



# Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 5th December 2025

Dear parents and carers,

It feels like Christmas has really started as we enjoyed our FS Nativity this week. The children were incredible, and so confident standing on the stage in front of so many adults! Thank you to all the FS team, and to Tracey, for organising this performance for us all to enjoy!

Thank you for feedback on the new breakfast and after school club provision this term. It has been a very positive start for our new provider, ACE. We are pleased to trial a holiday club now with them this Christmas and would appreciate any feedback on this also.

We are pleased to let you know that Miss Facey will be returning to the school in the last week before the December holiday, following her maternity leave. Miss Facey will resume teaching in Madrid class with Miss Wilson for the remainder of the year. We know the children will be very excited to see her.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Monday. Thank you for your support.

Mrs Vicky Hopkins



Whole school  
attendance:  
95.3%

National  
average:  
94.9%

Our target:  
96%

## Free school meals – are you eligible?

[Free school meals](#) are available to pupils whose parents/carers are in receipt of certain means-tested benefits, such as Income Support, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, or Universal Credit with a household income of under £7,400 a year after tax. Eligibility also extends to those receiving Child Tax Credit (without Working Tax Credit) with a gross annual income of no more than £16,190.

To check if you are eligible, please call into the Office where we will be able to give you a form to complete and return. We will then be able to let you know if you meet the criteria.

All children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 are automatically entitled to free school meals, but by registering for free meals **we can also raise an extra £1,320 per child from central government for your child's primary school, to fund valuable support and resources in the classroom.**



PROUD TO BE A  
MUSIC MARK  
SCHOOL  
2024 - 2025



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## A message from Hampshire County Council: Help Us Make Sure Everyone Gets a Say

Hampshire will soon have a Local Area Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Inspection. This means inspectors will check how well they support children and young people with SEND. They want to make sure everyone can share their views – parents, carers, children, young people, and professionals. To do this, they need to check that their messages are reaching the right people.

Please answer a few short questions in our form. This will help them:

- make sure you get important updates and surveys when the inspection starts; and
- find and fix any gaps in how they share information.

Your voice matters. Thank you for helping make sure everyone is heard.

Click here to fill in the form: [Help Us Strengthen Our Communication Networks – Fill in form](#)

The survey will close at **5pm on Friday 5 December**

## Vocal Ambassadors



Two of our Year 5 children, Anahita and Martin, were asked to represent Fairfields Primary School as part of a Vocal Ambassadors opportunity at South View Junior School. The Vocal Ambassadors from schools within Basingstoke were taught by Choral Director and Vocal Coach, Charles Macdougall from ABRSM (Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music) and were taught not just how to perform as part of a professional choir, but also how to lead a singing group.

They are now looking to lead our school choir through vocal warm-ups they were taught by Charles. We are very proud to have them both representing the school. Well done, Anahita and Martin! Here they both are with their shiny new Vocal Ambassadors badges!



## Christmas dinner/non-uniform day: Wednesday 17th December

Please see the attached poster for the lunch options available. Lunches can be ordered in the usual way. The children may wear non-uniform to celebrate the festive season (although they must wear suitable shoes and bring a warm coat).





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## PTA update

### Christmas Fair 11th December 4.30pm-7pm

Thank you for all the donations today!

We are looking forward to welcoming you next Thursday to our Christmas Fair! Thanks to all who volunteered - there will be plenty of games, activities and refreshments.

Apart from external stalls and the waffle van, this will be a cashless event. Purchase your tokens online [here](#). You also will be able to buy more at the event. There are also still some Santa tickets available.

We will be sending a map and few more details via Jotter on Wednesday next week.

[Online Christmas Raffle!](#) We now have over 40 prizes worth over £1,500! Have a look at the prizes and purchase your tickets [here](#). Results will be drawn automatically online and announced on the night. We will also send a full list of winners with the weekly update next week. Good luck!

## Year group updates

**Foundation Stage** have been absolute superstars this week as they have been performing their Nativity play to their parents and Year 6 buddies following their dress rehearsal earlier in the week. We are very proud of all of their hard work and we hope you enjoyed watching it too! Super singing and acting, children! This week we also decorated for Christmas and started some winter/Christmas focussed activities. There will be lots more of these to come. A huge well done, Foundation Stage! Have a lovely weekend!

Well done **Year 1** for another great week! This week, we carried out our science experiment on Monday and tested which material made the best window for the Three Little Pigs. We have also made our prototypes in DT... watch this space! In our writing this week, we have been writing about the Town Mouse and her adventures in the country. In PE, we practiced throwing and catching with one hand. Next week, we have the Christmas Fair on Thursday 4.30-7pm. Year 1 will be performing our song at 4.55pm.

Well done **Year 2**, we are so proud of how you all approached and completed the maths tests this week. You have really shown off your knowledge! In writing, we have started to plan and write our own non-chronological reports about the Titanic. We are focussing on using conjunctions, the past tense and time connectives in our writing. In science, we





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finished our investigation into the best shape for a boat, please ask your child what they found out. Next week is a busy week! Please see below.

- Monday: Forest Schools visit. **Children need a coat and change of shoes to wear.**
- Tuesday: Reading test
- Wednesday: Topic Homework Day
- Thursday: SeaCity Trip. **Children need to be in full school uniform with a backpack to carry their lunch and water bottle.**
- Friday: Reading test

**Year 3** have had an exciting week finishing their fossil foxes and diving into the fascinating story of the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. The children have been truly engaged, asking brilliant questions and showing great enthusiasm for learning about this dramatic event in history. Next week, we have a trip to Queen Mary's College on Friday 12th December, and we would greatly appreciate any more parent volunteers who can help support us on the day. If you are available, please let us know as soon as possible—your help makes these experiences possible!

We are really proud of **Year 4** this week and the effort they have put into testing – well done! In art, we've been exploring pastels in the style of Linda Lang, creating some beautiful pieces. We've also been developing our sewing skills while making DT pouches, and we're excited to see you on Thursday the 11th at 2.30pm for a fun sewing session!

**Year 5** have been busy completing their 'Australian Animals' work this week. They have presented their work on a double page with illustrations. We now need to select the six pieces from each class that we are going to send to Australia! May we remind you all that our parent showcase takes place at 9am on Friday 12th December, when we link up live with Australia to find out which pieces of work have won the prizes! Year 5 parents are welcome to join us. Next week is busy too as we will be going to the cinema on Wednesday morning! They can bring their normal, healthy break time snack if you wish - but not popcorn!

**Year 6** have had a great week! The children have been busy completing some wonderful artwork, inspired by our learning around *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*. Their creativity and effort have been impressive, and we are excited to share their work with you. A reminder that our Year 6 Showcase will take place on Monday 15th December at 2.30pm. We are looking forward to inviting you into school to celebrate the children's learning. Children will also be coming home with Bikeability letters this week. Please use the QR code on the letter to fill in the consent and cycling proficiency information.





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Dates for your diary	
Wednesday 10th December	Year 5 cinema trip
Thursday 11th December	Year 4 Parent Showcase, 2.30pm
Thursday 11th December	PTA Christmas Fair, 4.30pm-7pm
Thursday 11th December	Year 2 trip to Sea City Museum
<b>NEW!</b> Friday 12th December	Year 3 trip to QMC
Friday 12th December	Year 5 Parent Showcase, 9am
Monday 15th December	Year 6 Parent Showcase, 2.30pm
Tuesday 16th December	Year 2 Parent Showcase, 2.40pm
Wednesday 17th December	Christmas Dinner Day/Christmas Jumper Day
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
Monday 12th January	Year 4 Ufton Court Zoom meeting for parents, 5pm
Tuesday 13th January	Year 1 trip to QMC
Thursday 15th January	Applications close for Year R admissions for September 2026
<b>NEW!</b> Friday 23rd January – Tuesday 27th January	Year 6 Bikeability (details to follow)
Wednesday 4th February – Friday 6th February	Year 4 residential to Ufton Court
<b>NEW!</b> Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February	Half-term (school closed)
<b>NEW!</b> Wednesday 25th February	Parents Evening, 3.40pm-6pm







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<b>NEW!</b> Monday 2nd March	Parents Evening, 3.40pm-6pm
Friday 20th March	Year 1 trip to Marwell Zoo
Friday 27th March	Last day of term





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## PE days for the autumn term are as follows:

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

## Start and finish times are as follows:

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

## Absence guidance and procedures

### Illness

When 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 Kinchenton, 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**.

### Medical/dental appointments

If you are unable to obtain an appointment outside of school hours, please call the School Office on 01256 473886 to inform us of the time and date of your child's appointment.

