



Fairfields Primary School Newsletter

Friday 17th April 2026

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a great first week back for the summer term and the children have returned refreshed and ready to learn. We have loved starting our new topics with them, with WOW starts helping to inspire the children with their new learning for the summer term. This has involved some trips, outdoor learning, visiting scientists and baking as just some examples already this week. Thank you to our super staff who really try to inspire and motivate the children to be excited about their learning.

Thank you to the PTA for arranging our Easter celebrations after school today. We enjoyed seeing the children have lots of fun on their Easter hunt, and it was great to see the sun shining too!

Attendance is above national levels at Fairfields and we remain in the top 30-40% of schools for attendance in the country. Thank you for your support with this! We have been analysing data in the school over the Easter break and a lot of the children who are struggling to progress with their writing also have below 90% attendance, so it shows how important being in school is for our children.

We hope you all had a super Easter break and see you on Monday.
Mrs Vicky Hopkins



Whole school attendance (year to date): 95.3%

National average (year to date): 94.6%

Our target: 96%



Super Citizens

Well done to all the children for a superb half term before the Easter break. As always, choosing our super citizens for the half term is always a challenge as all the children are working so hard to show the school core values, so well done everyone.

Last half term's super citizens are:

London – Saint
Paris - Eddie
Rome - Keandre
Warsaw - Noelle
Budapest - Sayesha

Madrid - Lakshith
Ankara - Alex
Kathmandu - Brody
Canberra - Chetan
New Delhi - Rana

Cairo - Noah
Nairobi – Martin
Lima - Amelie
Ottawa - Aisa

ACE Kids

We have been asked by ACE Kids to inform parents that there will be **no after school club on Friday 10th July**. This is due to the summer fair taking place that day. ACE Kids will be at the fair running activities for the whole school community.



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Starting school in September 2026

If your child has been offered a place to start with us in Foundation Stage in September 2026, please bring their ID documents (birth certificate or passport AND proof of address) into the school office as soon as possible to accept their place and collect your information pack.

Deadline for ordering class photos

The deadline for ordering photos with free delivery to school is Sunday 26th April. We expect photos to arrive at school around the middle of May and they will then be sent home with your child. Photos can be ordered after this deadline but you will need to pay the delivery charge.

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.

Name 5 things you wear in winter.



I see, I think, I wonder



Football club

A reminder that Miss Warwick's football club recommences on Tuesday 21st April.



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Parkrun Primary

We are pleased to share we are officially a Parkrun Primary School! This means we are one of the many primary schools in Basingstoke encouraging children to run, walk or jog to have a healthier lifestyle. In the next few weeks, we will have a visit from the Basingstoke Junior Parkrun volunteers who will share with children the benefits of parkrun.

Junior parkrun is a free, community event where you can walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate. Junior parkrun is 2 kilometres, dedicated to 4-14 year olds and their families and friends of all ages, every Sunday morning at 9am with a really fun warm up starting at 8:45am. Junior parkrun is positive, welcoming and inclusive, there is no time limit and no one finishes last. Everyone is welcome to come along! For more information, you can watch this

video: <https://youtu.be/YrCDL7Y7HBY?si=IU8fn55zo0fzFI33>

Fairfields takeover!

Excitingly, we are encouraging all children, teachers and families connected to Fairfields Primary School to **come along together to Basingstoke junior parkrun at Stratton Park on Sunday 17th May**. We would like to encourage children to walk, jog or run parkrun and are looking for adults in the school community to volunteer at the event. It will be an amazing experience for Fairfields to takeover Basingstoke Junior Parkrun!

All volunteers and run/walk/joggers must register for parkrun beforehand.

You can register for parkrun for free here: www.parkrun.org.uk/register/ or scan the QR code below:



If you are able to **join the Fairfields volunteer team on Sunday 17th May at Stratton Park at 9am** please sign up below and **let Miss Bradley know via the school office by Friday 24th April**.

Address: Stratton Park

- Sunday 17th May, at 9am (arrive at 8:45am for the fun warm up!)
- Website: <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/basingstoke-juniors/>

If you can't attend this week, junior parkrun happens every Sunday so you can come any Sunday you are available.



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PTA update

Colour Run - 5th June - **Now open for Sponsorship!**

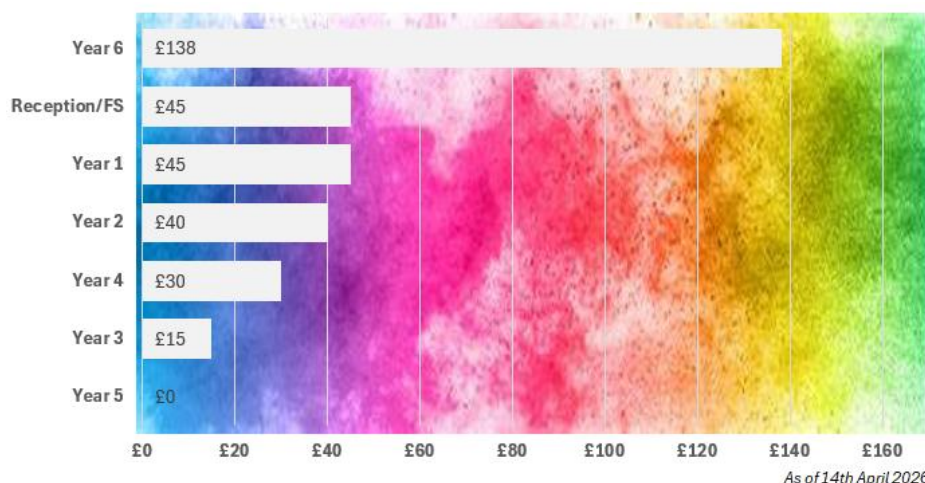
You can now start sponsoring your runner. Each runner will be able to take part with a minimum £5 sponsorship. Additional items will be included for higher sponsorship amounts:

- £10: Colour Run t-shirt
- £20: Colour Run t-shirt & Colour powder packet
- £30: Colour Run t-shirt & Colour powder packet & Sunglasses
- £50: Colour Run t-shirt & Colour powder packet & Sunglasses & Splash Blaster (water gun)

You do not need to pay it all in one payment. So ask your family and friends for support! If your child did not receive the sponsorship form before the Easter holidays, find this attached or [download it here](#).

Sponsorship can be completed **online** [here](#) or you can **hand cash into the office** (make sure you add your child's name and year group).

YEAR GROUP COMPETITION: The year group that raises the most wins an ice cream party and a non-uniform day! Right now, year 6 are winning!



Fish Bowl Coin Drop: Mondays and Fridays @ Drop-off and Pick-up 6th-22nd May.

Save your coins now to try your luck to get the coin into the cup in the fish bowl and **win 50 house points!** See more detail [here](#) and watch a video of how the game works [here](#).



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Year group updates

Foundation Stage have had a super first week back after the Easter holidays. They have begun their growing topic and are learning how to grow plants from seeds and bulbs. At Forest School, they have been making clay insects after discovering lots of them emerging after the winter. In Drawing Club, they have been learning the story of *The Enormous Turnip* and how many people it took to pull it out of the ground! Well done, Foundation Stage! Have a lovely weekend!

Welcome back, **Year 1!** This week we have started our new 'Curiosity' unit. On Monday, we put on our detective hats and explored slow-reveal images of different features around the school. The children then set off to find each location and sketch what they saw. On Thursday, we enjoyed our first cricket session. It was wonderful to see everyone having a go at throwing and hitting the ball. A quick reminder that all children should come to school in their PE kit on Thursdays.

In **Year 2**, we have really enjoyed welcoming the children back to school this week and introducing them to our new topic of 'Survival'. They became explorers who were trying to survive on a desert island and faced life changing challenges. They did very well! They have learnt some new skills in cricket and enjoyed testing their vehicles from last term in DT. Key stage 1 has been given a trial of [Numbots](#), an online maths platform that can help children become more confident with numbers. The children have logged in at school and explored what is on offer and can continue with this at home by using their TT Rockstars log in details to gain access. Please can we remind parents that our PE day is now on Monday and will take place on the school field.

Welcome back to the summer term! **Year 3** pupils started their new 'Energy' topic by experiencing a range of bootcamp style activities, running and parachute games. They have all been really interested in naming bones in the human skeleton and even made a set of lungs from straws. We will continue to focus on these topics during science lessons. For parents this week, a letter has been sent home giving you further information and consent forms for our swimming lessons after half-term. Please complete these and return to your child's teacher as soon as you can. If you have any questions, please write these on the forms and we will be in touch to ensure that every child can experience the swimming lessons.

Year 4 have had a great first week back! The children met two scientists (microbiologists) from the UK Health Security Agency and learned all about microbes, how diseases spread, and how to stay healthy through a series of hygiene routines. We have also begun exploring inventions through history and the impact these have had on human lives, which has sparked lots of enthusiastic discussion. If you are able to and haven't done so already,





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please don't forget to make a voluntary contribution towards our DT project (making head torches). Contributions can be made via Arbor or by bringing in cash. Have a nice weekend.

Year 5 have had a very interesting week doing different exciting activities. We started with re-enacting life in a Victorian carpet factory to introduce our industrial revolution work. The children are now going to complain about the bad conditions! On Tuesday, we went to Queen Mary's College to learn all about gears, pulleys and levers. On Wednesday and Thursday, the children made their planet biscuits and completed their little gift boxes to put them in. This caused great enjoyment as the children experimented with different types of icing and the effects that can be created.

Year 6 have had a fantastic first week back! They have been delving into our new topic on Ancient Greece and have shown great dedication in continuing their revision for the upcoming SATs exams. Just a reminder that if your child would like to order a SATs breakfast, these must be ordered on Arbor by Friday 1st May. After this date, no additional orders can be made. If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher.





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Dates for your diary	
NEW! Sunday 26th April	Deadline for ordering class photos from Fraser Portraits
Friday 1st May	Reports issued (years 1 to 6)
NEW! Wednesday 6th May	Year 4 Parent Showcase, 9.30am – 10:30am
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
Wednesday 20th May	Year 1 Parent Showcase, 2.30pm
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)
Wednesday 17th June	Sports Day
Thursday 18th June	Back-up Sports Day (in case of bad weather on 17th)
Tuesday 7th July	Year 2 Parent Showcase (time tbc)
Friday 10th July	PTA Summer Fair (please note there will be no ACE (after school) club on this day)
Monday 20th July	Open evening
Monday 20th July – Wednesday 22nd July	Transition mornings
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 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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