



# Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 15th May 2026

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a week of hard work in school, from all the children but especially in year 6 with the children's SATS tests this week. We are so incredibly proud of all their hard work, focus and perseverance. They should be so pleased with themselves- well done everyone! Thank you to all our staff and volunteers for supporting the test administration. This allows us to do the tests in smaller groups which is much more supportive to the children.

Next week is 'Walk To School Week'. Please see the attached flyer for more information but we hope for some sunny weather to encourage more walking, cycling and scooting to school.

In other 'active lives' work, we hope to see as many of you as we can at the Junior Parkrun in Basingstoke this weekend. It is Fairfields launch week so it would be great if we can get as many children participating as possible for a 'Fairfields takeover'!

Please can I remind everyone, for safeguarding reasons, to inform the office or your child's class teacher if your child is not attending their after school club for any reason. We take registers at these clubs as the children are still our responsibility at this time. If children leave without us knowing, especially older children who walk home, this is a safeguarding issue and we will be calling you if we do not know where your child is, which takes up staff time.

Finally, my apologies that I have had to change the final Open Evening of the year from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July to Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> (3.30-6.00pm). This is due to venue issues with our year 6 graduation. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Kind regards

Mrs Vicky Hopkins



Whole school attendance (year to date): 95.3%

National average (year to date): 94.7%

Our target: 96%



## A message from the Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs)

We have been monitoring the traffic and parking around our school grounds to help make the area safe for children and adults on their way to and from school. Thank you to everyone who is using the park and stride (Caston's carpark) and to those who walk, scoot or cycle to school. We are disappointed to see that there are still some cars parking on double yellow lines, and the children want to give you this message:

***"Please do not park on the double yellow lines outside of the school. It is dangerous for the people who walk."***

The JRSOs have been thinking of ways to stop cars parking on double yellow lines or in dangerous places along the road. They have thought about making bright posters to display outside and giving out Fairfields parking tickets. We hope we don't have to give anyone a parking ticket on our next parking patrol.

We really appreciate your support with this matter and urge everyone who drives to use Caston's car park. Attached is the map if you are unsure of where this is.



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## School dinner taster day

A reminder that Thursday 22nd May is our school dinner taster day for children in FS and years 1 and 2. Our school funding is based on the number of children in these year groups who have a school dinner on that day. The menu will be Chef Shilpa's mild chicken korma with rice, or all day vegetarian breakfast, or jacket potato with a variety of fillings.



## Phones in school from September 2026

We would like to remind parents and carers that from September 2026, no pupils will be allowed to bring a smartphone to school. Simple/Brick/Feature phones can be brought in by children in years 5 and 6 if they walk alone to or from school.

This is in line with the vast majority of Basingstoke primary schools.

Please visit the Smartphone Free Childhood Basingstoke [website](#) for more information

## Oracy corner

Here's this week's oracy activity to enjoy at home. Remember, you can find lots more ideas and guidance on our website in the Oracy Workshop presentation. These small, simple conversations make a big difference in helping children build confidence, vocabulary, and clear communication.

**Would you rather...**  
be super fast  
or super strong?

Play a game of Taboo! You are not allowed to say the word out loud but can describe it.

This week's word is **fragile**.



## Parkrun Primary - this Sunday!!!

A final reminder about our Fairfields Takeover at Junior Parkrun this Sunday 17th May.

Where: Stratton Park, Kempshott

When: Sunday 17th May, at 9am  
(arrive at 8:45am for the fun warm up!)

Website: <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/basingstoke-juniors/>

Sign up your child to run at parkrun for FREE [here](#)



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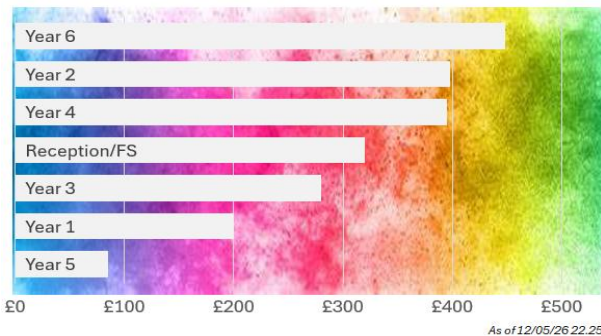


## PTA update

 [Colour Run](#) - 5th June – **Sign-ups close Friday 23rd May!** 

You can sponsor your child **online [here](#)** or **hand cash into the office** (make sure you add child's name and year group). Please sign up as soon as possible so we can plan numbers and make the event as fun as possible for everyone. We have had a few questions on how it works. Once your child raises £5 they can take part in the run wearing their own white/light t-shirt and get covered in colour powder. Raise more and extras are included: £10 Colour Run t-shirt, £20 t-shirt + colour powder packet to throw at teachers at the finale, £30 + sunglasses and £50: + a splash blaster (water gun). You do not need to pay it all in one payment. If you are unsure how much your child has raised so far, you can ask the school office or email [pta@fairfields.hants.sch.uk](mailto:pta@fairfields.hants.sch.uk). All funds will go towards the playground and SEN equipment at school.

**Year 2 and 4 are catching up to Year 6! With one more week to go, who will win a non-uniform day and ice cream party?** Ask your family and friends for support! You can [download a sponsorship form here](#) to share with family and friends or send them [this link](#)



**[Fish Bowl Coin Drop](#): Well done to the lucky ones today!**

We have 19 winners so far winning 1250 house points between them! We are hoping to keep this going next week, however we **need more support running this**. Please get in touch with [pta@fairfields.hants.sch.uk](mailto:pta@fairfields.hants.sch.uk) if you can be there 8.30-8.45am or 3.00-3.30pm. We would love to give more children the chance to win **50 house points!** See

more detail [here](#) and watch a video of how the game works [here](#). All funds will go towards the playground and SEN equipment at school.



**[NEW World Cup 2026 Sweepstake!](#) - entry open now!**

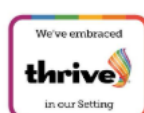
Win a **Happy Days beer and snack hamper** by predicting most accurately Circle the Group Winners, World Cup Winner, Runner-Up, Third Place, Most Goals Scored, Top Goalscorer, Earliest Red Card, Highest Scoring Match. Only **£2 per entry** — enter as many times as you like! Enter [online here](#) or [download this form](#) and hand cash into school

office.

Thank you to our sponsor [www.happydaysdrinks.co.uk!](http://www.happydaysdrinks.co.uk)



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## Football club

There will be training as normal next week and we will carry on straight after half term. We still have three more fixtures to squeeze in, and Miss Warwick will send a fixture list out to parents once the dates have been confirmed.

## Year group updates

**Foundation Stage** have had a great week beginning their 'Animals' topic. Following on from our hook day at Finkley Down Farm, the children have been busy writing sentences about their experience of the day, and about other farm animals too. There have been some super discussions during continuous provision about animals and their habitats (linking with their David Attenborough Day last week). We rounded off the week in style with a special visit from Jennie from Guinea Pig Rescue, who brought some guinea pigs in to meet the children and to teach them more about them and their care. The children demonstrated a real interest in them at the farm, so it was super to have a closer encounter with them. Well done, Foundation Stage! Have a lovely weekend!

This week in **Year 1**, we stepped back in time for our Victorian day. Our classrooms were transformed and we sat in rows just like we have seen in pictures from Victorian schools. The teachers wrote on the chalkboard, and we learnt things by rote, repeating what the teachers said and then copying what they had written. We used chalk and wrote on slates or black paper. We also did some geography and some observational drawing. We did drill outside on the playground which is what Victorian children would have done instead of PE.

Our next year 1 parent showcase is 20th May 2.30pm - parents are invited into classrooms to see our learning. Our War Memorial Park visit is on Tuesday 23rd June (AM) parent volunteers are needed - please let us know if you can come. Our PE day is Thursday (outdoor) and children need to come to school in PE kit. They will need a coat if it is rainy/cold and a sunhat if it is sunny.

Well done **Year 2** on another great week in school. This week we have written our own poems about the sea, some of us even managed to use rhyming couplets! In maths, we have been learning to measure mass using grams and kilograms. A reminder to continue to access Numbots at home as we will be asking children for their opinions on it soon. Have a lovely weekend and hopefully see some of you at Junior Parkrun on Sunday!

**Year 3** have been learning lots about 2D and 3D shape this week, as well as perpendicular and parallel lines. They are starting to plan and write their own creative piece around the





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characters in *Skeleton Keys*, which they absolutely love. We have also been very impressed by how they can draw and code using Scratch in our computing lessons. Next week is the final week of the half term so please do try to return the Cholderton Farm consent forms if possible.

We have had a wonderful week in **Year 4** this week. As part of our DT project, the children finished their final designs for their head torches, inspired by our book *Cogheart*. Thank you very much for your contribution towards the cost of these. In maths, we started looking at converting between different measurements, and in science we continued learning about electricity by making circuits with switches. Have a nice weekend and we are looking forward to our last week before half term.

At the time of writing, **Year 5** are looking forward to going to Hampton Court Palace tomorrow and will post pictures on the website so you can share our experience afterwards! This week, and next week, the classes are experiencing new skills in computing and DT. Each child has done some of these activities and will have completed all of them by the end of next week. Cairo have learnt how to use saws safely to cut wood to make a frame and also have invested gears by building Lego model and operating them using the computer. Nairobi have been learning how to edit videos and have used green screen techniques to put themselves in front of videos showing Industrial Revolution machinery, much like how weather forecasts are recorded on TV. Please remember that we are looking forward to sharing this work with you at 2.30 on Thursday 21st May!

We are incredibly proud of all the children in **Year 6** for their fantastic efforts during SATs week. They truly did themselves proud. Every single child showed focus, determination and a brilliant attitude throughout. All of the adults supporting in the exam rooms commented on how impressed they were with the children's mindset and maturity.

We hope they enjoy a well-deserved rest and lots of fun this weekend.

Looking ahead to next week, we will be going on our cinema trip on Tuesday 19th May. You will also have received a letter today with information about our end-of-year events, including the graduation ceremony and leavers' party.

Please ensure reply slips for the leavers' party are returned as soon as possible.

We are also looking for any parents who would like to support us in organising the party. If you are interested in helping out, please let your child's class teacher know — either in person or via email. We will arrange a Zoom meeting to discuss party plans at the start of next half term.



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Dates for your diary	
8th May – 22nd May	PTA fishbowl coin drop (Wednesdays and Fridays during drop off and pick-up)
Monday 18th May - 22nd May	Walk to School week
Tuesday 19th May	Year 6 cinema trip
Wednesday 20th May	Year 1 Parent Showcase, 2.30pm
Thursday 21st May	School Dinner Day
Thursday 21st May	Year 5 Parent Showcase, 2.30pm
Monday 25th May – 29th May	Half-term (school closed)
Friday 5th June	PTA colour run (after school)
Monday 1st June	Inset day (school closed)
Week beginning 1st June	Safeguarding week (PANTS)
Wednesday 17th June	Sports Day
Thursday 18th June	Back-up Sports Day (in case of bad weather on 17th)
Tuesday 23rd June	Year 3 Parent Showcase, 2.40pm
Friday 26th June	Year 2 trip to Living Rainforest
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)
<b>NEW!</b> Friday 10th July	Year 3 trip to Cholderton Farm
<b>NEW!</b> Friday 17th July	Year 6 Leavers' Party
<b>CHANGE OF DATE!</b> Tuesday 21st July	Open evening
Monday 20th July – Wednesday 22nd July	Transition mornings (FS to year 5)
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of Summer term



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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: Thursday (outdoor)

Year 2: Monday (outdoor)

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

Year 4: Monday (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](mailto: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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