



Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026

Dear parents and carers,

As we come to the end of another term, we have been impressed by the children's hard work and dedication to their learning. We have had an enjoyable term of trips and visitors, WOW starts and performances to enhance our curriculum too.

Thank you as always to the PTA for the incredible support you give to the school, fundraising for us so that we can buy vital school resources to support the children's learning. We are so grateful to them for reaching out to sponsors too with Simmons and Sons, a local letting agency, being our newest sponsor to the school.

We hope you enjoyed our Eid celebrations earlier this week, and thank you to those parents who reached out to share their feedback with us about the event. We really appreciate you taking the time to send us such lovely feedback about how important events like this are to you. The team work really hard and go above any beyond, and sharing lovely feedback with them keeps us all going!

Staff at school have been working today on writing moderation, as well as health and safety and safeguarding training. We will be putting this all into practice when we return to school in a couple of weeks.

We hope you have a wonderful Easter break and look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 13th April.

Best wishes and Happy Easter.

Mrs Vicky Hopkins



Whole school attendance (year to date): 95.2%

National average (year to date): 94.6%

Our target: 96%

This week I met with the Headteachers of our cluster primary schools and the Headteacher of The Costello School (our main feeder secondary school), Mr Conway. Mr Conway was pleased to share the positive responses they had received from new Year 7 parents and their children regarding how they had settled in and how transition went this year. The move from Year 6 to Year 7 is always an anxious time for children and parents, so it was lovely to hear such positive feedback on the experience for our children who moved on to The Costello School.

Parent feedback included:

"The school made the transition to secondary a lot smoother than I had expected."

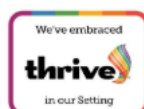
"Thank you to everyone at Costello for the truly outstanding care and support provided. The positive impact this has had during the transition into secondary school has been remarkable, helping to build confidence and happiness in a way that has made a real difference. It has also had a hugely positive effect on family life. Your dedication and support are deeply appreciated. Thank you so much."

"They really took the time to understand what was needed and supported every stage of the transition, which made a huge difference."

"Starting secondary school felt huge, but having the right support in place made it a much more positive experience than we expected."



EAL Award Gold
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Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026

Class photos

Proof codes have been sent out to parents by email along with instructions on how to order. The photographer has not yet given us the deadline for free delivery to school, but we will let you know this date as soon as we can.

Rugby club opportunity!

Get ready to sprint, dodge, and score! Our Tag Rugby team are looking for energetic players in **years 3, 4 and 5** who love having fun and being part of an exciting team.

Whether you've played before or you're totally new to the game, everyone is welcome. You'll learn new skills, make great friends, and work together to win matches in a fast, exciting, non-contact sport.

Come and join the team, where every tag, pass and try counts!

Training is on a Thursday. Sign up is available on Arbor now.

Showtime Circus

Well done to Year 4 who gave a spectacular performance to their audience this week. A combination of choreographed dance routines, singing and gymnastics gave the children a chance to show their skills. They were very excited to be climbing to the top of the apparatus, balancing on the beam, juggling, hula hooping and adapting their dance style to exhibit an Oriental theme. New Delhi and Canberra's teamwork and precision showcased their confidence and pride.

Young Engineers club

Places are available for the Summer term. More information on this club and how to book can be found attached to this newsletter.





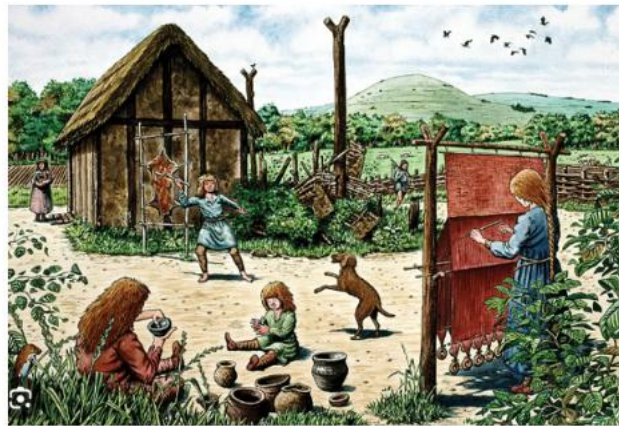
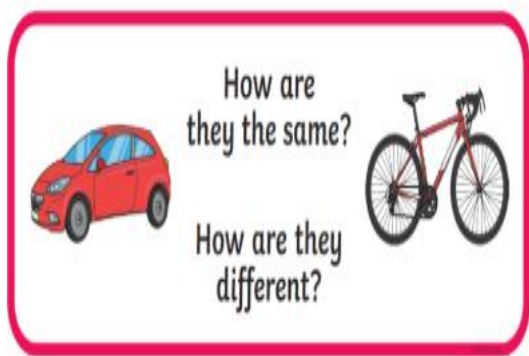
Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026

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.

I see, I think, I wonder



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 means **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.**





Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026



PTA update

Thank you for all your support!

Over the last few months, we have agreed to fund items worth £4,000 for the school.

- Forest School Equipment (Puddle Suits, Storage and Green house)
- iPads to give each year group access to translation apps, doodlespell, fine motor, TT rockstars
- Musical instruments to enable music lessons to be more interactive and cover more cultures
- New carpets to be fitted

Without your help this would not be possible! Please see attached a flyer showing how you helped school this school year.

New Sponsor! Simmons & Sons

Thank you to our new sponsor [Simmons & Sons](#) for donating £250! Simmons & Sons is your independent lettings specialist for Basingstoke and beyond. Their team blends a personal and professional approach with long-standing local knowledge to give you a service you can trust. [Contact their team](#) to discuss how they can help.

Easter Egg Hunt: Welcoming you back after Easter break with a *free event on 17th April 3.15-4.15pm*. Come along to find the letters and make the word to get a chocolate egg.

Colour Run - *5th June* after school. Each child should have received a flyer with a sponsorship form today. Please also see a copy attached to this newsletter. You can also send start sponsoring [here online](#). Each runner will be able to take part with minimum £5 sponsorship. Additional items will be included for higher sponsorship amounts. You do not need to pay it all in one payment. So ask your family and friends for support!





Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026



**STARTS 15TH APRIL
£15 FOR FIVE WEEKS
*NO SESSION
WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY***

AFTER SCHOOL BOOTCAMP

**GAMES, CHALLENGES, TEAM
BUILDING, LEARNING ABOUT
HEALTHY LIVING.**

MAKING FITNESS FUN

WEDNESDAYS. 3.15-4.15

To book a place, email sarahleaford@outlook.com

Yoga with Sarah and Steve

**Mindfulness, flexibility,
stretching and FUN!**

**Mondays 3.15-4pm.
£12.50 for 5 weeks, starts 13th April
(No session 11th May).
Email sarahleaford@outlook.com**



**EAL Award
Gold**
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Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026

Year group updates

Foundation Stage have been busy thinking about Easter this week and how Easter fits into Springtime. They have been thinking about how chicks hatch during Spring time. They had a brilliant time with Caterlink, our hot dinner provider, who came in to teach them how to make bread. They all loved making their own bread rolls and we thought the creativity in their designs were brilliant! At Forest School this week, the first groups were creative with clay and made some insects. We can't wait to see them painted after the Easter break. Well done, everyone on a brilliant half term! We hope everybody has a brilliant Easter break and we look forward to seeing you when we return in the Summer term.

Happy holidays, **Year 1!** Well done on a brilliant term. This week in maths, we began our new unit on length and measure. The children have been busy measuring different objects using non-standard units. In RE, we completed our learning block on welcoming, focusing on the story of Palm Sunday. We were also delighted to see all the fantastic topic homework on Wednesday. The children were very proud to share their creations during our showcase on Thursday. A quick reminder that no library books have gone home for the holiday. Our new PE day will be Thursdays, and this will take place outdoors. Wishing you all a restful and happy break!

This term **Year 2** have had so much fun learning about the Great Fire of London and have shared some lovely topic homework based on this. We are very excited to get the children hooked on next term's theme of "survival". Thank you to the parents who visited our showcase and supported the children in celebrating their hard work and a special thank you to those parents who looked at and praised another child's work when their parent could not make it. Next term, our PE day is changing and children will now have PE on a Monday, on the field, so can wear their PE kit then. Have a lovely rest over the Easter break and don't eat too much chocolate!

Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed showcasing their wonderful poetry performances this week, demonstrating great confidence, creativity, and enthusiasm. After the holidays, we will be sending out further information about our upcoming swimming lessons, which begin in the first week of June, as well as details about our exciting trip to Cholderton Farm. We look forward to sharing more with you soon!

Year 4 have had a wonderful final week of the spring term. The children have really enjoyed our RE topic on rituals, and it has been lovely to see their enthusiasm and engagement. They also thoroughly enjoyed the science workshop at QMC—thank you to the parents who were able to come and support us. Your help is greatly appreciated. After the Easter holiday, as part of our DT unit, we will be making head torches with the children. We kindly ask for a voluntary contribution of £2 towards the cost of materials (this can be paid on Arbor or with





Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026

cash). If you are able to contribute more, we would be very grateful for any additional support to cover the cost of the materials. Please also note that our new PE day will be Monday after the holidays. The children will be taking part in cricket on the field, so please ensure they come to school dressed in weather-appropriate clothing on these days. Due to our Hook day activity, New Delhi will not do PE but Canberra will have their PE lesson on the first day back. We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

Year 5 have had another busy week! We enjoyed showing parents our work on Monday. The children are proud of what they are achieving. We have now completed our *War of the Worlds* project. We learnt a lot working with the NSPCC on Tuesday and have been discussing body image and, in particular, how (social) media pictures may be altered. We look forward to our Queen Mary's College Science Centre (free) visit on Tuesday 14th April. Have a lovely Easter!

Year 6 have had a fantastic half term, and we would like to wish you all a very restful and enjoyable Easter break. Looking ahead to next half term, our new PE days will be dance on Wednesday afternoons and cricket (on the field) on Thursday afternoons.

Easter School will take place on Monday 30th March and Tuesday 31st March. For any children attending Easter School during the holidays, please note that children should arrive at school at 10:00am (no earlier, please). If you have indicated that your child can walk home after Easter School, they will be allowed to do so. If not, please ensure you are at school promptly to collect your child at 12:00pm.



**EAL Award
Gold**
Hampshire EMAS 2025





Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026

Dates for your diary	
Monday 13th April	Start of the Summer term
NEW! Tuesday 14th April	Year 5 trip to QMC Science Centre
Friday 17th April	PTA Easter Egg Hunt, 3.15pm-4.15pm
Friday 1st May	Reports issued (years 1 to 6)
Thursday 7th May	FS trip to Finkley Down Farm
Monday 11th May -15th May	Safeguarding week (PANTS)
Monday 18th May - 22nd May	Walk to School week
NEW! Wednesday 20th May	Year 1 Parent Showcase, 2.30pm
NEW! Thursday 21st May	Year 5 Parent Showcase, 2.40pm
Monday 25th May – 29th May	Half-term (school closed)
Friday 5th June	PTA colour run (after school)
Monday 1st June	Inset day (school closed)
NEW! Wednesday 17th June	Sports Day
NEW! Thursday 18th June	Back-up Sports Day (in case of bad weather on 17th)
NEW! Tuesday 7th July	Year 2 Parent Showcase (time tbc)
Friday 10th July	PTA Summer Fair
NEW! Monday 20th July	Open evening
NEW! Monday 20th July – Wednesday 22nd July	Transition mornings
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of Summer term





Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026

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 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 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**.



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