



Tiverton Academy

One School Many Talents



24th October 2025

A Fantastic Finish to Half Term!

What a wonderful and busy half term we've had! It's been fantastic to see how quickly all the children have settled into school and are working hard. We've seen some truly brilliant things happening in the classrooms, including some stunning artwork that has brightened up our walls. I'm especially proud of our Year 3 and Year 4 children who have made amazing strides with their times tables! This week was particularly exciting as our brilliant Year 4 and Year 3 classes completely smashed their Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) competition. Year 4 finished an astonishing 6th place overall against 22 other TEFAT schools across the country. A huge cheer also goes to Year 3 for rocking their way to an incredible 3rd place! Thanks to both year groups for their hard work, determination, and amazing team spirit. The children gave it their all, practising both at school and at home, and their effort truly paid off. A massive THANK YOU to all our parents and carers for encouraging your children at home; your support truly makes a difference.

We also continue to celebrate excellent attendance. Every week, we give a special shout-out to the children who manage 100% attendance for the whole week. After the holiday, we'll be recognising those children who achieved 100% attendance for the entire half term - what a fantastic commitment!

Finally, I want to thank you all for your generosity supporting our recent Harvest Festival at the church. The children sang beautifully yet again! After half term we will be reflecting on gratitude and kindness by collecting donations of food and essential items for the Cotteridge food bank - this will make a huge difference to local families in need - please check out the slide with further information.

I am incredibly proud of all of our children and their many achievements this half term. It's been a long and rewarding time, and now it's time to rest and relax. Have a wonderful and safe half term break, and we look forward to seeing you all refreshed in a week!

Best wishes
Mrs Dunn



Dates for your diary

03.11.25 Donations for Cotteridge Food bank

03.11.25 Remembrance Poppies on sale - please send donation

11.11.25 Remembrance Day

12.11.25 Teacher Training Day (Wed) - School closed to pupils

13.11.25 New Reception parents (2026/27) open morning 10-11am

14.11.25: Children In Need 2025

02.12.2025: Reception and Y1 'Movie Night' (3.30 - 4.30pm)

03.12.2025: KS2 theatre production

03.12.2025: EYFS/ KS1 'Flippy and Dippy' disco

03.12.2025: Y2 and KS2 'Movie Night' (3.30 - 5.00pm)

05.12.2025: Christmas dinner and festive clothes

10.12.26: Christmas Fair

19.12.25: Class parties - PM (own clothes all day)



Dates for your diary

Please note that on the following days school will be closed to children due to Teacher Training Days.

- Monday 1st September 2025
- Tuesday 2nd September 2025
- Wednesday 12th November 2025
- Monday 23rd February 2026
 - Monday 20th July 2026



School Year 2025 to 2026

Autumn Term 2025

Term starts: Monday 1st September 2025

Half-term: Monday 27th October 2025 to Friday 31st October 2025

Term ends: Friday 19th December 2025

Training day: Monday 1st September 2025

Training day: Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Training day: Wednesday 12th November 2025

Spring Term 2026

Term starts: Monday 5th January 2026

Half-term: Monday 16th February 2026 to Friday 20th February 2026

Term ends: Friday 27th March 2026

Training day: Monday 23rd February 2026

Summer Term 2026

Term starts: Monday 13th April 2026

Half-term: Monday 25th May 2026 to Friday 29th May 2026

Term ends: Monday 20th July 2026

Training day: Monday 20th July 2026



Harvest Festival - Food Donations

Following our Harvest Festival, we are collecting food and other essential items for the [Cotteridge Food Bank](#). We understand that times are hard for many families at the moment and there is absolutely no obligation for you to donate. If you would like to make a donation please send it into school by 14/11/25 we will then deliver it to the food bank. Items that the food bank particularly require are listed below:

Urgently needed items

Tinned/carton instant custard
Small jars of instant coffee (not decaf)
UHT long-life fruit juice
UHT long-life milk
Liquid/bars of soap
Tinned spaghetti
Jam and honey
Sugar (500g)
Tinned fruit in juice
(not rhubarb, prunes or grapefruit)
Tinned meat /meat products
Cereal (not greater than 500g)
Toothpaste

Lower in Stock

Tinned rice pudding
Rice (500g)
Tinned tomatoes
Baked beans
Sugar (500g)
Tinned vegetables (peas, carrots, sweet corn)
Pasta sauce
Tinned fish (mackerel, tuna, sardines, salmon)
Squash
Tea bags (40's or 80's)
Tinned or packet vegetarian meals
Toilet Rolls
Tinned soup
Washing up liquid
Instant hot chocolate (not cocoa powder)
Laundry powder/liquid
Gender neutral shampoo and shower gel
Chocolate bars
Pasta shapes
Instant potato / noodles

Please do not donate

Any food or drink containing alcohol
Fresh produce including vegetables, eggs and bread.
Coffee beans
Large boxes of teabags (120 or larger)
Loose tea, cocoa powder
Very large boxes of cereal or porridge
Make up/Hair Accessories Perfume / After Shave
Medicines

Thank you so
much
for your
support



Other Information

Year 6 parents - please do not forget to sign up for your child's secondary school choices. The deadline is 31st October 2025.

www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

The council send through a list of which parents have and at the last count more hadn't sent theirs off than had. Please do not leave it to chance.

PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS 2026

ARE OPEN!

It's important you apply for your child's reception class school place online before the **15 January 2026**.

Late applications are less likely to be offered a place at any of your preferred schools.



For more
information,
scan the
QR code



Birmingham
City Council

Communication



We strive to provide the very best educational experience for your child. If you have any concerns at all, please speak with your child's teacher in the first instance, or with a member of the Senior Leadership Team. We're committed to doing our very best for your children and can only properly investigate and resolve issues when we are aware of the source. Please be aware that, following our school policy, anonymous complaints will not receive a formal response. Thank you for helping us maintain an open and constructive school environment.

Email communications

Please email your questions or requests to enquiry@tivertonacademy.org. Your email will then be forwarded to the relevant person. Our aim would be to respond to your email within 5 working days. We will do this by either replying to your email, speaking with you in the playground, by telephone or arranging a face to face meeting.

Parents and carers are asked to not email members of staff directly and should not expect a response if choosing to do so.

Children's Wellbeing and Family Support (Pastoral) communications

If you would like to speak to Miss Mason, our Pastoral Lead, you can email pastoral@tivertonacademy.org. Our aim would be to respond to your email within 5 working days.

If you have an urgent concern or request, please call the school office on 0121 464 3125 to make an appointment to speak to Miss Mason. Our aim would be to respond to telephone calls within 24 hours.

SEND communications

If you have a question or request relating to your child's special educational need, then please speak with Miss Abell our SENDCo. You can email her directly on send@tivertonacademy.org. Our aim would be to respond to any email within 5 working days, however in some cases our response times may need to be longer.

Communication Policy

School uniform

It is very important that your child attends school wearing the correct school uniform everyday. School uniforms promote equality, unity, and better behavior, contributing to a focused learning environment.

All uniform can be bought online
www.brigadeuniformdirect.uk.com

If you do not have access to the internet some items of the school uniform can be purchased in school. Just ask at the school office.

Boys

- School jumper with school logo
- White polo shirt or white shirt
- Grey trousers
- Black school shoes

Girls

- School jumper or cardigan with school logo
- White polo shirt or white shirt
- Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore
- Black school shoes
- Navy blue head scarf (if worn)

A school bag can also be purchased.

✓ SUITABLE	✗ UNSUITABLE
Examples of the type of school shoes that are appropriate:	Examples of the type of school shoes that are not appropriate:
	 Canvas shoes
	 Sports Trainers
	 Non-sensible shoes
	 Branded shoes



PE Kit

As we have done this year, from September 2025, children will come to school in their PE kits on the days their class has a PE lesson. This has proved very successful and we have received positive feedback from parents/carers.

Please ensure that children continue to wear the correct PE kit on PE days. Maintaining our high standards of appearance is important, even during sports activities. Thank you for your support in keeping our children looking smart and ready to learn.

For PE children must wear:

- Black or blue jogging bottoms, leggings or shorts.
- Plain white t-shirt
- School jumper/cardigan
- Black pumps or plain black trainers



PE days for each class:

Monday: Year 6

Tuesday: Year 2/ Year 3/ Year 4/ Year 5

Wednesday: Reception/ Year 1

Thursday: Year 2/ Year 5

Friday: Year 1/ Year 3/ Year 6

****Monday: 'Forest School' - Reception**

For Forest School, Reception children need to wear:

Clothes and shoes that can get muddy!

- Warm, waterproof clothing
- A long sleeved top
- Jogging bottoms or leggings
- Old trainers
- Please also ensure your child has wellingtons on their Forest School days.





Here is a reminder of the before and after school clubs we are offering at Tiverton Academy, run by trusted external agencies to enrich your child's learning experience. These clubs provide a wonderful opportunity for your children to explore new interests, develop skills and have fun in a safe and structured environment. Feedback so far has been that the children are LOVING IT!!

The current available clubs are:

- **Fencing - KS2: after school (Tuesday)**
- **Gymnastics - Reception / KS1 / KS2: before school (Thursday)**
- **Dance - Reception / KS1 / KS2: after school (Thursday)**

If your child is interested in attending one of the above clubs, please come and speak with Mrs Weblin and she will be able to provide you with all of the information you need.

We also enrich our curriculum with fully funded opportunities within the school day. These include: Super Choir, recorder lessons, clarinet lessons, ukulele lessons, keyboard lessons, participation at after school music events such as Symphony Hall etc, School of Football, various sporting events and tournaments, Birmingham Royal Ballet, Loudmouth Theatre, involvement with Bham University Art department and Rackets Cubed - amongst many others.



Reception

We are so proud of how the children have settled into school life during their first half term in school.

This half term we started our first Gymnastics lessons with Mr Campbell. We love PE!



Our arms, shoulders and hands are getting stronger to help us when we are writing. Dough Disco is one of our favourite things to do.



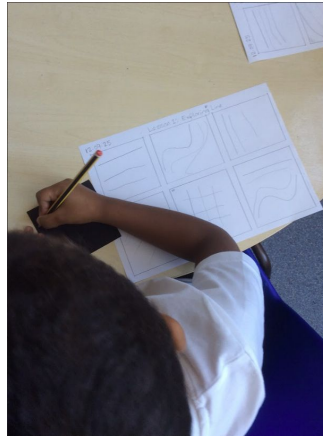
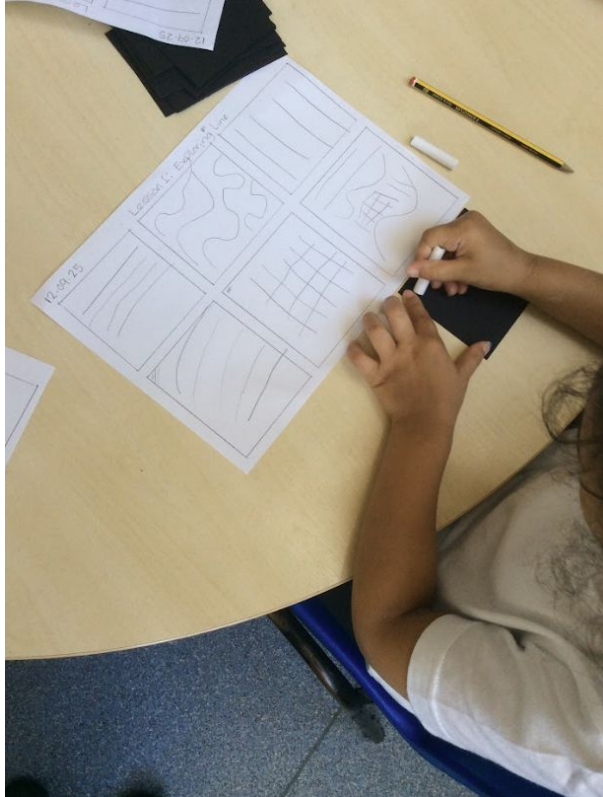
Look out for dates coming soon for our Reception Parent meeting.

Don't forget to check Reception class dojo to find out what has been happening in Reception



TIME
spent playing with
CHILDREN
is never time
wasted

Year 1



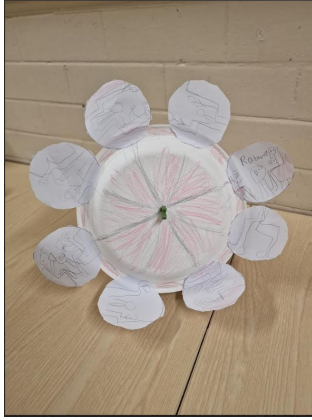
Year one have been focusing on making marks using pencils and chalk. We have identified and used key vocabulary: horizontal, wavy, vertical, cross hatch.

Our artist focus this lesson was Bridget Riley. We all agreed her artwork moved a lot!

Just a reminder our PE days are Wednesdays and Fridays. You have been sent tricky words for phonics please practice 4-5 words weekly.

You have received your Collins logins for Reading and Mathletics logins. You will find these at the front of your reading records.

Year 2



Just a reminder our PE days are Tuesdays and Thursdays. You have been sent tricky words for phonics please practice 4-5 words weekly.



We also start swimming from Tuesday 4th November and every subsequent Tuesday until the end of term.



In DT year 2 have created their ferris wheels! Over the course of the term, year 2 have been designing a ferris wheel. They took inspiration from landmarks like big ben, learnt about the mechanics of it (such as the axle) and finally, they used recycled boxes and plates in order to create the final pieces. Well done year 2.

Please take time to read for pleasure over the half term. Reading is a perfect activity during the colder months and it encourages a love for reading when it takes place with family members.

Year 3

This term, Year 3 have been travelling back in time through their art lessons inspired by real prehistoric cave paintings, the children have been learning how early humans used natural materials like charcoal, clay and ochre to tell stories through images.

They experimented with earthy colours, textured backgrounds and even used their hands to recreate the look of ancient markings found in caves around the world. The pupils loved exploring how people once communicated through pictures of animals, hunters and handprints - long before writing was invented!

Their finished artworks look fantastic and really capture the mystery and creativity of early human life. Well done, Year 3!



Just a reminder our PE day is Thursday and we go to Rackets Cubed for four Mondays starting 3rd November. We also start swimming from Tuesday 4th November and every subsequent Tuesday until the end of term.



Year 4

★ Important Y4 Homework Info ★

📖 Spelling & Handwriting 📖

Every Thursday, Y4 have a spelling test and get 8 new words to learn. To help practise, we recommend the *Look-Cover-Write-Check* method. Once practised, we ask that they write sentences including the words from the week - a good chance to practise handwriting too. Please bring the sheet back in each Thursday to show us!

📖 Reading 📖

Every child has a reading diary and a reading for pleasure book. We ask that they record at least 3 reads a week in their diary either reading by themselves or aloud to an adult/sibling. If you listen to your child read, feel free to write a comment - we love to read them!

📖 Times Tables & Maths 📖

By the end of Y4, all children are expected to know their multiplication tables up to 12×12 . To support this, every child has access to the app *Times Table Rockstars* to practise at home and at school. Logins to *TTRS* and *Mathletics* (a curriculum-aligned Maths subscription we also provide for all our children) can be found in your child's reading diary.

We are very pleased with our new Year 4 class. They have settled into our whole school routines and expectations brilliantly. They are working hard every day to demonstrate that they are being **kind**, **ready** to learn and making sure that everyone is **safe** and happy.

Our Tiverton value this half term is **cooperation** and we are really enjoying getting to know our new Kagan teams and practising our skills: taking turns, listening and being supportive coaches. We are learning that **everyone** in our team is important and we all have something to contribute.

We've already done so much this term: learning about beats in music; lines of latitude and longitude in geography; how to be good friends in RSHE; how lives of children were different in the past, expressing joy and happiness in RE and our digestive system in Science and so much more including learning the ukulele and swimming too! Wow!
Below is a little snapshot of our latest drawing work - we're learning about tone, contrast and composition.

😊 It's going to be a great year! 😊



Year 5

Our KAGAN  target Social Skill is
quiet voices

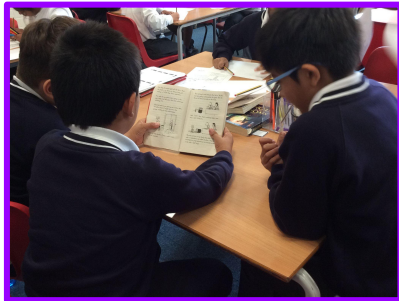


The children have made a great start to the year and we are all getting along with work and each other very well.

We are all adjusting to the new routines in Y5 and we are all learning together.

KAGAN is a big part of our lessons and we are being very **cooperative** with one another.

Every day we remind ourselves of our expectations, to be **kind, ready and safe**.



Here are some photographs of us all having a Reading For Pleasure session. This lesson is really important in helping us realise the **type of reader** we are and nurtures a **love of reading**.

Current Learning:

English - Demeter & Persephone
Maths - Place Value
Science - Changing States
DT - Soft Toy
Computing - Computer Systems & Searching
Geography - Deserts
History - Ancient Greeks

Year 5's PE Days are:

Tuesday - swimming
Thursday - PE with
Mr Bromfield

Year 5's Modern Foreign Language is:

Spanish



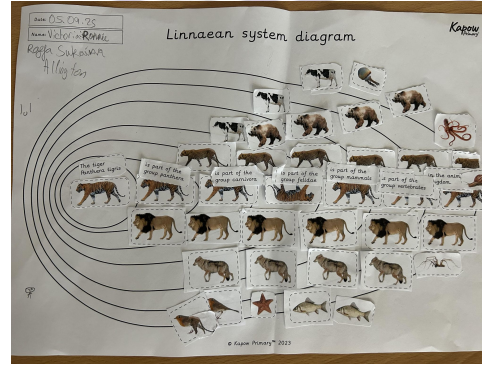
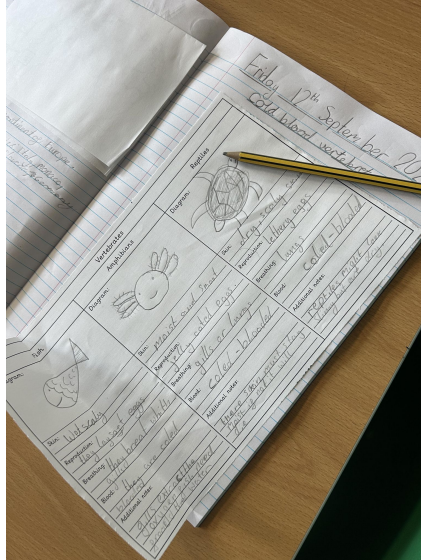
Year 6

Children should bring their reading books and reading records to school every single day. Please make sure they are reading 3 times a week and if they read with you or a sibling please leave a comment in their record!

New spellings will be sent home every Friday to be tested the following week.

Year 6 have settled in well and we are adjusting to the new rules and routines. We have been focused on cooperation and working hard in our KAGAN groups for learning.

Take a look at some of the work we have been doing on classifying living things in science.



So far this year, we have been learning about the Alps in Geography and the Victorian census in History. Children have made great links between their history lessons and the book 'The Little Matchstick Girl Strikes Back' in English. We have also been lucky enough to have our first workshop with Barber Institute.