



Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 26th June 2026

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a very unusual week in school with such extreme heat for such a prolonged period. I am sure you will join me in thanking the staff for keeping your children safe and happy in this time. Staff adapted timetables and teaching, brought fans and ice in from home, stayed after their working hours to help with safe early dismissal- they were just brilliant and did not complain once. They are a super team who care so much for the school and for your children and I am very lucky to lead such a committed team. Thank you to the parents on the PTA who also brought in some refreshing ice pops for the children and staff after school on Thursday- these were a HUGE hit!

We hugely appreciate your support with our decision to stay open, with optional picks ups. Having less children in the afternoons made it more manageable with the changes we had to make to timetables, and made it possible to stay open for some children to stay in school. Times like this are challenging and ultimately I have to make decisions in the best interests of the children and staff, but I also have to consider the impact on parents if we close, and the impact this then has on children. I am very grateful that the staff happily supported my decision and adapted the week so willingly to make it safe and as comfortable as possible for everyone- thank you!

In other news, we are excited to start welcoming our new Foundation Stage cohort into school for their stay and play sessions from next week. We are looking forward to meeting them all. Some year 6 children have enjoyed transition days at their new secondary schools this week, and we look forward to hearing about the arrangements from other secondaries where these days have been cancelled due to the weather.

Have a wonderful, and hopefully cooler, weekend and thank you once again for your support.



Whole school
attendance
(year to date):
95.3%

National
average (year
to date): 94.6%

Our target: 96%

Sports Day

Thank you to all the parents and members of our school community for your support in making last week's Sports Day such a success. It was wonderful to see so many of you there cheering on the children and celebrating their efforts—it truly made the day brilliant for everyone involved.

At Fairfields, Sports Day and Healthy Lives Week is an opportunity to promote a love of physical activity while helping children build important life skills in a fun and supportive setting. Through our races, team events, and challenges, pupils learn the value of teamwork, resilience, celebration and fair play. It is also an opportunity for every child to take part, feel included, and experience the joy of trying their best, regardless of the outcome.

ACE Kids

A reminder that there will be no ACE Kids after school club on the day of the summer fair (Friday 10th July).



**EAL Award
Gold**
Hampshire EMAS 2025





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School Games Mark success

We are delighted to announce that Fairfields has been awarded the **School Games Mark Gold Award** in recognition of our commitment to high quality physical education (PE) and school sport.

This achievement reflects the wide range of opportunities we provide for all children to be active, take part in competitions, and develop their confidence, teamwork, and leadership skills. We are especially proud of our inclusive approach, ensuring that every child, regardless of ability, has the chance to participate and enjoy sport.

Thank you to our children, staff, and families for supporting our sporting programmes and helping us achieve this fantastic recognition!

Reading Shed OPEN!

We are really pleased to open our reading shed at playtimes. The shed was funded by the PTA, and books were donated by MacMillan Books as part of a 'National Year of Reading' project. We are so pleased to create this lovely space for the children to relax at breaktimes on the bean bags and blankets and we hope they enjoy this new space. Thank you to the PTA and MacMillan Books for supporting the school!





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Fairfields at the Basingstoke Festival

We are so proud of the children from the Proteus after school club who led the opening parade at the Basingstoke Festival last Friday!

They showed off the beautiful costumes they had made and represented our school so well. Well done pupils, and thank you to Proteus staff for giving us this opportunity!

Parent Survey- please complete

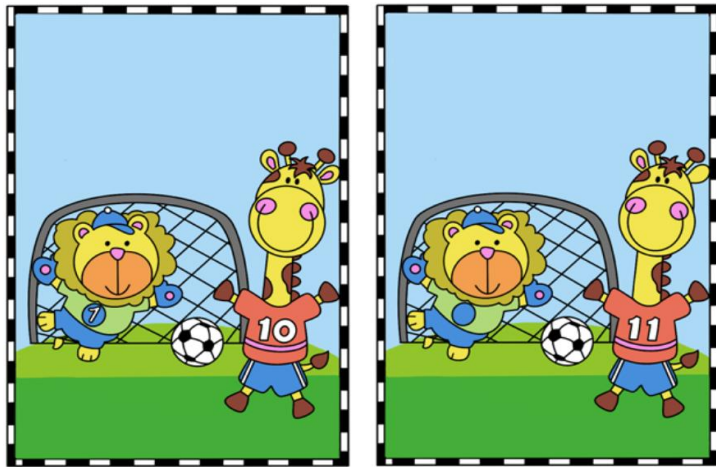
We would appreciate your feedback if you could take a few minutes to answer our [annual parent survey](#) which is accessible through the link attached. It is important to us that we gain your feedback so that we can see how we can improve as a school. It is also great to be able to celebrate with the team what is going well.

Please do take time to click on the link and share your views- we appreciate your time in doing this and ask you to encourage other parents to do the same. The survey is open until Friday 10th July.

Oracy corner

Here's this week's oracy activity to enjoy at home.

Can you spot the 5 differences?



www.kidspuzzlesandgames.co.uk



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PTA update

Summer Fair 10th July 3.30-6.30pm

We have filled our performance schedule and have a lovely mix of singers, guitarists, dancers and DJs (to finish off with bubble dance party!) Please also see attached our exciting entertainment schedule!

You can preorder tokens to be used for games, activities, craft and PTA Refreshment stall [here](#).

3rd July will be a non-uniform day in exchange for tombola donations! If you are able to, please bring:

- FS, Year 1, 2, 3: Wrapped Sweets/Dairy free (no nuts), biscuits/ crackers (no nuts or chocolate)
- Year 4, 5, 6: Alcoholic bottle/ Non alcohol bottle

Summer Raffle - Thank you for your donations!

Thank you for your donations for the Rainbow baskets. We will be announcing the winners next week. We now have **£1,000 worth of prizes!** Thank you so much to [Blue Spider Climbing](#) for a Blue Spider Climbing Taster Session for 2, [JG Dance](#) for half term scholarship (x2), [Linwood Collection](#) for Afternoon Tea For Two At [Wellington Arms](#) and [PFT Academy](#) for 10% of holiday camp (x10) as well as 2 free sessions (x10). We are very excited to welcome [PFT Academy](#) to our fair too! For your chance of winning **buy your tickets for £1 each** [here](#).

Urgently looking for volunteers!

As always, we do rely on volunteers to make the summer fair happen. At this stage it looks like we need to cut games and activities by half and may not even have a PTA Refreshment stall! Please [have a look here](#) at the options and to sign up!

If you have any questions, please come and see us on the playground or email pta@fairfields.hants.sch.uk.





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Year group updates

Phew! It has been a very hot week in **Foundation Stage** this week. We have been busy trying to beat the heat using ice play in the water and sensory play areas. We really enjoyed seeing how the children dealt with a large block of ice in the sensory play area. After unsuccessfully attempting with plastic objects, the children decided to use stronger materials such as rocks to work through it. It was a lot of fun. We did not go to Forest School this week due to the heat, but we will be finding a way to complete the remaining wood cookie pendants for those children who missed it. We hope everyone kept cool this week. The children are looking forward to welcoming the new FS pupils for September in for their Stay and Play sessions next week. Have a lovely weekend!

Well done **Year 1** for staying cool in the heat! In our maths this week, we have been practicing grouping and sharing with skip counting to find the whole. In music on Monday, we played the Boomwhackers along to different songs and learned about different pitches. We also played percussion instruments to keep the beat. As part of our Thrive activities this week we took it in turns to fill each other's 'cups of compliments'. Despite the weather, the beans we planted are still slowly growing!

Year 2 have been super resilient during this week's heatwave and have worked hard despite it. They created some lovely pieces of writing, re telling the story of *The Man Who Almost Lived Forever*. If you do not know this story, just ask them to re tell it again! They had a fantastic time exploring the living rainforest and learning about different habitats and food chains, all linking to their science topics. Next Thursday, 2nd July is Miss Bailey's last day. I'm sure the children in Budapest will all agree that she will be greatly missed as she has become an integral part of the class. Please make time to wish her good luck in the future when you see her on the playground in the coming days. Finally, please have a well-earned rest over the weekend and we will see you on Monday to start a hopefully cooler week! Well done year 2!

Year 3 have been writing a diary entry this week to describe the life of a fictional farmer. We have been really impressed with their vocabulary. We are also practicing solving tricky multiplication and division questions in maths, so please do allow time for your child to rehearse their times tables at home. There are still a few outstanding payments for the farm visit on 10th July, please do check you have paid via Arbor. Many thanks.

Year 4 have had a fantastic (and very warm!) week – we are so proud of how well they have coped in the heat. They have completed some more of their summer assessments, showing great perseverance and determination despite the high temperatures – well done to them all. In maths, the children have been learning about translation, and in science, they have been busy classifying animals, building on their understanding of different groups and their





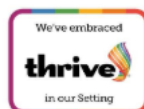
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characteristics. Please note that Forest School has been rearranged for next Tuesday (30th). We hope you all have a lovely weekend!

Despite the heat, **Year 5** have worked very hard on their *Scarlet Pimpernel* stories this week. It is lovely to see all the grammar they have learnt this year appearing in their tales. On Monday, we had a lovely day at Costello, participating in lessons such as art, history and outdoor learning. Hopefully, the children have told you all about it. Children present in the afternoons have enjoyed art, music and DT activities. Some children worked very hard last week on Athletics, earning first place in the country and second place in the world for Cairo! Well done for Puneeth, Thompson and Thaarika for winning the three medals on offer. It was left to the children to decide how much to do, so this is impressive.

We have been really impressed with **Year 6** this week! They had a fantastic time at QMC, where they learnt lots about the circulatory system. A big thank you to our parent volunteers for supporting this trip. We hope that those children who had their transition morning on Friday enjoyed themselves. We are excited for the rest of the year group to have their transition days very soon. If you have not yet returned your reply slip for the Year 6 Leavers' Party, please could you do so as soon as possible. If your child needs another copy of the letter, please ask their class teacher.





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Dates for your diary	
Tuesday 7th July	Year 2 Parent Showcase, 2.40pm
Friday 10th July	PTA Summer Fair (please note there will be no ACE (after school) club on this day)
Friday 10th July	Year 3 trip to Cholderton Farm
Tuesday 14th July	After school Science Fayre on the playground (more details to follow)
Friday 17th July	Year 6 Leavers' Party, 5pm-6.30pm
Monday 20th July	Year 6 Graduation ceremony
Tuesday 21st July	Open evening, 3.30pm-6pm
Monday 20th July – Wednesday 22nd July	Transition mornings (FS to year 5)
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of Summer term
Tuesday 1st September	Inset day (school closed)
Wednesday 2nd September	Inset day (school closed)
Thursday 3rd September	Start of the Autumn term
NEW! Monday 21st - Wednesday 23rd September	Year 6 residential





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Start and finish times are as follows:

- Foundation Stage, years 1 and 2:
8.40am- 3.10pm
- Years 3- 6: 8.45am- 3.15pm

PE days for the Summer term:

FS: Monday

Year 1: Monday (outdoor)

Year 2: Monday (outdoor)

Year 3: Tuesday (outdoor) and Thursday (indoor)

Year 4: Thursday (outdoor)

Year 5: Friday (indoor)

Year 6: Wednesday (indoor) and Thursday (outdoor)

Absence guidance and procedures

Medical/dental appointments

If you are unable to obtain an appointment outside of school hours, please call the School Office on 01256 473886 or email admin@fairfields.hants.sch.uk to inform us of the time and date of your child's appointment.

Illness

If your child is unwell, you must inform us on the first morning of absence by calling the School Office on 01256 473886. For safeguarding reasons, absence should be reported daily and before 9.30am. Please click [here](#) for guidance on whether your child is too ill to come to school.

Absence Request Form

For any planned time away from school, an Absence Request Form must be completed for the attention of the Headteacher and submitted via the School Office. This form must be completed before any time away is taken.

To discuss planned absences, please speak to our Attendance Officer, Tracey Deemer, who will be happy to advise you on the types of absence which may or may not be authorised and give information regarding **penalty notices issued by Hampshire County Council**.



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