



Farnborough Road Infant School

'LEARNING, CARING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER'

Newsletter 8 19th January 2024



Welcome back to all our returning Farnborough families. Happy New Year to you all! I hope that you all

had a lovely break at this special time of year. Welcome also to all our new children and families who started school last week. 2024 promises to be an exciting year at Farnborough Road Infants and we look forward to working in close partnership with you in the coming months.

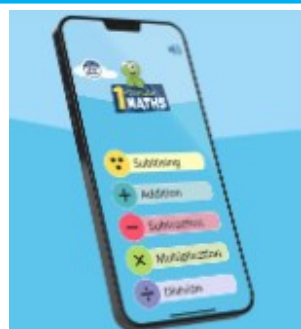


Would you be interested in a role within our school?

We currently have vacancies for Lunchtime welfare assistants 6.25 hrs per week or supply work.

Please ask for an application form at the school office

We also have many volunteers in school please contact me if you /or grandparents have any spare time.



One Minute Maths

Download a free app by White Rose called 1 min Maths to develop children's number confidence and fluency.

Important Dates for the Half Term 1

Wednesday 31st January and Thursday 1st February Parents Meetings

Wednesday 31st January
Class Photos

Week Beg 5th February Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 6th February
E-Safety Week

Thursday 8th February
PTA Discos

Friday 9th February

We love our community event

Break up for Half term

Monday 19th February

Back to School



Parents Meetings—31st January and 1st February

We will be using the online booking system to book a face to face appointment for you. Links for booking the appointments have been sent by email and/or text. Appointments will be for 10 minutes with your child's class teacher and there is 1 appointment available per child.

If you are unable to attend either date please speak to your child's class teacher as they may be able to see you after school on an alternative day. Please ensure that the office is kept up to date of changes to emails or phone numbers so you don't miss out on your appointment.

Give your child the very best start to their education

LAST FEW PLACES AVAILABLE for our Caterpillar and Nursery classes for September 2024.



We are extremely proud of our 2 year old and 3 year old Nursery provision at FRIS. We can offer provision for 2 year olds for up to 15 hours – funded or paid places. Our Caterpillar Nursery continues to be very popular with our families and those new families in our community. If your child is aged

between 1- 2years and you are interested in a place for your child in our Caterpillar class, please fill in an expression of interest form at the school office to avoid disappointment.



In our 3 year old Butterflies and Ladybird Nursery we can provide:

- * Wrap around care from 7.45 till 6pm,
- * A choice of sessions to suit every family's needs;
- * 30 hours, 15 hours, top up sessions or choose your days
- * A qualified teacher who provides a curriculum which ensures our children get the very best start to their education and is ready for school.

We have already contacted parents for their preferences of sessions for September. Classes have been filling up fast and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

FRIS PTA

VALENTINES DISCO

THURSDAY 8 FEBRUARY
 £2.50 entry payable on ParentPay

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 in named bag

Year 2: 4:05 to 4:45 pm.
 If attending afterschool club, please bring own clothes in a named bag to change into

Please drop off and collect children from their class door.
 Afterschool children will be taken to and from the disco.

Thank you for your support!

FRIS PTA FUNDRAISING
 Autumn Term 2023

- FRIS PTA gifted all the children a chocolate selection box **£418** profit for the Halloween Disco
- FRIS PTA donated **£10,000** to the school for the refurbishment of the garden!
- FRIS PTA donated **£432** from Xmas4Schools
- FRIS PTA donated **£1,131** profit for Breakfast with Santa & Party with Santa
- FRIS PTA donated **£469** profit from the Christmas Fair & Christmas Fair in a Box
- FRIS PTA donated **£932** profit from ELFRIDGES Christmas Shop

Thank you everyone for your ongoing support!



From the 8th January the Government has launched a national campaign to remind parents and carers of the importance of school attendance.

"From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child #ATTENDANCE COUNTS"



The campaign message, as well as our school drive, focuses on odd days off or 'avoidable absences' such as holidays in term time or appointments in school hours

The link between attendance and attainment is clear

Nationally, in 2018/19 just 40% of Persistently Absent children achieved Expected end of Key Stage Standards compared with 84% of pupils who had good attendance.

Low attendance means children will have gaps in their learning as every day they are building on their knowledge and skills from the previous day.

Attendance is also important to help your child develop positive relationships with other children in their class and protects their mental health and wellbeing.

Give your child the best chance to achieve by attending well.

The vast majority of children will be 'green' in their upcoming reports for Attendance and Punctuality. These will be shared with parents at Parents Evening meetings at the end of this month.

Our current average school attendance is 95%.

Attendance over One School Year	
If a student had:	
98% attendance =	less than 4 days absent from school
95% attendance =	less than 10 days absent from school
90% attendance =	4 weeks absent from school
85% attendance =	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ weeks absent from school
80% attendance =	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ weeks absent from school

The school does not authorise holidays in term time and we have implemented fines in a growing number of cases. We have also challenged several cases where we have not been told about the reason for an absence, but children have told us on their return.

A punctual start to the day is also important. Lessons start as soon as children arrive and if your child is even 5 minutes late, they will be missing key learning.

Please ensure you inform the school office on the first day if your child is absent through the school APP or by responding to the text.

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.



Thank you to the many families who support the school attendance policy.

Online Safety Newsletter

January 2024

WhatsApp

You must be at least 16 years old to register for and use WhatsApp. WhatsApp is a free messaging app that allows you to send messages, voice notes, photos and videos.

What should I be aware of?

Group chats: One of the key features is the group chat function. Everybody in the group, even if they are not one of your child's phone contacts, will be able to see all messages within that group. If your child is added to a group with someone that they have previously blocked, that person can still see their messages and send them messages within the group chat. In settings, you can change who can add your child to groups. You can leave a group chat at any point so talk to your child and encourage them to leave any chat that makes them feel uncomfortable.

Location sharing: you can share your location on WhatsApp. Talk to your child about when this would be appropriate to use but also the potential danger of sharing their location, for example with strangers.

Blocking/Reporting: Show your child how to block and report other users or inappropriate content. You can find out how to do it based on your child's device here:

<https://faq.whatsapp.com/1142481766359885/>

Further information

NSPCC provide further advice and tips to help keep your child safe:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/>

New devices

If your child has a new device, have you set up parental controls?



Consoles

All consoles offer parental controls such as limiting the time spent on the device or restricting who your child can communicate with. Find out the specific settings below:

- **PlayStation:** <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/psn-safety-parents-guide/>
- **Xbox:** <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/family-hub>
- **Nintendo Switch:**

<https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-1183145.html>



Mobiles/Tablets

You can set up parental controls and restrictions on most mobile devices, which can limit what your child can access. Additionally, make sure appropriate settings are applied on the apps your child is using.

- **Apple devices:** <https://www.apple.com/uk/families/>
- **Android devices:** <https://families.google/familylink/>

Further information

Internet Matters provide a checklist here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/e-safety-checklist-getting-your-kids-tech-devices-set-up-safe>

LEGO Fortnite – PEGI 7

Lego Fortnite is free to play (in game purchases are available though). The game has been rated as PEGI 7, meaning that the content is suitable for children over the age of 7. However, you should be aware that this game can be played with up to seven people (or solo). Lego Fortnite is only accessible on Fortnite, so you must download the main game. When setting up an account, if your child is under the age of 13, then they will be given a 'cabin account,' therefore certain features will be disabled (such as communicating with other players) unless you override them.

Please ensure you set the parental controls as appropriate for your child, we also recommend setting the appropriate settings on the console itself.

There are two worlds available - Survival or Sandbox, you can find out more about each world here so you can decide which would be best for your child: <https://www.lego.com/en-gb/themes/fortnite/lego-fortnite-parents-guide>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into.
Current as of the date released 01.01.24.

YouTube

YouTube is intended for users over the age of 13 (however, children of all ages may use the Service and YouTube Kids if enabled by a parent/legal guardian).

What if my child is under the age of 13?

If your child is under the age of 13 then your child should use either YouTube Kids or a Supervised Account. Which option you choose, will depend on your child's age and your requirements.

- **YouTube Kids** – this is a separate app that includes a smaller selection of videos based on the age you select:

- Preschool (ages four and under)
- Younger (ages 5–8)
- Older (ages 9–12)

- **Supervised accounts** – this is a parent-managed version of YouTube. You can select one of the following options, again depending on your child's age and your requirements:

- **Explore** - Generally for viewers aged 9+.
- **Explore more** - Generally for viewers aged 13+
- **Most of YouTube** - This setting includes almost everything on YouTube except for videos marked as 18+ and other videos that may not be appropriate for viewers using supervised experiences.

Google have created a table to show the differences between YouTube Kids and a Supervised account to help in your decision:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420>

Posting videos

You should be over 13 to post videos. If your child does post videos on YouTube, ensure they understand what information they should keep private and what to do if they receive negative comments. Talk to them about the different settings available -

1. Public: anyone can view the video.
2. Private: video can only be viewed by users that you select.
3. Unlisted: only people who have the link to the video can view it.

YouTube have produced these safety tips for teens when posting content:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802244>

How can I make YouTube safer?

- **Explore YouTube together** and see what they like to watch. Make sure your child understands that they can talk to you if they see anything that makes them feel uncomfortable online.

- **Restricted mode** - is an additional setting (when logged in via a Google account) to restrict the availability of mature content.

- Ensure your child knows how to **report inappropriate content/comments**. Find out more here: <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802027>.



A Guide to the Online Safety Bill

The Online Safety Bill is a new set of laws to protect people online. The laws will make social media companies more responsible for the safety of their users on their platforms. The Government have created a guide to the new laws detailing how the laws will protect children and adults. For example, the new laws mean social media companies will have to show how they are enforcing age limits.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/a-guide-to-the-online-safety-bill>

YouTube Content Warning

The INEQE Safeguarding Group have published a report warning about the YouTube cartoon series called Jeffy. Due to the content being animated, viewers may believe that it is suitable for children to watch when in fact the content is inappropriate. You can find out more here:

<https://ineqe.com/2023/11/09/safeguarding-update-youtube-cartoon-jeffy>

World Events

There are a lot of distressing events happening around the world, which your child may see online. Childnet have published an article discussing how you can support your child when they see something worrying or upsetting online. The article also directs you to other organisations that you can contact if you require further help and support:

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/navigating-violent-online-content-from-global-events/>