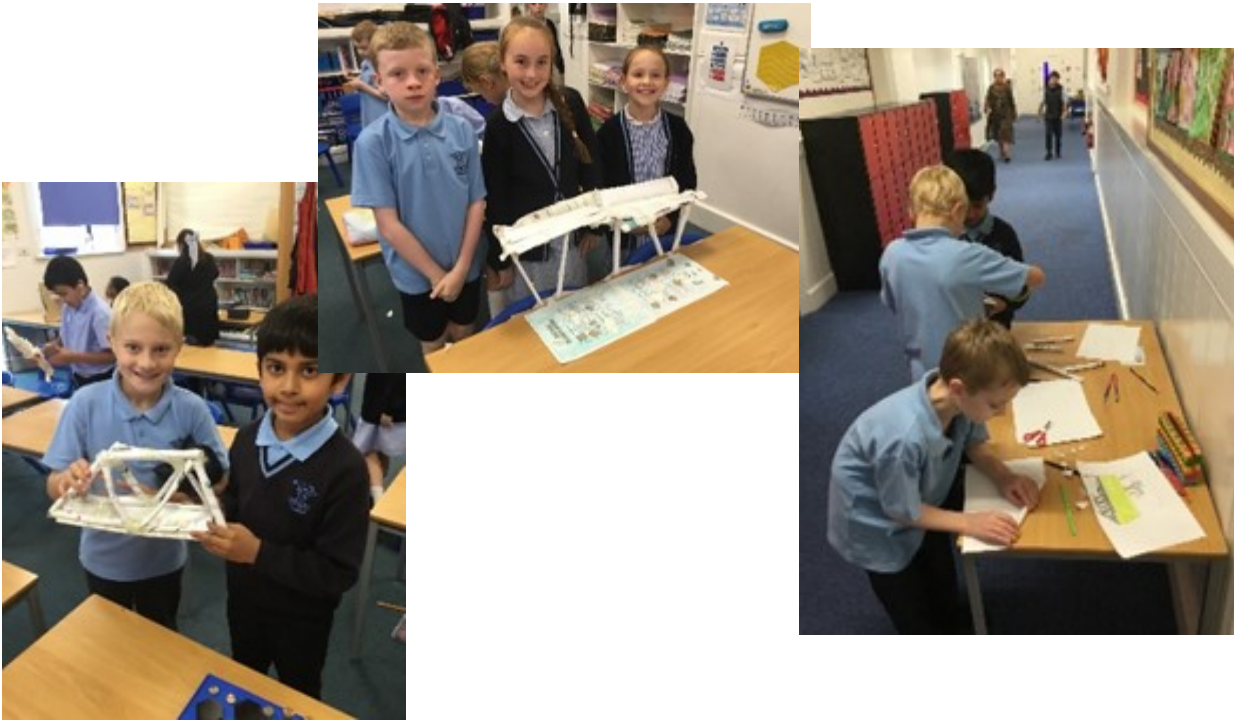
In English, we began the term exploring kenning poems, and the children did a brilliant job using descriptive language and creative thinking to craft their own. We are now preparing to start our next exciting unit graphic novels. The children are already buzzing with ideas for the adventures their characters will go on, and we are looking forward to seeing the imaginative challenges they will create for their heroes.

As part of our PE curriculum, the children have been taking part in swimming lessons, showing growing confidence and determination in the pool.

We're also thrilled to share that Year 4 will soon begin learning a musical instrument! The children are really excited about this opportunity, and we can't wait to hear the music they will be making together.

Year 5

A bridge building challenge started off our Geography topic about rivers.



We were lucky to have Bikeability in to train us to ride a bike.

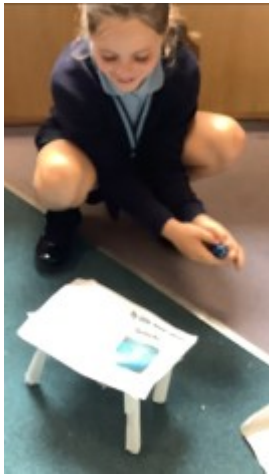


In English we had talk partners and we used sentence stems to have a quality conversation about an imaginary creature that we found.



Year 6

The start of term has been very busy in Year 6. The children have been working hard during their lessons in class and have produced some good examples of Year 6 learning.



To start off the year and our PSHE unit, we had to work in teams to create a tower made from paper. The tower had certain criteria to meet and every child in the group had to have an active role.



6 of the children across the year group were selected to attend the launch event and take part in this years SeaPerch competition where they need to create a Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV).

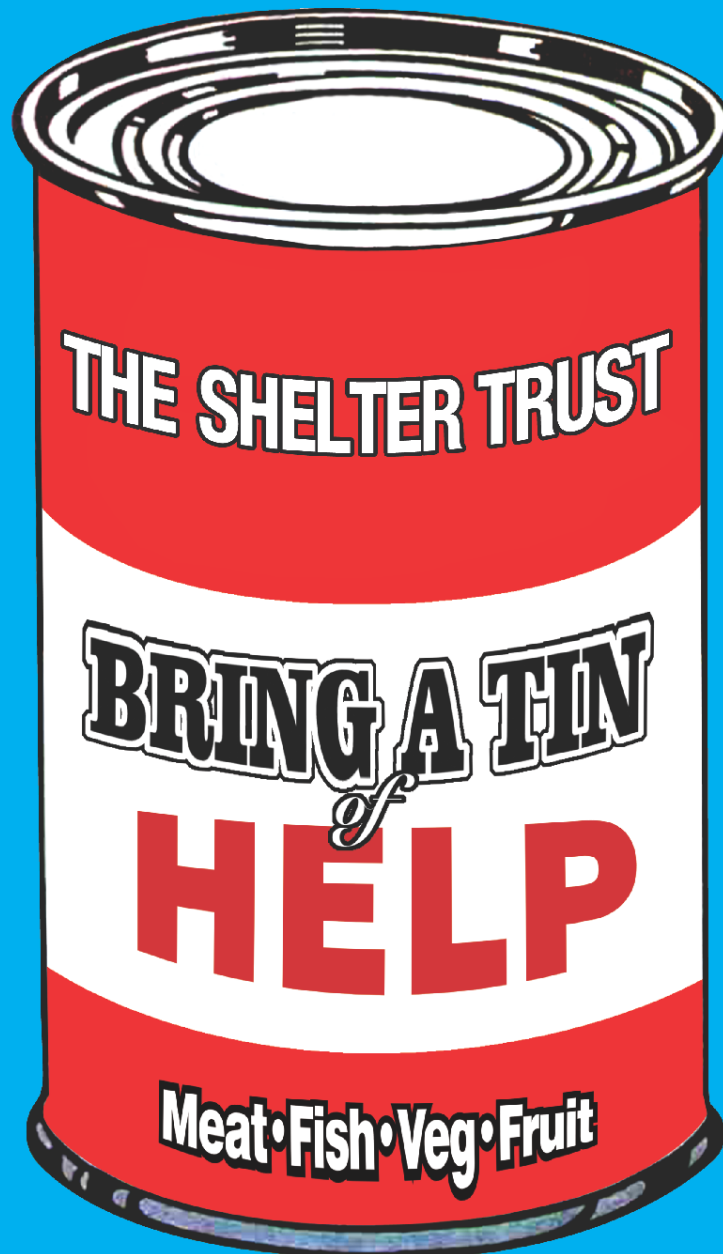
We have been working hard in English writing a narrative for the children in Year 3. Our narratives had to follow the same story plan as the one we were studying (The Tree and The River). We were then able to type these stories up on computers before performing them with Year 3.



2025

Tinathon

**West's Centre • Friday 10th October
8.00am - 2.30pm**



Wealth
Management

**In aid of The Shelter Trust for the Homeless
supporting Jersey's needy**

For more information contact:

tinathonjersey@hotmail.co.uk or call 07797 716235

PARENT MEET-UP

Wednesday 15 October
7–9pm
St Brelade's Sport and Social Club

- Connect, chat and laugh with people who really 'get it'
- Hear about the Parent Carer Forum's work
- Share your views on what's working well and what could improve in local services

When we come together, the journey feels lighter and less alone.

Eventbrite: <http://bit.ly/4fUp0Eg>



Join our Parent Email List to get updates and opportunities to have your say.

Just fill in our quick Membership & Contact Form

<https://>

bit.ly/3YeDW7U

Share Your Experience - Contact and Consent Form



JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

CLUBS!

EVERY WEEK

MON

WED

Chess Club
 3:30PM – 4:30PM
 AGES 5 – 12
 Beginners welcome
 In the Children's Library

Lego Club
 3:30PM – 4:30PM
 AGES 8 – 12
 In the Workspace at Jersey Library




FREE – JUST TURN UP

COME ON DOWN!

The Sunday Carvery every week! **See you at St Andrew's Park from 2pm**

Free for all to attend. Responsible adult must sign in any riders U18. No equipment or experience needed, we've got skateboards, helmets and pads to borrow, as well as some friendly and qualified coaches to help you get

Sj SKATEBOARD JERSEY PRESENTS

SUNDAY CARVERY

FROM 2PM, EVERY SUNDAY
 ST. ANDREW'S PARK, ST. HELIER [FREE FOR ALL]





SASO STRATEGIC
ADVISERS
FINANCIAL ADVICE. ONLY BETTER.

THE 1938 MARY JACOMB CHESS TOURNAMENT

MONT NICOLLE SCHOOL, ST BRELADE JE3 8DB
TO ENTER, PLEASE CONFIRM FULL NAME, DATE OF BIRTH,
SCHOOL, AND EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER TO:
JUNIORS@JERSEYCHESSFEDERATION.COM
OR TEXT GRAHAM MOONEY - 07289 700438

**19TH
OCTOBER
2025**

10:00-10:15
REGISTRATION

10:30-12:00
ROUNDS 1-4

12:00-12:30
LUNCH BREAK

STUDENTS TO BRING
PACKED LUNCH;
NO NUTS PLEASE.

12:30-13:45
ROUNDS 5-7

14:00
PRESENTATIONS
& CLOSING
SPEECHES

AGE CATEGORIES: U7,
U9,U11, U13, U15 & U18, AS
WELL AS TOP 3 GIRLS.

ORGANISERS HAVE
RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE
CHILDREN IN THE PLAYING
HALL ONLY.

TIME CONTROL

10+0

OPEN TO ALL JUNIORS
UNDER 18 AS OF
1/1/25.





The Little Kids' Club.



AFTER SCHOOL & HOLIDAY CARE
3 YEARS +

PLAYCARE IN THE COMMUNITY

Do you need childcare in the school holidays?

The Little Kids' Club is a holiday club, under playcare, for 3 to 4-year-olds. Our aim is to facilitate a wide range of play opportunities for the children, where they have the freedom to choose what they would like to do; to provide an environment in which they feel emotionally, and physically safe, valued and motivated.

"PLAY IS A PROCESS, ONE THAT IS FLEXIBLE, INQUISITIVE, CREATIVE AND UNIQUE TO EACH CHILD"

The Little Kids' Club is located in St Mary's Youth and Community Centre. The club enjoys its own designated area within the centre and its own enclosed outdoor play area allowing for free flow play. A variety of activities, toys and resources are provided where the emphasis is on self directed play. It is open to all island and operates during all school holidays.

We offer the following sessions:

08:00/8:30 - 3:30

08:00/8:30 - 4:30

(We are flexible with the days/sessions you require, you do not need to book the whole week)



To book in or for more information please visit our website:
www.thekidsclub.je





JERSEY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY
MARATHON MILE



5 OCTOBER 2025
JERSEYMARATHON.COM

ENTER NOW!
Open to runners of all abilities aged 6+

It's fast, it's fun and it's for everyone! Choose between the Marathon Mile Sprint (open to sub 7 mile runners) or Marathon Mile Fun Run (open to everyone). Each runner will receive an official mile time, finisher medal and t-shirt. There are a number of trophies up for grabs including the School Shield and Sport Club Cup.

#LOVEYOURWATERFRONT **#RUNFORAREASON**