



F.T. News

News from First Tower School

October 2025



A Word from the Head

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow! How time has flown, it's half term already. The last 8 weeks have been very busy with all the children settling in well in their new classrooms and year groups. This week I and Mrs du Feu have had the pleasure to visit all year groups and observe some great learning; children all focused and eager to learn.

Just a little reminder, as an OPAL school children will go outside to play in all types of weather. It is definitely now autumn and winter is just round the corner; therefore, it is important all children come to school with a coat, preferably one with a hood. We have some waterproof capes, but not enough for everyone!

I wish you all a very relaxing half term break and look forward to seeing you all on Monday 3rd November.

Don't forget the cloaks go back this weekend.

Best wishes,

Mrs Linton

Headteacher

DIARY DATES

Half term Monday 27 October—Friday 31 October

Parent Consultations Tuesday 4 November and Thursday 6 November

BBC Children in Need Friday 14 November

Term ends Thursday 18 December

Term starts Monday 5 January

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%	

Health & Safety

A reminder to all parents that the safest place to cross the road from the car park to school is at the crossing patrolled area. The corner by the car park is very dangerous and large trucks travel frequently to and from Bellozanne. Please help to keep our community safe by using the crossing!

The clocks go back this weekend - think about what your child is wearing to be more visible: keep safe and be seen as mornings and afternoons grow darker.

Nursery

October has been a busy month in Nursery! We had porridge for our snack on World Porridge day and our focus text that week was 'Goldilocks and the three bears. We learnt how to do different character voices as Mrs Mahrer read the story.



We have been learning about Harvest and Autumn. We explored pumpkins and made pumpkin soup. It was delicious.



Reception

What a wonderful last week we have had in Reception! Our book of the week was 'Funnybones' where the children showcased their imaginative ideas whilst drawing various scenes from the story. We even learnt the bones song which we practiced throughout the week. The children used their phonic sounds to help write words around their drawings - we absolutely loved hearing their ideas.

In Maths, our focus was shapes - we used hoops during circle time to arrange triangles and circles into their correct groups, whilst using our oracy stem sentences to assist us, e.g. **I know that the green shape is a circle because it is round.** After this, we got into groups and went on a shape hunt around school to see which shapes we could find. The children enjoyed learning the shape song and sung along beautifully throughout the week.

We continued to be creative in Reception, as we use collage and paints to practice our artistic skills when creating our Christmas card designs. The children did fantastic work in Phonics; please ensure you continue to read with your children at home.

We wish you a wonderful half term break and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday
3rd November.

Year 1

We have been busy this month learning about materials in Science. We have found objects made of different materials around our school and had fun sorting and describing them. We also enjoyed making bird feeders as part of our learning about seasonal changes.



In English we have been learning to write labels and instructions based on the story Puffin Peter. And have enjoyed performing poems with actions. In Maths we have been learning the language of addition and subtraction.



In RE we have been learning about the Christian story of creation. We made story wheels and retold the story.



Year 2

In maths this month we did a lot of hands on practical work, especially with comparing—not just numbers but quantities in mass and measurements in ml and cm using different resources to help us!



In our PE lessons we have been doing ball skills and gymnastics! We have even incorporated some of the shapes we have learnt into games like musical statues where you must show a shape and stay in that as a statue.



Next term in our **dance** sessions for PE we will be incorporating some of these high and low shapes we learnt as well as making some of our own in the sessions!

The whole of Year 2 also performed in front of the school during assembly, to showcase the poem we had learnt. They all did brilliantly, well done Year 2!

Please ensure all items of clothing children bring in are named—children are losing clothing but items cannot be returned if they are not named!

Numbots is to be accessed at home as much as you can! Year 2 has a trophy that goes to whichever class has accessed it the most!



Numbots logins are in your child's homework book.



Year 3

We're excited to share all our amazing learning with you this month!

In **English** we have been analysing poetry, looking at "Free Verse Poems" all about autumn and nature. The children have been using some fantastic descriptive language in their drafts. We are looking forward to seeing the final poems after half term!

In **Science**, we have been focussing on 'Forces and Magnets'. We looked at how the earth has its own magnetic field by trying to make our own compass to face magnetic north.

In **Maths** we have been looking at 'fact families' mental fluency using addition and subtraction to solve problems using number facts, place value.

In **Topic** we have been learning about 'Scavengers and settlers'. Looking at different pre-historic ages looking and how people lived and survived during this times. This included an amazing trip to La Hougie Bie



In **PE** we finished our Gymnastics module with the using the big apparatus . The children have progressed fantastically with this and incorporated lots of techniques into their routines.



Year 4

We're excited to share with you all the fantastic learning your children have been doing so far this term in Year 4!

Railways and Trains

Our topic this term has continued to focus on railways and trains. The children have been exploring the history of trains and are working in pairs to create engaging presentations. They will also be designing their own 'Top Trump' style cards featuring different trains, which will help them develop both their creativity and research skills.

English

In writing lessons, the children have been improving their persuasive writing skills. They've chosen a variety of topics they feel passionate about, including littering, school trips, and learning musical instruments. It's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and growing confidence in expressing their opinions clearly and persuasively.

Music

Music continues to be a highlight for Year 4! In 4L, children are learning to play the clarinet, while 4P are mastering the violin. Both classes are making excellent progress and enjoying their lessons immensely.

Swimming

Our Year 4 swimmers are doing a fantastic job! The children have been developing their swimming skills steadily and are gaining confidence in the water.

Year 5

In our PSHE unit, 'Me and my relationships', Year 5 have been learning how to work collaboratively, being assertive, exploring emotional needs and what makes healthy friendships.



Year 5 started off their new writing unit with a tea tasting session. Using the experience to develop descriptive sentences using relative clauses.



Year 6



Some of our Year 6's had an important start to October by delivering their speeches in front of Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. They were applying for 4 different roles on the school council committee; Chairperson, Vice chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.



We were very lucky to have experienced the NSPCC's online safety play about a popular girl who shares images on platforms "inappropriate for her age". It was a very important message to be shared and the children were engaged throughout.

BioBlitz trip

The main aim of the Bioblitz trip was to encourage ownership and an appreciation of the island's marine environment. The objective was to learn about the Causeway intertidal environment, identifying the natural community and examine how different species cohabit and compete. Dealing with threats and changes that are taking place.





We are thrilled to share the success of our recent cake sale, which was held to support our upcoming residential trip. Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of our students, parents, and staff, we raised just over £300! The delicious treats and warm community spirit made the event a wonderful experience for everyone involved. This fantastic achievement brings us one step closer to making our trip an unforgettable adventure for all participants. Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped make it such a sweet success!

PE

A huge Well done to the netball team who won their match against JCP 4-3. A fantastic start to the season, we can't wait to see you progress and develop as a team.



Our footballers played their first match this month. A narrow 3-2 loss but lots of positives to take forward for the rest of the season. Well done!



Safeguarding Information Sharing: Children’s “Spy” Books

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children’s books by Andrew Cope, including the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats*, and *Spy Pups* series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author’s website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content.

The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

- If your child has any *Spy Dog*, *Spy Cat* or *Spy Pups* books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.
- It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.
- We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.



OCTOBER HALF TERM 2025
FIRST TOWER SCHOOL STUDENT
50% Discount applied

Venue: First Tower School
Indoor Sports Hall, Library, (interactive learning) and School
Playground

Monday 27th - Friday 31st October
Year groups - Year 1 to Year 6

5 Mornings: 8:30am-12noon £62.50

5 Afternoons: 12:30pm-4pm £62.50

5 Full Days: 8:30am-4pm £100

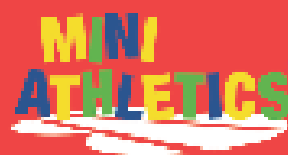


Single Morning or afternoon: £15
Single Full Day: £22.50



To book please contact us at
jerseyoffice@braziliansoccerschools.co.uk

ULTIMATE OCTOBER HOLIDAY CLUB



Looking for the best child-care option for your kids this half-term with lots of Halloween fun?

We have a fun-filled solution for you. With a fantastic mix of sport, play and crafts all with different magical themes each day, providing a completely unique offering that your children are guaranteed to love.

Running Monday - Friday 8.30am - 5.30pm: you can book a full week, half days or single days

- Athletics sessions
- Sprint training
- Multi-sports: dodgeball, football, rounders, basketball, netball, obstacle courses and more
- Dance classes, gymnastics and yoga
- Lots of arts and crafts activities and slime play
- A chill out zone with jewellery making, hamma beads, Lego building, Bey Blades, stories, puzzles and more
- Fun games and parachute games
- The ultimate Bouncy castle sessions, disco, quizzes, scavenger hunt, treasure hunt, and so much more



A qualified teacher will be on site at all times ensuring your children are in the best hands, plus our amazing sports coaches.

**Haute Vallee
School
ages 4 - 11
years**

"just to say a big thank you for E's wonderful time at your camp - she had an absolute ball and asked when she was going back"**



www.miniathletics.com





MAKE A SPLASH WITH OUR SWIMMING **CRASH COURSE!**

Looking for a fun and effective way to boost your child's swimming skills over the holidays? Our intensive crash course is the perfect way for your little one to build water confidence and improve technique.



CRASH COURSE OVERVIEW:

- > 30-minute sessions every day, Monday to Friday at Les Quennevais Sports Centre
- > Suitable for children aged 3+
- > Small group lessons tailored by stage and ability
- > £49.95 per child per week
- > Includes: Personal achievement award and badge

COURSE DATES:

- > Monday 27th to Friday 31st October



To book, please call 01534 449888, email active@gov.je or speak to a member of the team the next time you visit Les Quennevais!



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JERSEY KIDS' TRIATHLON



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*Early Bird ends 28/02/2026



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