



Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 10th October 2025

Dear parents and carers,

I just wanted to start by saying a huge thank you!!! We are overwhelmed and humbled by the generosity of the school community with the Amazon wish list which was put together this week. The office bell has not stopped ringing with the next delivery of boxes and parcels! Honestly, we can not thank you enough- it brought us nearly to tears! Budgets are so tight in school and as a staff, like you as parents, all we want is the very best for the children. We are so grateful for your support, not just with this but with everything in school. We are very lucky to have the school community which we have. Thank you so much! And a huge thank you to the PTA for setting this up for us.

Please can we remind you to come and talk to us about any planned absence for your child before you take it. We are getting families who are going away, and coming to us on their return, unaware that their absence will result in a penalty notice. If you don't submit a request for time off before any absence, you may automatically be issued with a penalty notice too.

As the days get a bit chillier and children are coming to school with jumpers, fleeces and jackets, please can we ask that these are named. We have an increasing amount of lost property already building up. Uniform is expensive and we want to make sure items which are lost get back to you.

Many thanks and have a wonderful weekend.
Mrs Vicky Hopkins



Whole school
attendance:
94.8%

National
average:
95.5%

Our target:
96%

Starting school in September 2026/Fairfields open mornings

If you have a child who was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022, they can start school in September 2026. Applications open on Saturday 1 November 2025 and close on Thursday 15 January 2026. For more information go to www.hants.gov.uk/admissions

We are holding the following open mornings for prospective parents to come into school, hear from Mrs Hopkins and have a tour of the school. If you would like to book a place on one of these please contact the School Office.

- Thursday 16th October
- Thursday 20th November
- Wednesday 3rd December

The open mornings start at 9.20am and finish at 10.30am.



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TTRockstars

We are aware that some children's accounts have been reset as a result of a TTR update. This has been reported but we have been told that unfortunately there is no way of getting back the previous account. TTRockstars are offering to compensate the children for lost coins so, if your child is affected, make sure that they have informed their class teacher of approximately how many coins they have lost. This is only for completely reset accounts (i.e. those where all coins and avatar have been lost). We will wait one week for this information to come in and then send off our requests.

School shoes - reminder

On days when children are participating in sport, trainers are allowed but on all other days children must wear black school shoes please. Please let us know if uniform is a problem for any reason.

Walktober 2025



We are taking part in Walktober 2025! As we head into autumn, it's important that we all keep active and where possible, get outdoors. To encourage this, the My Journey Team at Hampshire County Council has invited schools to celebrate International Walk to School Month by taking part in Walktober.

This event is designed to inspire pupils, families and staff to travel actively and sustainably throughout October.

We are hoping as many of our pupils, families and staff as possible travel actively throughout October by walking, wheeling, cycling, scooting, using Park and Stride or public transport to and from

school and in their leisure time.

Next week is **Cycle to School Week!** We encourage you to cycle to school as much as you can. On Friday 17th October there will be a Bike Bus children can join to travel to school. Please see the flyer attached for more information. Children will also gain a house point and sticker if they cycle on Friday. We look forward to welcoming the Bike Bus and seeing lots of active travel this month.



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PTA update

Following our AGM on Monday please see attached a newsletter that includes this school year's PTA event calendar, details of what you helped us raise, how you helped school and the 2025/2026 committee.

Amazon Wishlist – THANK YOU!

A big thank you to everyone that has purchased items from the Amazon Wishlist. At the time of writing this, the school was gifted 215 items worth over £2,300! We are blown away by your support! An extra special thank you to Raai Traditional Indian Street Food in Basingstoke Top of Town (www.raai.co.uk) for donating £1,700 across 171 items! The owner sent us this message: "My son studied there and he is a Pilot now. I wanted to support a school he studied at 🙏" The wishlist is still active [here](#) and we will keep it updated with items the teachers need.

Pumpkin Competition - 22nd October

Get ready to buy pumpkins and carve or decorate and bring into school at drop off on 22nd October. Pupils will vote and best pumpkin in each Key Stage wins a Bowling voucher for 4! Entry is just £1! *Please make sure you have an adult with you, when you are carving or decorating!*

Reindeer Visit - 18th December 2025

We are very excited to welcome two reindeer to Fairfields in December! The children will all get the chance to meet them, learn about them and ask questions. Thank you for your support to enable us to make such a special experience happen for the whole school. This is a free event and ticket purchase is not required.

PTA feedback survey

Thank you to everyone who took part in the survey. Over the coming weeks we will reply to some of the improvements suggested.

- Christmas Fair too busy: we are trying a new layout this year to reduce the number of stalls in the hall to help with crowding.
- Earlier dates: we are pleased to announce the full event list! More parent events will be added in the coming months.
- More variety of games/ activities: we will always endeavour to offer as much variety as possible. Our main challenge is finding enough volunteers to run the stalls. The last summer fair we had to cut several activities and games. If you would like to know more about how you can help, please come and talk to us on the playground or email us on fairfieldspta@gmail.com



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Year group updates

Foundation Stage have been exploring Autumn further, by developing their fine motor skills and writing skills by doodling on a pumpkin. In Drawing Club they have been looking at the story *The Little Red Hen* and have been drawing the main character from the story. In Maths, the children are continuing to look at numbers up to 10 and developing their accuracy when counting/subitising. They have also begun to learn the concept of one more using the 5 little speckled frogs song. Well done, Foundation Stage! Have a lovely weekend!

This week in **Year 1**, we've been clapping along to rhythms from *Toy Story* and practicing our throwing and catching skills in PE. On Tuesday, we enjoyed our first visit from Open the Book. We're also busy preparing our classroom toy museums and would love to welcome parents to visit on Tuesday 14th October at 2:15pm. Handwriting practice has been added to the weekly homework sheet, as this is a key focus for our year group. You'll also find a letter formation guide in the front of the purple homework books to support practice at home.

Well done **Year 2**, you once again have had a great week in school. In writing, the children have been using adjectives and conjunctions to write sentences about penguins. They have also been remembering to include the correct punctuation themselves! In maths, we have continued our work on adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers. We have shown the children several methods to do this, so hopefully they now know a method which works for them! Next week in maths we will be using bar models to add and subtract. This links to this week's homework. The 'whole' (biggest number) always goes in the biggest rectangle in the bar model. The 'parts' (smaller numbers) are put into the smaller rectangles on the bar model. Hopefully, your child has been able to access TTRockStars at home this week. They can be practicing their 2s, 5s and 10 times tables everyday for up to 10 minutes. Please also make use of Hit The Button ([Hit the Button - Quick fire maths practise for 6-11 year olds](#)) to practice number bonds **within** and **to** 10. Finally, please make sure **children's jumpers and coats are named**. There is a big build-up of lost property in Madrid class which has been sorted out. If you are missing anything, please check lost property first. From Monday, there will be no 'jumper dumper', children will need to look after their own belongings by wearing them or putting them in their lockers. Have a lovely weekend!

Well done **Year 3** on showing your competitive spirit and taking part in the first TT Rockstars multiplication tables competition. We will be competing against other schools once each half term and if you have any time at home to practice times tables or login to TTR this will really boost their confidence. Pupils have also been reading a new book called, *How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth* and learning to write their own set of instructions. We are looking forward to seeing all your Stone Age topic homework on the 22nd October!

We've had a fantastic week in **Year 4**! Our highlight was the exciting trip to *Butser Ancient Farm*, where the children stepped into the shoes of archaeologists. They explored ancient runes, crafted their own Viking pottery, and even made Viking jewellery — a truly hands-on history experience! Please visit our class webpage to see the wonderful photos from the day. In science, we focused on dental hygiene. The children learned how to brush their teeth properly and discovered how long they should be brushing to keep their smiles healthy and bright. Looking ahead, we're gearing up for another *Top of the Rocks* competition on Tuesday, where we'll be battling other local primary schools in a times tables showdown! Please encourage your child to keep practising — every point counts!



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Year 5 enjoyed a lovely trip to the river on Friday and the children managed well considering the bad weather. They carried out a number of river studies, followed maps to solve clues and made a river out of sticks. This week, we have been completing our Turner pictures in art. The children also had fun in computing as they were collaborating in groups but were not allowed to talk to each other. All communication had to be through Teams!

We are having a few difficulties in the morning. When the 8.40 bell goes, we have told the children that this is the moment they need to line up. We are finding that some children are carrying on playing and also bringing arguments from this time into the classroom, disrupting the start of the morning. We may need to ask parents to stay and supervise if the children don't follow our school core values.

Next week, we will be cooking so we need to check with you that we have up to date allergy information. We will be stewing apples and adding sugar, cinnamon, powdered ginger, black pepper and cardamon. Please inform us directly if any of these cause an issue.

Next week is also a special week for year 5 as we are going to try to get on to the national leaderboard for Mathletics! This does mean that we will be encouraging the children to take part in Mathletics activities in school and at home to earn points as a collaborative effort for their class. The event finishes in the evening on Sunday 19th October. We will be painting pebbles after the half term holiday so if you visit anywhere with beaches that permit scavenging, could you bring us some back? They need to be flat and at least 5cm in length.

Year 6 have had a fantastic week! We have been really proud of their efforts in all subjects across the curriculum. Well done to all of the House Captain candidates! Voting has taken place this week, and we look forward to finding out the results soon. This week, you will have received a letter regarding our upcoming autumn walk around the War Memorial Park with our FS buddies. This will be taking place during the afternoon on **Tuesday 4th November**. Please ensure that permission slips are returned as soon as possible to your child's class teacher for this trip. If you are able to support on the trip, please indicate this on the reply slip or let your child's class teacher know.

Dates for your diary	
Monday 13th October-Friday 17th October	Cycle to School week
Tuesday 14th October	Year 1 Parent Showcase, 2.15pm
Tuesday 21st October	Year 3 Parent Showcase, 2.30pm
Wednesday 22nd October	Closing date for PTA Pumpkin Decoration Contest – pumpkins to be brought in on this date only.



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Monday 27th October – Monday 3rd November	Half term (school closed)
Friday 31st October	Deadline for applications for Y7 (secondary school) places (year 6 only)
Saturday 1st November	Applications open for Year R admissions for September 2026
Thursday 6th November	Individual photos with Fraser Portraits
Monday 10th November	Parent's evening, 3.40pm-6pm
Monday 17th November	Nasal flu immunisations (all years)
Wednesday 19th November	Parent's evening, 3.40pm-6pm
Thursday 11th December	Year 4 Parent Showcase, 2.30pm
Thursday 11 th December	PTA Christmas Fair
Tuesday 16th December	Year 2 Parent Showcase, 2.40pm
NEW! Thursday 18th December	PTA reindeer visit
Friday 19th December	Last day of term
Monday 5th January	Inset day – school closed
Tuesday 6th January	First day of Spring term
Thursday 15th January	Applications close for Year R admissions for September 2026
Wednesday 4th February – Friday 6th February	Year 4 residential to Ufton Court



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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 autumn term are as follows:

FS: No PE this term
Year 1: Tuesday (outdoor)
Year 2: Wednesday (indoor) and Thursday (outdoor)
Year 3: Monday (indoor) and Tuesday (outdoor)
Year 4: Monday (outdoor)
Year 5: Friday (outdoor)
Year 6: Wednesday (outdoor) and Thursday (indoor)