



Farnborough Road Infant School

'LEARNING, CARING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER'

Newsletter 4 18th October 2024



Good attendance in school has lots of benefits.

Academic benefits:

Good progress—attending every day means better understanding in lessons, children not falling behind their peers and improved life chances

Increased participation—helps children to get involved in lessons and activities and access extra support when needed.

Social benefits:

Improved Social Skills—helps children to make friends and work together with each others.

Sense of belonging—helps children feel part of their school community

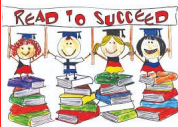
Wellbeing benefits:

Emotional Stability—routines helps children feel safe and secure

Good habits—builds important life skills like time management and responsibility

We have a daily attendance routine and we really appreciate your help in making it work efficiently.

- * At 9.15am each day we check the absence list to make sure we have reasons for any child missing school.
- * We then send a text message to remind a parent to contact school
- * Following this, office staff ring every person on the contact list to try and find the reason for absence.
- * Under guidance published to schools (Keeping Children Safe in Education), we need to exhaust every avenue to find 'missing' children.
- * If we are unable to make contact, we make a home visit with 2 members of staff and finally a phone call to the police.



At FRIS we know Reading is the key to success and



little and often practice helps our children make good progress, hence our Read to Succeed Initiative to encourage children to read at least 5 times a week.



Thank you to all our class Reading Angels who regularly come into school to ensure our children get extra chances to read with adults. If you would like to volunteer in school as a Reading or Maths Angel please drop into the school office or email head.fris@schools.sefton.gov.uk.



Best Class Attendance this week is :

98.7% (Room 4) (EYFS)

99.6% (Room 7) (KS1)

Well Done to all of the children in these classes.

Whole school attendance for the year to date is 96%. (National Whole School Attendance Expectation is 97%)

Our PTA annual general meeting took place on 11th October and our new committee was formed:



PTA Chair: Emma McCoy

Treasurer: Rachel Corfield

Secretary : Rebecca Laird

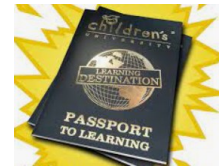
If you would like to support the PTA and contribute to the lovely events they organise please follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/552066501669330>

Join us for our next meeting
Tuesday 12th November 2pm



Children's University is a national charitable organisation which celebrates learning that takes place outside of school hours. Pupils collect 'credits' for the time they spend outside of school hours participating in a huge variety of different learning activities.



Top up Children's University Credits!

Laura Ashcroft from Children's University came to visit the children to talk to them about all the ways they can Top Up their Children's University Credits during Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. If you would like your child to graduate from Children's University at the end of Year 2 start collecting credits using these easy steps.

1. Children can attend school clubs—these will enable your child to graduate if you attend the teacher run clubs over the 3 years in the main school.
2. Children can attend paid school clubs and we collect the credits for these in school.
3. If children attend clubs outside school purchase a Children's University Passport from the school office and make sure your child's club is accredited and get the organiser to stamp their passport.
4. If you visit a Learning Destination don't forget to take your Children's University Passports out and about with you -collect extra credits at eg Martin Mere, Farmer Teds, museums and theatres.
5. Complete the holiday challenges see below and send evidence to : LiverpoolCU@elevate-ebp.co.uk #halftermfun#extraCUcredits



October half term Challenge 2024

<p>Activity 1 Autumn Leaf crafts The Woodland Trust has a range of ideas for art and craft activities such as leaf animal pictures, an autumn wreath, leaf mobile and leaf crowns click this link for inspiration and then get outside to start your leaf collection! Autumn Leaf Crafts and Activities for Kids - Woodland Trust</p>	<p>Activity 2 AUTUMN acrostic poem Use this template Free Printable: Make a Fall Poem - My Alford Grant, (or make your own) Then write a poem about autumn using the letters A-U-T-U-M-N as a starting point for each line of your verse. Here are some examples...but make up your own original version to gain your credit! Autumn Acrostic Poems For Kids (mavink.com)</p>	<p>Activity 3 Autumn Fun Facts Imagine you are explaining what Autumn is to an alien from outer space when their spaceship lands. Design a poster with 5 fun facts about Autumn. Don't forget to decorate your poster and make it look as appealing as possible! There are lots of ideas to help here https://wellbeingwithalysia.com/kids-autumn-facts/</p>	<p>Activity 4 Bonfire night treats Get ready for bonfire night by trying out one (or more) of these delicious recipes! There are lots to choose from here, like fruit rocket skewers, doggy hot dogs and fireworks chocolate bark. send a picture before your yummy food gets eaten! https://www.eatsamazing.co.uk/category/bonfire-night</p>
<p>Activity 5 BBC 500 Words Write your very own short story and enter the BBC 500 words competition. Stories need to be submitted by Friday 8th November. For all details of how to enter and some inspirational tips follow this link 500 Words (bbc.co.uk) When you send a photo of your completed story, you will get 3 credits!</p>	<p>Activity 6 Get moving! Click on this link for some inspirational ideas for physical activities to take part in over the holiday 50 indoor physical activities for kids - Active For Life There are lots of ideas to choose from such as dancing, juggling, 'hot potato' catch, yoga, balloon keepy ups...get someone to take pictures of you taking part in 3 activities to gain your credit!</p>	<p>Activity 7 Amazing Astronomy Children's University has partnered with the Schools Observatory at Liverpool John Moores University and they have 2 exciting and meaningful scientific tasks for you to complete, choose either or do both! 1 credit for each! Keep a moon diary https://www.schoolsobservatory.org/things-to-do/keep-moon-diary Count the stars https://www.schoolsobservatory.org/things-to-do/count-stars</p>	

Collect extra Children's University credits during the October holiday by completing this challenge. Each activity is worth 1 credit (unless otherwise stated) when you take evidence of your activity to your teacher or send it to your local Children's University. Send it to SeftonCU@elevate-ebp.co.uk

Our school values are:

COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE HONESTY RESPECT and LOVE AND KINDNESS



FARNBOROUGH ROAD INFANT SCHOOL
HOLIDAY DATES - 2025/26
(including INSET days)

2025		
AUTUMN TERM		
INSET	Monday 1 st September	School Closed for pupils Teachers and TAs in school
INSET	Tuesday 2 nd September	School Closed for pupils Teachers and TAs in school
Half Term 1	Start of Term: Wednesday 3 rd September at 08.45am School finishes for half term on Friday 24 th October at 3.15pm	
Half Term	Monday 27 th October to Friday 31 st October [one week]	
Half Term 2	Return to school Monday 3 rd November at 08.45am School Finishes for end of term on Friday 19 th December at 2.00pm	

2026		
SPRING TERM		
Half Term 3	Start of Term: Monday 5 th January at 08.45am School finishes for half term on Friday 13 th February at 3.15pm	
Half Term	Monday 16 th February to Friday 20 th February [one week]	
Half Term 4	Return to school Monday 23 rd February at 08.45am School finishes for end of term Friday 27 th March at 2.00pm	

2026		
SUMMER TERM		
Half Term 5	Start of Term: Monday 13 th April at 08.45am School finishes for half term on Thursday 21 st May at 3.15pm	
Bank Holiday	Monday 5 th May	School Closed for all
INSET	Friday 22 nd May	School Closed for pupils Teachers and TAs in school
INSET	Monday 1 st June	School Closed for pupils Teachers Report Writing
Half Term	Friday 25 th May to Monday 1 st June [one week and 2 days]	
Half Term 6	Return to school Tuesday 2 nd June at 08.45am School finishes for end of term on Friday 17 th July at 2.00pm	
INSET	Monday 20 th July	School Closed for pupils Teachers and TAs in school

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UPCOMING FRIS PTA EVENTS - AUTUMN TERM



**AUTUMN GLOW DISCO
RECEPTION**
2:25 - 3:05pm.

YEAR 1

3:15 - 3:55pm

THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER
YEAR 2

4:05 - 4:45pm



CLASS FUNDRAISING

Order links sent in NOVEMBER

A chance to turn your child's artwork into gifts ready for Christmas.
Class Fundraising has so many gifts to choose from!



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

26, 27, 28 NOVEMBER

Reception, Yr 1 & Yr 2 pupils will have the chance to have Breakfast
and meet Santa! SEE POSTER FOR MORE DETAILS.



PARTY WITH SANTA

27 & 28 NOVEMBER

Nursery children will have a Christmas party and meet Santa who
has a special gift for them. SEE POSTER FOR MORE DETAILS.



CHRISTMAS FAIR

WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER

Children will have the opportunity to play Christmas themed
games and create festive crafts to take home.



ELFRIDGES Christmas Shop

WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER

During the day, the children will be able to choose their gifts for
the

special people in their lives in time for Christmas.

Class Fundraising™

This year, FRIS PTA are using Class Fundraising to turn your child's
artwork into a stunning range of keepsake products and giftware
in time for Christmas!

Please keep an eye out for the order forms that will be coming
home with your child soon.

During class, the children will create their masterpieces. The
designs will then be sent to Class Fundraising.

You will receive a personalised order form to allow you to order
online via their self-service shop.

Products will be sent to school and sorted into classes. Your
items will be sent home with your child in time for Christmas!

Please check your class door for date of collection and bring a bag to carry items home.



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Farnborough Road Infant School

Parent Teacher Association Chair Report

11 October 2024

Co-Chairs: Alice Keighley & Emma McCoy

Academic Year: 2023-2024

Year Recap

We have had a very successful year in our second year as co-chairs for the PTA. We have been able to put on all events thanks to our PTA members. We have faced an unprecedented number of members who work and are willing to organise their time around facilitating the events for the children.

This year we were able to continue to offer places provided to pupil premium children to the full number of children within the infants' school. This means that ALL pupil premium children were offered a place at PTA events.

Due to significant increases in costs, we had no choice but to increase the prices of events slightly to reflect this increase but still keeping events reasonably priced to assist parents and carers during the cost-of-living crisis. We were also extremely grateful to receive donations of items such as crisps, drinks and sweets for our discos from a parent of the school.

We have assisted with funding the refurbishment of the triangle garden, Joseph's memorial garden, new library books and a new storage shed for the Nursery.

2023 to 2024 Events

1. Halloween Disco

The Halloween Disco was our first PTA event of the year and was a great success as always. This disco was the first disco which we utilised a new DJ for all the year groups following a successful trial at the previous year 2 leavers disco. However, this year this disco is being rebranded as the 'Autumn Glow Disco' in an attempt to vary events for the Children.

2. Xmas4Schools

Xmas4schools whilst being popular, we saw a downturn in uptake this year compared to previous years. We were able to turnaround the children's artwork quickly with the assistance of the school for which we are very thankful as always. Whilst Xmas4schools has always been popular, we are looking to use an alternative supplier with a wider range of products going forward.

3. Breakfast with Santa

Breakfast with Santa was another success this year. Our elves and amazing Santa helped deliver another memorable 3 sessions to the children. All children enjoyed their breakfast and visit to Santa to receive their gift.

4. Christmas Gift Shop

We attempted to add some further variety to gifts and continued the very popular wax melt burner and hot chocolate mugs. These were a great success and we will be looking to include similar items this year as well as more varied products already purchased.

5. Christmas Fair

The Christmas fair was another success including the very popular reindeer food making stall for Children to take home. Prizes were varied to include more than sweets to ensure a variety of prizes to be taken home by Children.

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6. Christmas Fair in a Box

Christmas fair in a box was provided for all nursery classes. However, we are exploring the possibility of including the nursery class into the main Christmas fair due to volunteer numbers.

7. Christmas Party

We delivered party games and party food to the nursery classes to host their annual Christmas parties with a visit from our special Santa. This is always a lovely event for the nursery children who all thoroughly enjoy a special Santa visit in their classrooms.

8. Selection Boxes

Selection boxes were purchased for every child in the school and distributed towards the end of term as a Christmas present from the PTA.

9. Valentines Disco

Another great success was our valentines disco for the children. We again used the new DJ who the Children loved.

10. Smarties Challenge

This was the third year we have done the smarties challenge throughout February half term and proved to be another fantastic fund raiser for minimal expenditure.

11. Easter Fair

After deliberating previously whether to replace the easter fair with an alternative event, it was determined to keep the fair as inclusive for as many of the Children as possible. This was another great success.

12. Mother's Day Shop

For the Mother's Day Shop this year we decided to vary again and provided the wax melt burners and melts due to the popularity of this gift at the Christmas fair.

13. Summer Disco

Another successful disco with the children and the new DJ continuing to be used.

14. Father's Day Shop

Father's Day Shop this year we decided to undertake a shop. We thought this was very successful and the children loved being able to pick their own gifts for the Male role models in their lives.

We really struggle with trying to find alternative presents for the men but this setup was a hit so we will look to do this again this year.

15. Year 2 Leavers Party

This year we continued with the new DJ and 600 degrees to make pizza for the Children. Due to nicer weather the Children were able to sit outside and enjoy their pizzas.

Also as a new addition to again vary the leavers party from other discos, we were able to have 2 bouncy castles which were a huge hit and we will continue with those this year.

16. Summer Fair

The summer fair this year was another success organised by Claire Haslam of both the Junior and Infant PTA along with members of the infant PTA. We were extremely grateful to those of the Infant PTA who were able to step in and assist with the organisation due to both us co-chairs being unable to due to personal circumstance.

17. Ice Lolly Day

We delivered ice lollies for the children on one of the summer days towards the end of the school year.

18. Break ~~The~~ Rules Day

We also continued the very popular Break ~~The~~ Rules Day which the Children loved and proved a very successful fund raising opportunity for the PTA.

The Year Ahead

We confirm we will be hosting the following events this coming school year:

1. Autumn Glow Disco
2. Xmas4schools
3. Breakfast with Santa
4. Party with Santa (nursery children)
5. Christmas Fair
6. Christmas Fair in a box for Nursery children
7. Christmas Gift Shop
8. Selection Boxes
9. Smarties Challenge
10. Valentines Disco
11. Mother's Day Shop
12. Easter Fair
13. Summer Disco
14. Father's Day Shop
15. Summer Fair
16. Ice Lolly Day
17. Year 2 Leavers Party
18. Break ~~The~~ Rules Day

Following discussions with Miss Sephton, the Halloween disco is being rebranded as the Autumn Glow Disco. This will be a new concept featuring glow in the dark aspects to create a new experience for the children.

Conclusions

We have had another amazing year with our PTA profits exceeding £10,000 and donations to the school exceeding £18,000.

As you can see we have another bumper packed year and as a PTA, we are one of the few in the area who provide so many fun events for the children. This is all down to our amazing volunteers who often use annual leave from work to help run these events as well as the support from Parents who contribute financial support which enables profit to be re-invested back into the school.

Turning to this year's fund raising targets, we will be working with Miss Sephton to help with funding for the school who are working towards a trauma informed practice bronze award. We will also be assisting in looking for alternative therapy pets as the beloved Archie reaches his retirement.



TREASURER'S REPORT 2023-2024

prepared by Rachel Corfield, FRIS PTA Treasurer 07/10/2024



We are thrilled with our fundraising efforts for the 2023-2024 year and are pleased to report an overall total of £10,184.72 raised after costs.

Fairs and gift shops have been the most successful events in terms of both income and profit as detailed above. The Mother's Day and Father's Day shops both saw an increase in profit of approx. 50% vs last year.

The Summer Fair has been excluded from FRIS PTA Top 3 figures because the event has historically always been organised by Friends of FRJS (the Junior school PTFA) and the profits shared with the Infants equally. According to the figures provided by the Juniors, the Summer Fair income was circa £7800 minus expenses of £2550, leaving a profit of £5300 which was split equally between the two schools.

As mentioned in the Chair's report, as a committee we made the difficult decision to increase some of our prices this year due to increasing costs. We continued to offer places at all our events for Pupil Premium children, and to those who may be struggling financially, as per the previous year. Obviously this impacts our fundraising totals but we want to ensure no child is left out of any of our events due to financial constraints – our aim is not only to raise funds for the school but also to provide enjoyable events and experiences for all our Farnborough Road children.

We dropped two events from the previous year: World Book Day (film and afternoon tea) and the Lego Challenge. We felt the WBD event required a lot of planning, preparation, time and volunteers (of which we were short!) and due to rising costs the profit was minimal for such a large scale event. The Lego Challenge did not have a high uptake so we decided not to repeat it. Net profits of these two events the previous year was **£270.30** & **£-40.00** respectively.

Xmas4Schools uptake was lower than the previous year, and we discovered many parents had not received their emails due to their details being inputted incorrectly on the Xmas4Schools system by their own staff. Due to this, and their limited product range, we have signed up with a new company, Class Fundraising, for Christmas 2024 which offers a much better choice of products and a similar commission structure.

This accounting year we have donated a total of £18,838.46 to the school for the following:

- £10,000 for the refurbishment of the triangle garden (this was from the previous year's fundraising)
- £5,000 for new reference books for the library
- £1636.13 towards a friendship garden in memory of Joseph (Juniors)
- £1553.33 for a new storage shed for the Nursery

We also provided every child with a Christmas selection box, provided a free packet of Smarties for every child for the Smarties Challenge (regardless of donations received in return), funded the Year 2 Leavers disco which included a bouncy castle and freshly made pizzas from local business 600 degrees, and paid for the Year 2 Leavers Books.

Following the events in Southport of 29th July, the PTA has also offered to make a donation to the school to be used in a way that benefits all our children, in line with our charity governance. We will be led by Miss Sephton with regards to this and will discuss it again later in the year if support is required from the PTA.

On behalf of our committee, I would like to thank everyone who has supported the PTA with our fundraising this year. Every disco ticket, gift, and ice lolly purchased, every rule broken, all add up to the £10,000 we have raised this year. I would also like to give special thanks to everyone who has helped with any events from wrapping gifts, to face painting, to delivering ice lollies, to serving rice krispies dressed in an elf dress and stripey tights! We could not have achieved this total without your help so thank you, and we hope to see you in the coming year for more fundraising!



FARNBOROUGH ROAD INFANT SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Registered charity 702015



Income, Expenditure & Profit Report 2023-2024			
OPENING BALANCE:	EXPENDITURE	INCOME	PROFIT
£13,549.11	££	££	££
HALLOWEEN DISCO	£189.61	£606.00	£416.39
XMAS4SCHOOLS	£0.00	£432.00	£432.00
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA (incl gifts)	£739.77	£1,345.00	£605.23
SELECTION BOXES	£460.25	£0.00	-£460.25
CHRISTMAS FAIR	£679.51	£1,071.00	£391.49
ELFRIDGES CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOP	£833.36	£2,050.00	£1,216.64
NURSERY CHRISTMAS PARTY	£0.00	£288.00	£288.00
CHRISTMAS FAIR IN A BOX	£0.00	£72.50	£72.50
VALENTINES DISCO	£344.41	£760.00	£415.59
SMARTIES CHALLENGE	£175.85	£831.27	£655.42
MOTHERS DAY GIFT SHOP	£742.30	£1,311.00	£568.70
EASTER FAIR	£413.66	£1,364.00	£950.34
SUMMER DISCO	£389.94	£715.00	£325.06
SUMMER FAIR RAFFLE	£0.00	£663.00	£663.00
SUMMER FAIR TRANSFER FROM JUNIORS	£0.00	£2,097.17	£2,097.17
FATHERS DAY GIFT SHOP	£430.74	£1,278.00	£847.26
YEAR 2 LEAVERS PARTY	£650.10	£0.00	-£650.10
BREAK THE RULES DAY	£0.00	£1,026.00	£1,026.00
ICE LOLLY DAY	£76.05	£342.00	£265.95
MISCELLANEOUS	£375.80	£7.00	-£368.80
PARENTPAY FEES	£208.37	£0.00	-£208.37
DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH	£0.00	£635.50	£635.50
TOTALS	£6,709.72	£16,894.44	£10,184.72
TOTAL 23-24 PROFIT	£10,184.72		
DONATIONS TO SCHOOL	£18,838.46		
CLOSING BALANCE:			
£4895.37			

- **Top Profit Events: 1.Elfridges Christmas Gift Shop, 2.Break The Rules Day, 3.Easter Fair**
- **Top Income Events: 1.Elfridges Christmas Gift Shop, 2.Easter Fair, 3.Breakfast With Santa**
- Gift Shop Totals: £4639.00 income (27%), £2632.60 profit (26%) (Mothers Day & Fathers Day 50% up on LY profit)
- Fairs totals (excl Summer): £2435.00 income (14%), 1341.81 profit (13%)
- Discos Totals (excl Leavers): £2081.00 income (12%), £1157.04 profit (11%)

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