

Farnham Primary School Newsletter

September 2024

We would like to wish all our families and pupils a warm welcome back to Farnham. We hope that you had a lovely summer holiday.

School days and times

The school day **starts at 8.40am and finishes at 3.10pm.**

School adults will be in the playground at 8.35 am to greet your children. To keep children safe, please could you say goodbye to the children in the top playground and allow children to walk to their class teacher in the bottom playground.

Reception children enter through the Reception classroom doors.

The Year 1 entrance is along the pathway from the Stratford Road entrance into school.

The nursery times are:
Morning nursery session
8.40am to 11.40am
Afternoon nursery session
2.10pm to 3.10pm

Breakfast club

Breakfast club runs from 7.50am to 8.40am every morning in the canteen and includes a breakfast of cereal, toast and a drink.

The charge is £2.00 per child per day. There is no charge for pupils who are pupil premium.

If you would like to send your child to the breakfast club, please contact the school office or more information.

After-school clubs

After school clubs will start this week. Further details to follow in a separate letter.

Farnham Nursery

We still have some places in our amazing nursery. If you know of anyone who may be interested in a **free** place in our nursery, please call into our school office or ring the office on 01274 573297.

Pupil Premium

We always want to make sure that every child at Farnham is looked after in the best possible way. Research shows that high quality education can influence how well a child does at school and we want to access any additional funding which may help families attending Farnham.

We will use any funding to improve the quality of education that we provide for your child. This includes supporting families with the cost of school meals, uniform and educational visits.

Our admin team in the school office are happy to support you to check if your child is eligible for pupil premium funding.

Pupil information

It is very important we have your correct contact details in case of emergency.

You can update your child's contact details on the Arbor app or inform the admin staff of any change of address or telephone numbers.

Marvellous Me

All school communication is via the Marvellous Me app.

You will receive a message via the app to let you know about any school letters or information that will be uploaded and published on the school website.

Please speak to a member of the admin team if you need any support to download the app.

Educational visits

We are busy organising educational visits and visitors for our pupils to give them new experiences and enhance their learning.

Following feedback from parents, we will be asking for a smaller voluntary contribution for each educational visit throughout the school year rather than one large contribution at the start of the year.

Educational visits for children eligible for pupil premium and nursery will continue to be free.

If you have any queries, please contact the school office.

School uniform

All children should wear school uniforms at all times.

Families who are eligible for Pupil Premium funding can receive support with uniforms. If you are eligible, and have not already collected your uniform voucher from the main office, please do so as soon as possible. If you are unsure, please speak to the admin team and they will be able to support you.

Uniforms can be easily purchased from supermarkets such as Asda, Tesco, Primark etc or if you wish to buy jumpers and polo shirts with the school logo, they can be purchased from Natasha's or Academia uniform shops.

Our school uniform is;

- White polo shirt (optional with logo)
- Red, round neck sweatshirt or cardigan (optional with logo)
- Grey trousers, skirt, pinafore dress or shalwar kameez
- Black shoes
- In summer, pupils can wear grey tailored shorts or a red checked summer dress.

PE timetable

Class	Days the children have PE lessons	Class	Days the children have PE lessons
R Donaldson	Friday	Y3 Rosen	Tuesday & Wednesday
R Carle	Friday	Y4 Strong	Wednesday & Thursday
Y1 Sharratt	Monday & Friday	Y4 Zephaniah	Tuesday & Thursday
Y1 Bryon	Thursday & Friday	Y5 Said	Tuesday & Thursday
Y2 Jeffers	Monday & Tuesday	Y5 Rauf	Monday & Thursday
Y2 Coelho	Monday & Wednesday	Y6 Hardy	Monday & Wednesday
Y3 Mian	Tuesday & Thursday	Y6 Elphinstone	Monday & Wednesday

PE kit (to be worn to school on PE days)

- **Plain**, white, round neck t-shirt
- Pair of black shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms
- Plain, black, zipped hoodie or sweatshirt
- Plain **black** trainers
- Pupils will need a pair of black pumps in a red drawstring bag (for indoor PE lessons that will be kept in school)

To keep pupils safe, we respectfully ask that headscarves are secured with a clip or safety pin on PE days rather than a simple pin as these can become loose during physical activity.

It is essential that all school clothing, PE clothing, pump bags and footwear are marked with your child's name.

Please ensure your child's hairstyle is sensible and appropriate. No fashion stylings, patterns or colours please. Long hair should be tied back and children should not wear jewellery when they have PE lessons.

Parking

There are still ongoing concerns from the community about the dangerous parking on Stratford Road. Please adhere to the road markings and do not park directly in front of school.

Respect our neighbours and do not block exits and driveways when parking.

Thank you

Important Information for ALL Year 3 Parents - PLEASE READ!

Universal infant free school meals (UIFSM) provides funding from the government for us to offer free school meals to ALL pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

Once your child moves to Year 3, school meals are chargeable unless your child receives Pupil Premium funding. We want to support our families as much as possible and wherever possible, we would like all of our pupils to eat a warm, wholesome meal at lunchtime therefore if you think your child is eligible for Pupil Premium funding, please speak to a member of our office team who can check this for you.

Playground Markings

Thank you to all parents who have respectfully waited behind the yellow line painted on the playground when waiting to collect your children at the end of the school day.

This is a busy time of day and your patience allows the class teachers to dismiss each child safely.

We are hoping that it also looks a lot nicer than the metal barriers!

Water bottles

All pupils are provided with a water bottle and access to fresh drinking water each day in the classroom and canteen.

Therefore please do not send a water bottle from home.

Any pupils who have packed lunch will be provided with water in the canteen.



Assemblies

Following feedback from pupils and parents, we have reviewed our assembly timetable to ensure that children are given the opportunity to showcase their achievements and that there is enough room in the hall for all parents to attend and enjoy watching their children shine!

Class assembly on Thursdays 2.45pm - 3pm

One class will showcase their learning each week to a smaller school audience so that parents can sit closer to the stage to enjoy the performance. You will receive a message via the Marvellous Me app informing you of your child's class assembly nearer the time.

Achievement assembly on Fridays 8.50am - 9.20am

Pupils who are Stars of the Week are invited to sit in the 'Best seats in the house' on the stage so that the whole school community can see how amazing they are! If your child is Star of the Week, you will receive a message via the Marvellous Me app inviting you to join our Friday morning assembly. Each week, we also celebrate the classes with the best attendance, House Point winners, Farnham School News, pupils achieving our World Class Award and our brand new Lunchtime Award!

We look forward to seeing you - everybody welcome!

Important Diary Dates

We would like as many parents to join us for assemblies, workshops, events and celebrations throughout the year. So that you can plan ahead as much as possible, please find below important dates for your diary for the Autumn term. We are still working on some other special events and we will endeavour to inform you of these dates as soon as they are confirmed.

For all events, please come to the main entrance.

Everybody welcome!



Date	Time	Focus
Tuesday 17th September	8.45 - 9.30am	Curriculum meeting for Nursery, Reception & Year 1
Wednesday 18th September	8.45 - 9.30am	Curriculum meeting for Year 2, 3 & 4
Thursday 19th September	8.45 - 9.30am	Curriculum meeting for Years 5 & 6
Friday 20th September	1.45- 2.30pm	Year 3 parent art workshop
Thursday 26th September	2.45pm - 3pm	Elphinstone Class Assembly
Thursday 3rd October	2.45pm - 3pm	Hardy Class Assembly
Tuesday 8th October	9am - 9.30am	Reception & Year 1 parent phonics workshop
Thursday 10th October	2.45pm - 3pm	Said Class Assembly
Wednesday 16th October	3pm - 6pm	Parent consultation evening for Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2
Thursday 17th October	3pm - 6pm	Parent consultation evening for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
Thursday 24th October	2.45pm - 3pm	Zephaniah Class Assembly
Friday 25th October	3pm	School closes for half-term holiday
Monday 4th November	8.35am	School opens
Monday 11th November	9am - 9.30am	Year 6 parent reading workshop
Thursday 14th November	2.45pm - 3pm	Strong Class Assembly
Thursday 21st November	2.45pm - 3pm	Rauf Class Assembly
Thursday 28th November	2.45pm - 3pm	Jeffers Class Assembly
Friday 29th November	2pm - 3pm	Year 4 parent DT workshop
Tuesday 3rd December	1.30pm - 2pm	Year 2 parent DT workshop
Thursday 5th December	2.45pm - 3pm	School Council Assembly
Thursday 12th December	2.45pm - 3pm	Rosen Class Assembly
Friday 13th December	2.15 - 2.45pm	Year 5 parent maths workshop

Government updates to pupil attendance

The government have made some significant changes regarding pupil attendance over the summer.

It is important that you speak to Mrs Keenan or Mrs Buckley if you are intending to travel abroad during term time.

ATTENDANCE

WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1

I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

£160



2

FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 1 parent = £640

Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

10 IN 10

5

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

1 Day = **2** Sessions

3

FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 2 parents = £1280

Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

4

2ND TIME

2 parents and 1 child = £320
2 children = 640
3 children = 960
4 children = 1280

No discount for early payment



3RD TIME

A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child
1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents & 4 children = £20,000



Asda Cashpot for Schools

We are raising money for Farnham and we need your help!

If you download the Asda Rewards app, select Farnham Primary School, and when you shop at Asda using Rewards, the supermarket will give Farnham 0.5% of the value of your shop.

We have already raised almost £100 within just the first few days of the initiative!

And finally...

We are really looking forward to the year ahead at Farnham!

We have lots of exciting plans that we hope to share with you very soon as support from parents and carers is crucial to ensure that our pupils are given the best opportunity to thrive in school.

If you have any questions or queries, please speak to your child's class teacher or contact one of our Senior Leadership Team.

Mrs Keenan - Acting Headteacher

Mrs Buckley - Assistant Headteacher and Years 5 & 6 Leader

Mrs Perry - Assistant Headteacher, Years 2, 3 & 4 Leader & SENDCO

Mrs Hall - Assistant Headteacher and Early Years & Year 1 Leader

THANK YOU