

# Defford-cum-Besford CE First School

## Newsletter 17th October 2025

### Driving around Hill View



There have been some recent safety concerns from our community regarding vehicles driving down Hill View to reach the school. Please help keep our children safe by reducing your speed considerably when approaching the school and not parking on the yellow zig-zags in front of the school gates. Also, whilst waiting in your car, please turn off the engine.

Thank you for your support.

### School Values

We have looked as a staff at our school values to give them a refresh. We have decided to base our values on The Fruits of the Spirit (Galatians). The Fruits of the Spirit are the character traits of the spirit of God that is in us. The fruits consist of **Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-control.**

We will be focusing on a value each month and using that in our assemblies and conversations with the pupils. The value for October is **Joy.**

We will soon be awarding an additional certificate each week for a child who has embodied the value in their daily lives in school.



## Communication



If parents have any important or medical information to pass onto the school, **please email or speak to the office** rather than use Class Dojo. The teachers will not constantly monitor Dojo during the day as they are teaching, whereas the office emails are monitored and information can be quickly passed to the relevant members of staff.

## Willow Class

Fun with the Boomwhackers in Willow, musical development and listening skills.



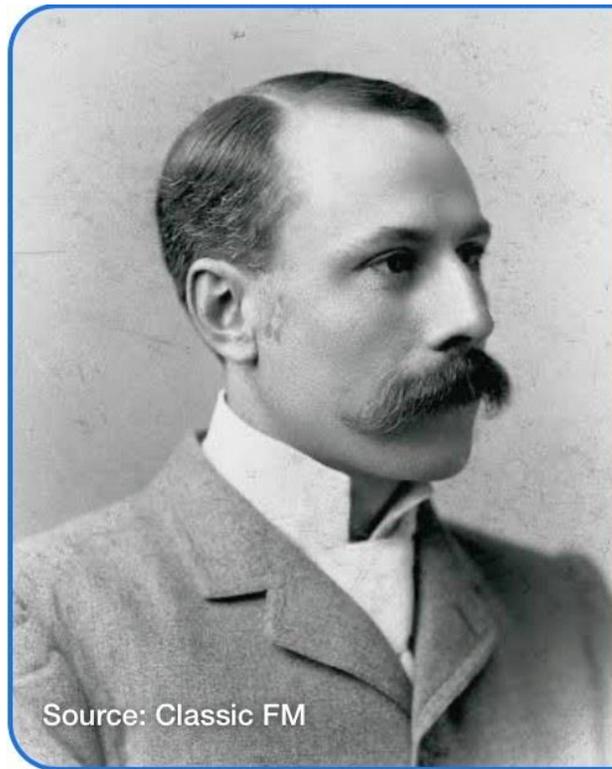
Hibernating hedgehogs and clay hedgehogs in forest school today







## Musician of the month - Elgar



## Birch Class

Birch Class have been exploring the work of Friedensreich Hundertwasser and how he used vibrant colours in his work. The children were inspired by Hundertwasser's no straight lines approach to painting and architecture.

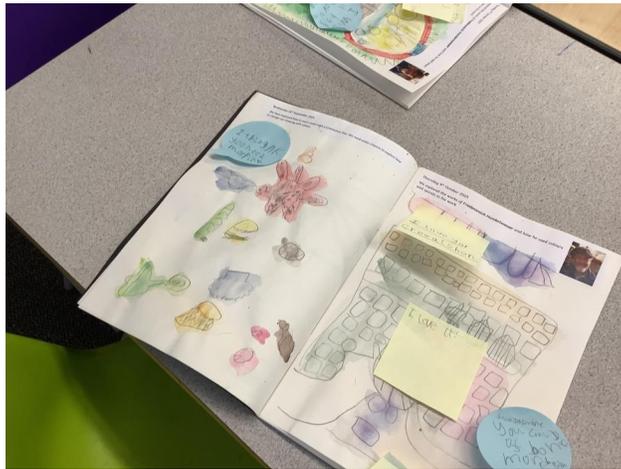
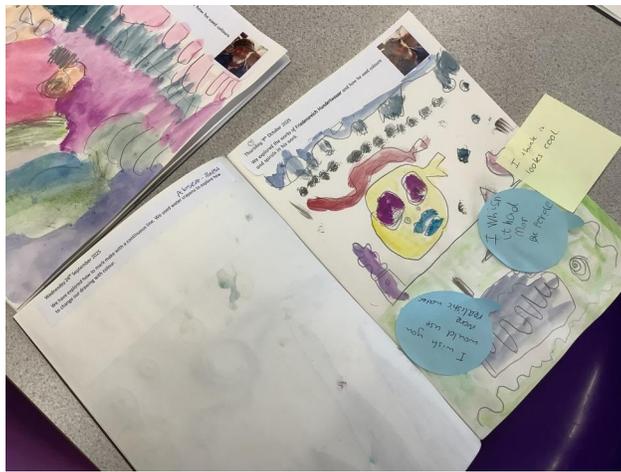
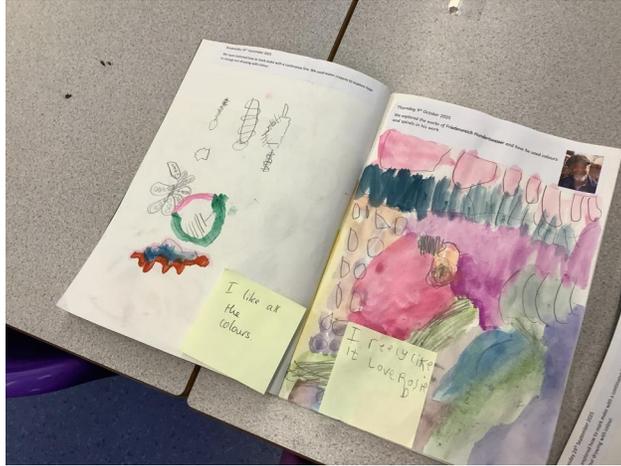


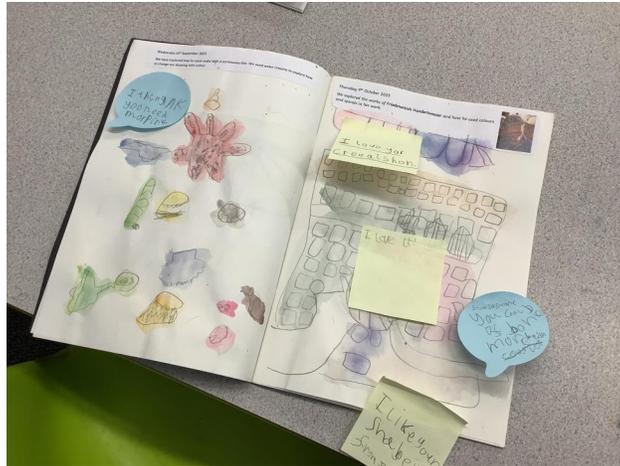




We have also looked back at this half terms artwork. We used the star and wish method to critique each other's work and find what we loved and what we wished the artist would do next time. The children were really mature and everyone was pleased with their positive and constructive feedback







## Oak Class

Oak class made and then tasted overnight porridge





## Ash Class

Ash enjoyed baking oat-based muffins to celebrate world porridge day.







Hockey Club





## Defford Cowleasow Trust



### DEFFORD COWLEASOW TRUST

The Defford Cowleasow Trust is a local charity which has funds available for those living in the parish of Defford, who are in need, hardship, or distress. **Anyone associated with the parish, or who are resident immediately outside the parish may be considered for assistance.**

Needs come in all shapes and sizes and few of us can say we have not needed help at some point on our lives.

In the past, grants have been made to help with costs for:

- Winter fuel or electricity bills.
- Unexpected household repairs or other needs.
- Expenses for Further/Higher Education courses.
- Hospital visiting and costs involving the care of a sick person.
- Provision of specialist equipment for the disabled or housebound.
- Physiotherapy or other care services in the home.

**All suggestions or applications are always considered in confidence.** If you feel we may be able to help you, or someone else living within the parish of Defford, please contact Sue at: [Cowleasow.defford@gmail.com](mailto:Cowleasow.defford@gmail.com)

## Bridges of Light - new festival in Worcester

**BRIDGES  
OF LIGHT.**

Presented by Severn Arts  
Part of the Local Voices Creative Choices programme

**Worcester City Centre**  
Free to Attend

**29 and 30  
October  
6pm-9pm**

Bridges of Light is a new, two-day light festival, with a focus on communities, creativity and collaboration.

Severn Arts

Through high quality light artwork, we invite you to share in our community stories. Visit our light installations, take part in our interactive artworks, grab a bite to eat, and enjoy Bridges of Light with family and friends.

Visit our website to discover more about Bridges of Light - meet the artists, explore their work, and find out how to navigate Worcester City Centre during the festival.



Share your videos and photos by tagging @SevernArts and using the hashtag #BridgesofLightWorcester

## Funders and Supporters



We are excited to announce Bridges of Light, a new two-day light festival with a focus on communities, creativity and collaboration.

- Wednesday 29 and Thursday 30 October
- 6pm - 9pm
- Worcester City Centre
- Free to attend and suitable for all ages

We invite you to share in our community stories, visit our light installations, take part in our interactive artworks and grab a bite to eat! Enjoy Bridges of Light with family and friends.

Find out more by following us on socials @SevernArts #BridgesofLightWorcester and visiting our website: <https://www.severnarts.org.uk/listing/category/bridges-of-light>

Bridges of Light is presented by [Severn Arts](#) and is part of the [Local Voices, Creative Choices](#) Programme.

## What matters most to you - have your say in Wychavon's Residents' Survey 2025

Wychavon District Council wants to hear from you!

Wychavon's annual Residents' Survey is now live, and it's your chance to tell them what matters most to you about life in Wychavon. As a thank you, entrants will be entered into a prize draw to win one of four £100 vouchers to spend at a local business of their choice.

The survey is short and simple to complete – it only takes about 10 minutes – but your feedback will help Wychavon understand what's working well, what needs improving, and how satisfied you are with council services.

The survey is open until 9 November 2025.

**Click here to take part** - [smartsurvey.co.uk](https://smartsurvey.co.uk)

Please encourage family and friends that live in Wychavon to take part too.

## Attendance

Please follow [this link](#) if you are unsure if your child is well enough to attend school.

Class attendance since last newsletter:

**Willow - 99.6%**

Birch - 94.8%

Oak - 90.3%

Ash - 98.2%

***Well done to Willow class!***

Whole School Attendance this year

Defford-cum-Besford CE First School - 95.1%

National - 95.8%

Local Authority - 96%

## Dates for your diary

Wednesday 22nd October - Oak class rescheduled trip to Chedworth Roman Villa

Wednesday 22nd October - Friends Association Autumn Disco - Willow Class - 5-5.45pm

Wednesday 22nd October - Friends Association Autumn Disco - Birch / Oak / Ash - 6-7pm

Friday 24th October - Friends Association Pumpkin Patch 3.15pm

Monday 27th -Friday 31st October - Half term

Tuesday 4th November - Year 1 Phonics overview for parents 3.30pm

Wednesday 5th November - Year 2 Spelling overview for parents 3.30pm

Friday 28th November - Friends Association Non uniform day for Raffle prizes

Thursday 4th December - STAR Project show for parents 4pm

Friday 5th December - Friends Association Christmas Fayre

Thursday 18th December - Last day of term