



F.T. News

News from First Tower School

November 2025



A Word from the Head

Dear parents and carers,

What a busy day it has been today! Glitter, snowflakes, reindeer noses, sparkly pom poms as well as Christmas tunes around the school, all the children have been beavering away on our annual "Deco Day". Lots of fun has been had by all.

It has been a busy month and earlier on in November the school received a surprise visit from Pudsey Bear. A special shout out for Rutvi, Sophia and Tommy who were all interviewed by BBC radio. The children spoke with confidence and weren't fazed at all about speaking on live radio.

Currently, Reception and Year 2 are busy rehearsing for their Christmas productions and I have no doubt they will be splendid performances.

Earlier this week you should have received a flier with key dates and information for all our different Christmas events, including our Carol Service, which this year returns to St Andrews Church. This is always a personal highlight of the school's Christmas calendar and I look forward to seeing you there.

Wishing you all a very happy weekend,

Mrs L Linton
Headteacher

DIARY DATES

Reception Nativity Tuesday 9 December

Y2 Nativity Monday 15 December

Y5/6 Carol Concert Tuesday 16 December

Christmas Party Day & Christmas Disco Wednesday 17 December

Term ends Thursday 18 December

Term starts Monday 5 January



We are currently focusing on learning how oracy can support children in their learning. Staff have taken part in continued professional development over the past year to learn strategies for children to speak with more purpose and confidence to encourage them to explain their thinking and learning alongside structured ways to have quality discussions and constructive debates.

We have just introduced a Talk Thursday whereby every class discusses their opinions on a statement made. This week's statement was " All children should do chores". You can imagine some of the reasoning and conversations that the children had about this subject!

This initiative will be taking part every Thursday, so please make sure you have a conversation about their thoughts each week.



Oracy vision at First Tower School

Our vision for oracy here at First tower School is to foster children's confidence in expressing their ideas, feelings, and opinions, both in school and beyond. It aims to equip them with the tools to articulate their thoughts clearly, engage in meaningful conversations, and confidently speak in public. The goal is for children to become competent, well-rounded communicators, able to share their ideas, self-advocate, and engage in debates. Through various opportunities, including cross-curricular activities and pupil voice sessions, children will develop strong speaking and listening skills, expanding their vocabulary and reasoning abilities. Ultimately, the vision is to ensure that all children feel confident and capable in using their voice to communicate effectively in diverse situations.

Student Talk Tactics



Instigate Present an idea or open up a new line of inquiry “ I would like to start by saying ____ “ I think ____ “ We haven't yet talked about ____ Instigate	Probe Dig deeper, ask for evidence or justification of ideas “ Why do you think ____? “ What evidence do you have to support X idea? “ Could you provide an example? Probe
Challenge Disagree or present an alternative argument “ I disagree because ____ “ To challenge you X, I think ____ “ I understand your point of view, but have you thought about ____? Challenge	Clarify Asking questions to make things clearer and check your understanding “ So are you saying ____? “ Does that mean ____? “ Can you clarify what you mean by ____? Clarify
Summarise Identify and recap the main ideas “ So far we have talked about ____ “ The main points raised today were ____ “ Our discussion focused on ____ Summarise	Build Develop, add to or elaborate on an idea. “ Building on X's idea ____ “ I agree and would like to add ____ “ X's idea made me think ____ Build





We were so excited that Pudsey joined us for Children in Need on 14th November and delighted to have raised £403.60!

Nursery

Nursery held a cake sale to help raise money for Children in Need. Our parents brought cakes and biscuits to nursery and we had lots of visitors during the day. The cake sale raised £304.00 for Children in Need so a huge thank you to all that supported our cake sale. We brought our teddies to nursery for the day and had a Teddy Bear's picnic at snack time.



We had a visit from Flair entertainment. Their performance was called 'The Elves and the Shoemaker'. It was about two elves that helped a shoemaker by making new shoes whilst he slept. It was very funny. The elves were very mischievous.



To celebrate Bonfire Night, we had hot chocolate and marshmallows around a 'bonfire' and watched some fireworks.



Reception

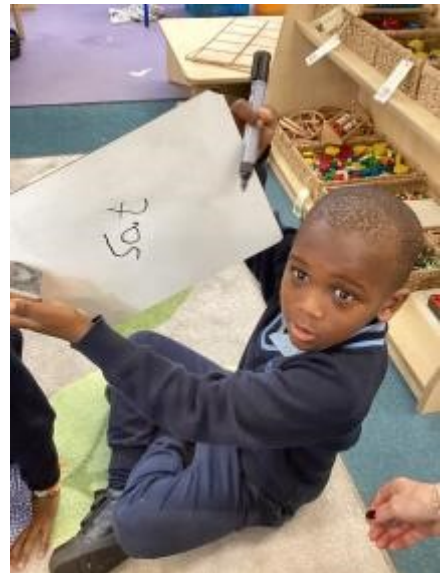
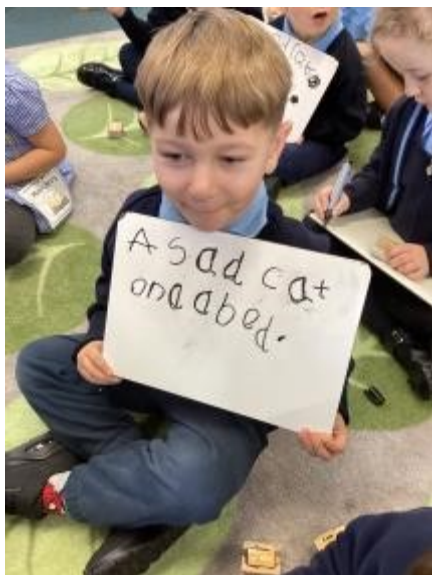


We have had a busy and exciting November so far and are all really looking forward to December because we have lots of exciting things planned.

We have enjoyed using the 'NowPressPlay' headphones to listen to and immerse ourselves in different stories.



We have also been working hard in phonics, learning lots of new sounds and applying them to writing words. Miss McCabe has been really impressed with everyone's handwriting and letter formation and has loved seeing the progress everyone has made since September. Well done Reception!



Reception

We have really got stuck into PE this half term and have been practising our balance, strength and co-ordination in our 'fundamentals' unit.



...and we can't forget meeting Pudsey the Bear on Children in Need day!



Year 1

We have been reading traditional stories in English and had fun retelling the story of The Princess and the Pea.



We enjoyed writing recipes and making Fox's sandwiches in Design and Technology, using healthy ingredients.



We have been learning about the jobs people do as part of our topic 'A day in the life'. We had fun dressing up in different uniforms and talking about the jobs we would like to do when we are older!



Year 2

This term we have been busy rehearsing for our Nativity show coming up! The children have put so much hard work into this and we cannot wait to share our performance with you in December.



For remembrance day we created a poppy collage in the shape of a poppy!

11/11/25

In Science, we have been exploring everyday materials. This has been very hands on and in Year 2 we have loved experimenting and investigating!

We have learnt the difference between reversible and irreversible changes with materials we used paper, playdoh, a plastic bag and fabric to test this.



Please ensure you send your child to school with a **coat** this term — we are an OPAL school and send the children out to play in most weather!



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

Science:

In Science, Year 3 have been learning about the topic of 'Light'. Specifically, we have been looking at what 'light' means and the meaning behind the absence of light.

During our last lesson, our learning intention was looking at sizes of shadows and why they change! In this lesson, we made shadow puppets and used a torch as our light source to create shadows.



English

In English, we have looking at different fables. We looked at 'Koala Who Could', 'The Lion and The Mouse', understanding how a fable has a moral lesson that teaches us something as we read. This module ended with the children writing their own fables, which were amazing!

Topic

This half term in topic, we have been learning about pre-historic Jersey. This was building on from our visit to La Hougue Bie, where we have been looking at the landscape, tools, and way of life of neanderthals and early homo-sapiens here in Jersey.



Year 4

We've had a wonderfully busy and exciting month in Year 4, filled with hands-on learning, creativity, and festive fun!

Science — Exploring Electrical Circuits

This month in Science, Year 4 have been learning all about electrical circuits. The children worked collaboratively to investigate how circuits function, experimenting with components such as wires, bulbs, and switches. They showed fantastic teamwork and curiosity as they explored what makes a circuit complete and how different elements affect the flow of electricity.



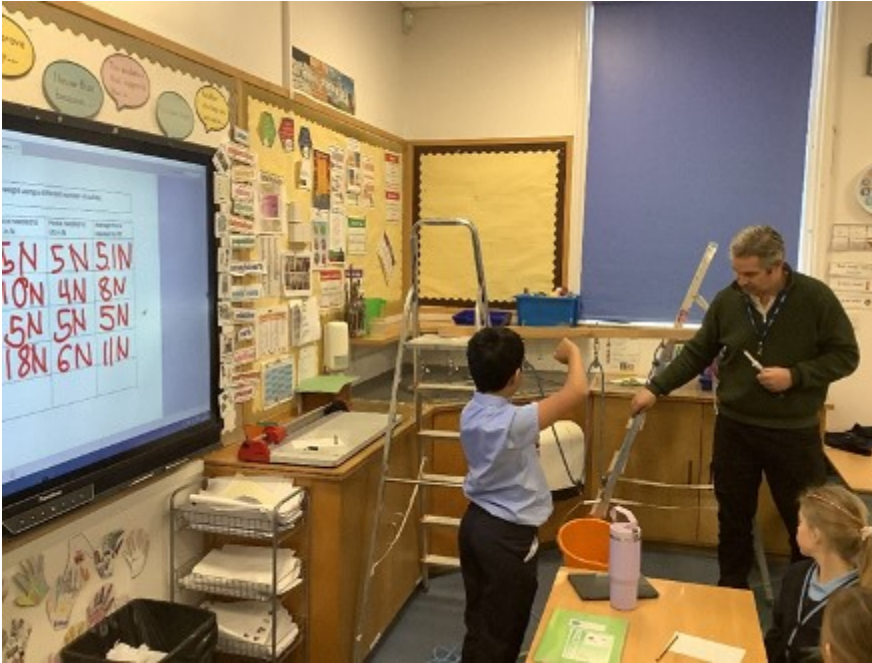
Topic and English — Incredible Inventions

In our Topic and English lessons, we have been diving into the fascinating world of inventions. We began by learning about the invention of the telephone and how it has changed communication over time. In English, the children have been busy inventing their own imaginative machines and writing clear and detailed explanation texts to describe how they work. Their creativity has been brilliant to see!

Music

Our music concerts are just around the corner, and Year 4 have been

Year 5



In science both classes looked at how a set of pulleys can help to lift a heavy load. Mr Bone asked for volunteers to use a force meter to see how much effort it took to lift a 1000g weight.

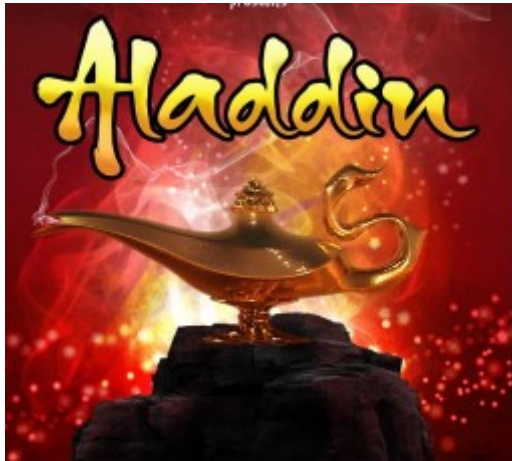
Joseph's dad came in to teach us about how God is loving and why we pray and how hymns and singing can help the church. He taught us this with snippets of



Linking to our topic, Rivers, we had a debate in groups about whether water bottles are a good thing or whether they should be banned.

Year 6

Year 6 children were lucky enough to be invited to Haute Vallee to see their school production of Aladdin. The children really enjoyed it and it has given some of them the acting bug ready for future performances.



In Maths, we have been learning about fractions, decimals and percentages. Within this unit we have been converting between the three in order to order and compare them.



The children have really immersed themselves in the theme, beginning with our fascinating trip to the war tunnels, where they explored what life was like during wartime. We also held a special WWII Day in school, filled with hands-on activities including wartime baking, learning about rationing, and creating our own propaganda posters. It has been a fantastic opportunity for the pupils to deepen their understanding of the era through engaging, memorable experiences.



Some of our Year 6 children took part in the Sea Perch Competition run by the Ports of Jersey.

The children worked well as a group and successfully built a ROV (Remote Operated Vehicle). They came joint 4th overall. Well done!

One of the children were chosen by the Engineers for the Sea Perch choice award. This is a significant achievement as she was selected for her contributions throughout the process. She was also only one of two children selected across the island.



PE

Netball

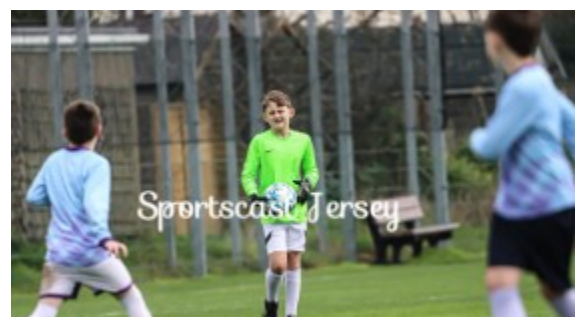
This month the Year 5 and 6 netball team had their latest fixture. In a really tough match the children showed fantastic team work and dedication to come out 5-2 winners! Super job!

We are looking forward to another match next week and a tournament in December.



Football

Our footballers took part in the 'Jersey Primary School Cup'. It was a really tough day with lots of matches and strong competition. The team came in 4th place in our group, (out of 7) which was a great effort but not quite enough to make it to the next stage. Well done to all and thank you to Sportscast Jersey for some of these great action shots!



Sunshine Room



Here in the Sunshine Room, we have been very lucky to have the opportunity to work with Stephen from GROW each Friday morning this term. We have used the playground to do lots of outdoor learning activities, lead by Forest School expert, Stephen. We have made smelly potions, by picking leaves and flowers, made autumn artwork with leaves, cooked marshmallows, made hot chocolate and sawed branches to make wooden discs.



FRIENDS OF FIRST TOWER

Pre-loved Sale!



**Saturday 13 December
11am to 1pm**

Everything priced at 50p!

- Uniform
- Children's clothes
- Adults clothes
- Toys/games
- Books
- Homeware



**School disco tickets will also
be available!**



Regrettably we are unable to accept any further donations at this stage. Thank you for your understanding.



FRIENDS OF FIRST TOWER

CHRISTMAS DISCO 2025



**Wednesday
17 December**

**Years 1 and 2
3.30 to 4.30pm**

**Years 3 and 4
4.45 to 6pm**

**Years 5 and 6
6.15 to 7.30pm**



Ticket price: £3

to include a drink and snack



**BRAZILIAN
SOCCER SCHOOLS®**

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS 2025

FIRST TOWER SCHOOL STUDENT

50% Discount applied



Venue: First Tower School

Indoor Sports Hall, Library, (interactive learning) and School
Playground for breaks

Year groups - Year 1 to Year 6

Friday 19th December

Monday 22nd - Wednesday 24th December

Monday 29th - Wednesday 31st December

Friday 2nd January

**December 24th & 31st mornings only*

Single Morning - 8.30am-12noon - £15

Single Afternoon - 12.30pm-4pm - £15

Single Full Day - 8.30am-4pm - £22.50

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

★ A JERSEY CHRISTMAS ★

Forest School Experience

20TH AND 21ST DECEMBER 2025

9am, 12noon and 3pm on both days

For children Nursery to Year 6



*Experience the magic of Christmas outdoors
in the heart of the woodland at
Home Farm in Grouville*

- ★ Roast S'Mores over the campfire
- ★ Make natural Christmas crafts
- ★ Elf hunt in the woods
- ★ Hot chocolate included

Tickets: £25 per child (adults free)
for a two hour experience

Book with Aaron
labeylimited@gmail.com
07797 762524

Labey Limited





Children's Christmas Party – 9th December

Join us for a magical festive evening at our Children's Christmas Party on Tuesday 9th December, 5:30pm – 7:30pm!

- Santa will be making a special visit at 6:10pm – don't miss it!
- Party games – hosted by Grands Vaux Youth Project
- Kids' snacks
- Face painting
- Lots of festive fun for all!

Bring the little ones along for an evening filled with Christmas joy and community spirit.

We can't wait to celebrate with you!