

FARTHINGHOE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 1 : 13th September 2024



WELCOME BACK!

Dear Parents, Carers and Governors,

Goodness, is this term only two weeks old, it feels like we have been back forever 😊

Welcome back to the Autumn term and Winter!!!! It is freezing, although I am reliably informed that the warmer weather we usually get in September is on its way.

It has been lovely to see you all and to catch up with all the children and their adventures during the Summer holidays. Sadly, we had to say goodbye to two of our families during this time as they both moved to places that would make the school commute too difficult. I am sure you will join me in wishing the Barley and Messer families all the best for the future, we will miss them all.

I am presently looking for some new School Council members, Mrs Woolcott has written a little about this later in the newsletter. I look forward to receiving your nominations for the roles.

We are also joining Farthinghoe village for their Village show at the end of September and I am looking for some children to come along and help me run some games such as Splat the Rat etc. Please let me know if your child would like to help out, I will be there to support them so they will not be on their own.

Have a great weekend,

Take special care, Ms Turner and the Farthinghoe Team

Notices

- We have confirmed the dates for many of our events, up until Christmas. Please take a look at the diary at the bottom of this newsletter and add them to your calendar
- The closing date for applications for our Parent Governor position is Friday 27th September at midday
- Music lessons with Mrs Mold have commenced today. **Next week her lesson will be on Thursday.**

Staffing

Mr Elson will now be out of school for an indefinite period.

We are delighted to confirm that Miss Campbell will be returning to Farthinghoe (from Monday) as our cover year 5 and 6 teacher. The children are aware and are really excited to welcome her back. Miss Campbell knows all the children in the school and I am sure you will all join me in welcoming her back.

Biscuit Fridays

How to contact us

Telephone: 01295 710406

Email: head@farthinghoe.northants-ecl.gov.uk or bursar@farthinghoe.northants-ecl.gov.uk

Website: www.farthinghoeprimaryschool.co.uk

Our weekly sweet treat on Friday afternoons has now restarted – please ensure your child has their 20p. Donations of biscuits would be greatly appreciated. Please drop them into the School Office.

House Reward – Attenborough, Yellow House

Congratulations to Attenborough, our winning House last year, with the most house points. As a reward, all children in the yellow house are welcome to wear home clothes to school next Friday (20th September)

#WakeupWednesday, with the National College

The fantastic #WakeUpWednesday online safety campaign, have created a new podcast. The first episode covers ten essential tips to help children transition back to school after the summer holidays! From prepping school supplies to managing social dynamics. Plus, it also provides sharing strategies to support children's mental health and wellbeing. You can download the podcast on Spotify (please click [here](#)).

School Council

During Tuesday's assembly, Ms Turner spoke to all the children about the opportunity to join the School Council. The School Council is a small committee, consisting of a child from every year group (excl. EYFS, but 2 children in Year 6), which organise events and school matters, throughout the academic year.

Those children that wish to stand for the committee will be given the opportunity to present to the whole school in Tuesday's assembly. The children can either read a speech, letter or do a presentation. If your child would like to present something on the computer – please email across to Mrs Fisher or Ms Turner, by Monday at the latest.

Attendance

As we embark on a new school year we would like to reiterate our message about the importance of good, daily attendance. Poor, low attendance can be detrimental to your child's learning and will undoubtedly have a lasting impact. The DfE guidance stipulates that "a child should attend school every day and attendance over 96% is considered to be good attendance. If attendance drops to 90% or lower this is classified as having persistent absence (PA) and if attendance is 50% or less the child is classified as severely absence (SA)".



As you may have seen in the news over the Summer, a new National Framework for Penalty Notices issued by DfE, came into force for School Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19 August 2024. Further details can be found at <https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/08/19/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>

Please be aware, we will be following this guidance, as instructed by West Northamptonshire Council.

We are obviously aware that illness is unavoidable but we do ask that if you are unsure as to whether your child should be off school, please visit the NHS website, <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>, which lists the illnesses and infections that require mandatory absence.

We kindly ask that non urgent medical appointments are scheduled for out of school hours and please also be mindful that lateness is also marked as an absence and will contribute to your child's overall attendance figure.

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Everdon Residential for Year 3 and 4

We have sent out a letter to our year 3 and 4 parents this week, regarding a 3 day, 2 night residential trip to Everdon in January. If you would like to know more about the educational centre, please visit their website <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/everdon-outdoor-learning-centre>

The trip will only go ahead with sufficient uptake. If you have any questions about the trip, prior to signing up your child, please speak to Ms Turner.

Breakfast Club

Our breakfast club provision runs every morning from 8am. Children are offered a healthy breakfast of cereals, fruits, yogurts and toast. Bookings can be made via our online booking system (please only make 1 booking per family) <https://booking.appointy.com/en-US/farthinghoeprimary/bookings/calendar>

The daily cost is £4.50 per child and invoices are sent out at the end of each month, with payment due within 14 days.

Labelling of school uniform

Please can we kindly request that **all** school uniform is named. Is it impossible for us to return items to their rightful owner, if they do not have their name either written, on a sticker or sewn inside.

Star of the Week

Congratulations to the following children who were awarded 'Star of the Week'

- EYFS, Year 1 & 2 - Josh
- Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 – Merryn

Joining our School Ties Committee

Our School Ties committee are an integral part of our community and provide essential funding to many of the activities and resources we have in school. The committee meet once a month, in the school library, before school pick up. To learn more about the events planned for this year and to find out how you can get involved, please speak to a member of the committee

Join the PTA!



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 20th September – House Reward Day! Non uniform for members of Attenborough (yellow)

Friday 27th September – Mango in School, photographers – individual and sibling photographs

Sunday 29th September – Farthinghoe Village Show at the Village Hall

w/c Monday 30th September – Food Bank collection week – kindly requesting donations of tins and jars for Brackley Food Bank

Tuesday 8th October – Brackley Food Bank whole school assembly

Thursday 24th October - Parent-Teacher meetings, booking details to follow shortly

Friday 25th October, 3.15pm – School Ties Halloween Sweet Stall

Friday 25th October – End of Term

Monday 4th November – Back to School

Friday 15th November, 9am – 11am – Open Morning for prospective parents of pupils joining in September 2025

Monday 2nd December, PM – Christmas Decorating afternoon, all parents and families invited to join us

Wednesday 11th December – Santa Fun Run in support of Helen & Douglas Hospice, further details and fundraising information to follow in due course

Friday 13th December – Christmas Jumper Day, in aid of Save the Children charity

Friday 13th December – School Nurse visit, flu vaccinations for all pupils – further communication to follow in due course

Thursday 19th December, PM – Carols around the Christmas Tree, families to join us

Friday 20th December – End of Term

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