



Farnborough Road Infant School

'LEARNING, CARING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER'

Newsletter 10 30th January 2026



Children's Mental Health Week

9th to 15th February 2026

This year's theme for Children's Mental Health Week is...



The theme 'This is my place' focuses on fostering a sense of belonging, safety, and identity in schools, communities, and friendships.

We have created inclusive environments where children feel accepted and valued, empowering them to thrive.

Children will be taking part in a number of activities throughout the week including 'Move and Groove' dance sessions, 'Forest School' sessions, Groovy Golf, Musical Stories, Mindfulness buddy swaps, and a musical mash up playtime. Children will also choose the stars of the week next week!

London Marathon



Farnborough Road Schools have entered this year's mini London Marathon ballot for the children's run on Saturday 25th April 2026 in support of Elsie's Story Charitable Trust.

We will let you know shortly how many places we have secured in the 1 mile challenge for children Reception to Year 2. Each child's bib comes with an adult bib so they can run alongside.

If you think your child might be interested in a place look out for more details coming out at the end of February.



Small Changes, Big Impact

Cut Waste Without Extra Work

Swap plastic bags for reusable containers and silicone snack bags in packed lunches.

AND Choose products with minimal or recyclable packaging when possible.



National Story Telling Week

2nd to 6th February

As we GO ALL IN for National Year of Reading 2026 we celebrate National Story Telling Week with Farnborough Road Junior School.

The theme for National Storytelling Week 2026 is

Soundtrack your story.

Creating stories together can be fun and relaxing. Making up stories using your imagination, things you see around you, and your memories helps develop language skills. Why not try to create your own sound-story?

When you are next outside, perhaps walking to school or in the park, try noticing some of the sounds you hear around you. You might hear dogs barking, a train in the distance or footsteps crunching. Try making the sounds with your own voices too. Imagine what could be happening in a story with those sounds. Who or what is making the noise? Where is it happening?

Next week the junior children have paried with an Infant class and will come to read a story to our Infant children during the week, fostering that love of shared reading.

Monday 2nd February - Year 3 pupils visit Nursery

Tuesday 3rd February - Year 5 pupils visit Year 1

Wednesday 4th February - Year 4 pupils visit Reception

Thursday 5th February - Year 6 pupils visit Year 2

Reading for Pleasure

Supporting Readers at Home

The Open University

Open University research suggests there are three important ways to support readers to develop a love of reading.

Reading Aloud

Reading aloud to your children shows them reading is enjoyable, not a chore. Older children can read to younger ones, too.

Children who read and are supported as readers develop strong reading skills and do better at school.

Family Reading Time

Making time to read alongside one another helps develop children's reading stamina and motivation. Let them choose what to read and relax together.

For more ideas, visit the OU RfP website: www.ourfp.org

Book Chat

Book Chat encourages readers. Invite them to make connections and share their views. Join in with your thoughts, too!

BEANO

Our school values are:

COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE HONESTY RESPECT and **LOVE AND KINDNESS**



Reading Recommendations of the fortnight!

Nursery

We're Going on a Bear Hunt
Michael Rosen Helen Oxenbury

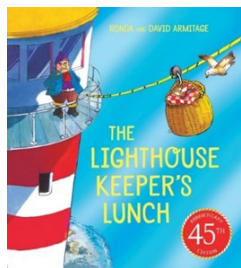


An exciting story filled with sounds, senses and

repetition.

Reception

A humorous book filled with vibrant illustrations.



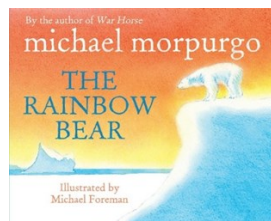
Year One

A book full of adventure

and thrill.

Year Two

An engaging and heart warming tale.



Happy Reading!

WORLD BOOK DAY

FRIS will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March 2026

Would you like to donate any

WORLD BOOK DAY COSTUMES?

World Book Day comes around every year, but children grow out of costumes so quickly and they can be expensive.

Please donate your World Book Day costumes that are in good condition and are no longer needed.

If you can pass these to your child's class teacher on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th February we will have tables out under the canopy after school for parents to take or swap a costume.



Don't forget to continue to fill in your answer forms for the Masked Reader.

Send the complete form back into school by Wednesday 4th March.

A winner from each year will be announced on World Book Day!

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Our school is part of the Southport Learning Partnership where we work together with other schools on joint projects. Love My Community is a special day in the school year where we join with other local schools to raise money for a charity chosen by the children of Southport.

This year the school council representatives from each school have chosen to support 3 charities:



These charities touch so many hearts in our community of Southport.

Alice's Wonderdance supporting young dancers by removing financial and social barriers, providing resources such as shoes, funding for classes, and community dance opportunities.

Bebe's Hive is centred on healing, creativity, and connection for bereaved children and their families

Elsie's Story supporting children and families through memory-making experiences, care grants, and community-led kindness.



On Friday 13th February children across all of our Southport schools will be wearing their own clothes to school for our Love Our Community Day in exchange for a £1 donation which will be split equally across the 3 charities.



Our class weekly attendance is shared in Friday's 'Star of the Week' Assembly and the children are keen for their class to win the Attendance Bear for the week.

Best Class Attendance Week Beginning 19th January was Room 2 -99% and Room 12 -98%



Best Class Attendance Week Beginning 26th January is Room 3 -96% and Room 12 -98%

Whole school attendance for the year to date is 95%.



Parent Governor Election

Don't forget the deadline for parent governor nominations is Monday 9th February.

Please make sure your papers are at the infant school office for 10am.

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Upcoming Events

VALENTINES DISCO

THURSDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2026

£3 ON PARENTPAY
Includes sweets, drink & crisps

Reception: 2:25 to 3:05pm – Children can wear own clothes to school

Year 1: 3:15 to 3:55pm – Children can bring own clothes to change into in a named bag

Year 2: classroom doors open from 3:50, disco starts at 4pm finishing at 4:45pm – If attending after school club, children can bring own clothes in a named bag

Children in afterschool club will be taken to and from the disco

Make it simple < Make it real < Make it joyful < Make it happen <

Raise FREE funds for FARNBOROUGH ROAD INFANT SCHOOL PTFA

All you have to do is ...

- 1 Tap the easyfundraising link in the description and sign up for free..
Go to easyfundraising before your online
- 2 shop, to find the site you want and start shopping ..
- 3 After you've checked out, the retailer will make a donation to Farnborough Road Infant School PTFA at no extra cost to you whatsoever!

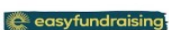


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Raise FREE funds for FARNBOROUGH ROAD INFANT SCHOOL PTFA

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online you could be raising free donations for Farnborough Road Infant School PTFA with easyfundraising?

Help us while buying your online weekly shop to your annual holiday ...



2026 SMARTIES CHALLENGE

FRIS PTFA have given you a treat, these yummy Smarties for you to eat.

Keep the tube, don't throw it away, do tasks and good deeds, fill it with your pay.

So come on FRIS pupils, be supercool, and help us raise money for our school!

- 01 Eat your Smarties, but keep the tube.
- 02 Use your helping hands, do good deeds or chores at home ..
- 03 in exchange for coins ...
- 04 to fill your Smarties tube!
- 05 Return your Smarties tube to class by Wednesday 25 February 2026.

On Friday 13th February when we break up for half term each child will receive a packet of Smarties to enjoy from our PTFA.

As part of their fundraising we ask that you don't throw away the packet but return it to school on the first day back with any spare change.

The idea is that during the half term break you can get your children to help you around the house to earn some pennies for this tube.

All the money raised will go towards the PTFA project of developing a child friendly open plan kitchen space in the Nursery as well as using the staff suggestions box.



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CBeebies Parenting and Apps

CBeebies Parenting is full of useful information from creative activities, recipes and information about the CBeebies apps.

CBeebies apps are free to download with no in-app purchases. Their apps include:

- Playtime Island - Fun Games for Kids App. This app includes 40 free games.
- CBeebies Learn - Early Years Learning App. This app includes games and videos and is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum.
- Get Creative - Open-ended Creative Activities App. This app is free and includes lots of drawing and painting activities.
- Storytime - Reading Stories App. This app includes interactive story books.

You can find out more here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/ceebies/parenting>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleyc.lcs.org.uk/february-2026-primarv/>

Using AI to alter images

AI image generator and moderator tools are widely available and often used by children. Whilst these tools can be used for creative purposes, we need to ensure our children are aware of the appropriate way in which to use them and the circumstances when they should not be used, even if harm is not intended.

What are AI image generator and moderator tools?

It is when Artificial Intelligence is used to create or modify images, for example it could be used to swap faces, change expressions or for more sinister reasons, such as to remove clothes. These images are often very realistic and therefore difficult to see that they are fake.

Privacy concerns and consent

If your child is using these tools, they need to be aware of potential loss of privacy and the importance of consent. They should know that they should only use images of other people with consent.

What does my child need to know about using these tools?

- Children shouldn't use AI tools to manipulate images of school staff. Even if the child's intention is not malicious, children should not use AI tools to create or edit photos of teachers under any circumstances.
- Manipulation of images of friends or other children – if you are using images of other people, then consent **must** always be sought.
- The tools should not be used to create images that can embarrass or hurt others - this is a form of online bullying.
- Copyright issues – who owns the copyright? These images could be reused by others, which can affect their own digital footprint.

What should I do?

- Chat to your child if they are using these tools and ascertain the reason why. Ask them to show you the images that they have created.
- Check the age ratings of any apps/websites that your child is using and set up appropriate parental controls.
- Develop your child's digital literacy by teaching them to recognise online risks and to behave responsibly online

Further information

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-to-children-about-ai>
- <https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2025/02/18/understanding-image-consent-at-schools/>

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TikTok

You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok. TikTok is a social media platform for sharing and watching short video clips. If your child is using TikTok then make sure appropriate security / privacy settings are applied.

Account set up

It is important that your child enters their real date of birth as accounts are tailored by age e.g., Direct Messaging is disabled for accounts aged 13-15. In addition, advertisements are tailored by age. By default, accounts for people under 16 are set to private. You can read more about the other settings available, such as switching off comments and restricted mode here:

<https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/privacy-and-safety-settings-for-users-under-age-18>

Family Pairing

Family Pairing allows you to link your own account to your child's account. You can then set controls such as restricted mode or tailor your child's 'For You' feed by selecting keywords that TikTok will use to filter out posts. You can find out more here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/account-and-user-safety/family-pairing>

What do I need to be aware of?

- **Inappropriate content and themes:** whilst against guidelines, explicit and inappropriate content can be found on this platform, for example nudity/sexual content and hate speech. Some of the songs available to lip sync to may contain inappropriate lyrics/themes.
- **Challenges:** We often see viral challenges on social media, some of which can be **risky/dangerous**. Sadly, there are reports that children have died whilst attempting online challenges. Children may not yet have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse that what they see online is not always safe for them to replicate.
- **Stranger contact:** chat to your child about how people may not be who they say they are when online.

Refresh your feed

You can refresh your "For You" feed to update the content recommended: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/refresh-your-for-you-feed>

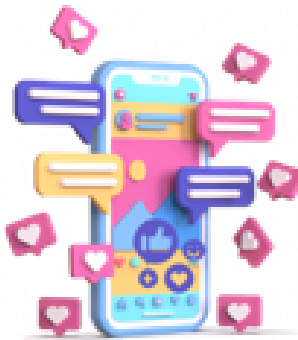
Blocking and Reporting

Show your child how to use the safety features available.

Further information

- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok>
- <https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en/guardians-guide>

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Balance screen time tips

Internet Matters have created simple tips to help you develop healthy online habits for your child. They also answer key questions such as "how much screen time is too much" and "is gaming bad for children." Access this information here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/creating-a-balanced-digital-diet-with-screen-time-tips>

7 Steps to Good Digital Parenting

The Family Online Safety Institute have created seven steps to assist you as a digital parent. Find out more here:

<https://fosi.org/program/7-steps-to-good-digital-parenting/>

Children's Commissioner launches new guide for parents and carers

The Children's Commissioner has released a new guide to help you in managing your child's digital life. The guide was written with direct involvement from children.

It includes advice on setting boundaries such as no devices in the bedroom and how to chat to your child. You can find the guide here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/blog/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-careers-knew-childrens-commissioner-launches-guide-for-parents-and-careers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>

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