



Farnborough Road Infant School

'LEARNING, CARING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER'

Newsletter 6 21st November 2025



Friendship week was a resounding success with all the children understanding the importance of treating others as we want to be treated ourselves. 'If you want a good friend, you need to be a good a friend'. We also had a super morning on Friday with the fabulous In Cahoots giving the children a live music experience. We learnt lots of new songs about friendship and being kind to each other. Their performance was really uplifting and provided pertinent messages about friendship that were pitched perfectly for our young children.



Last year Booths donated 4 benches to the school in memory of Elsie Stancombe. Last week and this week we have been busy redecorating our friendship benches to brighten them up for the following year.



We had lots of fun using our hand prints to decorate them. Mr Bonney is now busy varnishing them ready for them to take up their place in each of our playgrounds. Look out for them coming out again soon.....Remember, kindness will always shine through.



Outdoor Learning Update- Forest School Garden



Both schools now have a small team of volunteers, who are made up of parents, grandparents and friends of the schools who will be working with small groups of children in the gardens in the coming weeks.

In the Infants we hope to set up a grow, harvest and eat programme so that children throughout our school understand and experience the 'Farm to Fork' journey. In the next couple of weeks we hope to be planting our winter crops of onions, garlic, potatoes and broad beans.

We would love any donations of Spring Bulbs over the next couple of weeks and we will take the children into the garden to plant so that our garden is full of colour in the next few months.



I would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to Elsie's Story for donating a £5,000 Bupa Grant for the development of outdoor learning at the school without which we wouldn't have been able to manage the installation and this fabulous enhancement to this outdoor resource .



The Forest School Garden is used by all our children from Caterpillars to Year 2. All of our Year 1 children also participate in a 5 week Forest School programme with our Forest School Lead—Miss Iddon.

Please check out the information about Outdoor Learning and our Forest School on our school website <https://www.farnboroughroadinfants.co.uk/outdoor-learning-at-farnborough-road-infant-school/>





.Fearghal is back
 Fearghal is a trained Pets as Therapy dog who visits Farnborough Road Infant School. He is Ms Lea's daughter's dog and Sammy will be coming along with Fearghal for his school visits. Over the next few weeks Fearghal will be doing introductory visits with our Reception children in small groups and children in Key Stage One (Years 1 and 2) will be invited to visit Fearghal, our Reading Dog, based on their reading efforts as we continue to encourage children to have 5 reads a week. Look out for Fearghal's invites in your child's book bag.

Oracy update



This week's Oracy challenges for you to discuss as a family is from Miss Sinclair. This could be a conversation for around the dinner table or on your walk to school!

Oracy challenge!

Would you rather be too hot or too cold?




I would rather be too cold because I think there are more ways to warm up than there are to cool down.

Do you agree or disagree with Mrs Sinclair? Have a discussion with somebody in your house using the talk tactics. Remember to speak in full sentences and explain your reasoning.




Instigate
 Present an idea or open up a new line of inquiry



“ I think ____
 “ Let's begin with ____
 “ I have a great idea, I'll go first ____

Build
 Develop, add to or elaborate on an idea




“ X's idea made me think ____
 “ I'd like to know more about ____
 “ Yes, and ____

Challenge
 Disagree or present an alternative argument



“ I don't think ____
 “ You said ____ but what about ____?
 “ I disagree with ____

Clarify
 Ask questions to make things clearer and check your understanding



“ Do you mean that ____?
 “ I think you are saying ____
 “ So, what you're saying is ____

FRIS PTFA
Christmas Fair
 Wednesday 3 December

Each class will visit the 2025 FRIS PTFA Christmas Fair during the school day!

There are fun festive games, prizes to be won and Christmassy crafts to be made.

£3 ParentPay until Friday 5th December.

HUGE THANK YOU

To everyone who has supported the Pay it Forward feature on Parent Pay. So far you have donated £211 which is the equivalent to 30 Breakfast with Santa tickets and 20 Elfridges gifts for any of our children who are unable to access these events.

We are most grateful for all your generosity in supporting all our families to enjoy the PTFA planned events this Christmas.

Merry Christmas everyone!

Our school values are:

COMPASSION PERSEVERANCE HONESTY RESPECT and LOVE AND KINDNESS



Christmas has arrived at FRIS!

The decorations are up and everything is now in place for our Christmas arrangements!

Father Christmas is booked for breakfast next week.



(Our children entitled to Free School Meals have a free invitation—please make sure you apply if you are eligible for Free School Meals as all our PTFA events have free places for our children entitled to Free School Meals)

Auditions and rehearsals are starting for all our concerts. (Look out for your 2 free tickets)



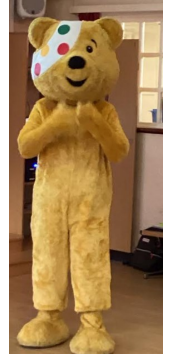
Remember Friday 12th December is

Christmas Jumper Day - please wear your school uniform day and add a Christmas jumper if you wish and your trainers and a Santa hat for our Santa Dash. Christmas Dinner is also served on this day.



Thank you for supporting our CHILDREN IN NEED appeal last week. This year we raised an amazing total of £369.50 from dressing up in our spotty clothes. Well done everybody and thank you for your kind donations.

Pudsey himself made a visit to see all the children.



Our Community Christmas

This Christmas let's spread a little festive cheer... but we need your help!



This Christmas Time we would like to share the joy of our Farnborough Christmas within our local community.

On Saturday 6th December at 9.45am Year 1 children have been invited to sing at St John's Church, Birkdale as part of their Christmas Tree Festival.

Year 1 teachers will be sending out a Dojo message to see which children are able to attend. This is a chance for wider family to come and see the children performing too.

On Tuesday 9th December at 3.45pm Y2 children have been invited to Birkdale Park Nursing Home to perform.

Year 2 teachers will be sending out an invitation for some children to attend.

On Tuesday 16th December at 10.30am Year 2 will be performing their Christmas concert and inviting their grandparents- Look out for tickets.

On Thursday 18th December Reception children will be delivering mince pies and Christmas cards to our neighbours.



Keep collecting your children's university credits in your passports.

Please pass your child's passport into the class teacher on Monday 15th December for our Autumn Term collation of credits.

Remember

Only 10 credits can be collected per term per club

Do NOT add any clubs which take place in school to your passport including staff and Mr Hutton clubs these are collected in school.

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Handwriting and the Dynamic Tripod Grasp



Handwriting and letter formation are fundamental skills we develop across the Early Years and Key Stage One. Developing a dynamic tripod grasp—where a child holds a pencil using the thumb, index, and middle fingers—plays an important role in setting children up for successful handwriting.



- Pencil is held in a stable position between the thumb, index and middle finger.
- The ring and little fingers are bent and rest comfortably on the table. The index finger and thumb form an open space.
- Movement comes from the fingertips.



For children aged 2 to 7, the hand muscles are still growing and developing, and practicing this grasp helps build the fine-motor strength and control needed for smooth, efficient writing. A proper tripod grasp reduces hand fatigue, increases precision, and supports legible letter formation as children progress through school. Encouraging activities like drawing, using tweezers, playing with clay, and colouring with short crayons can naturally guide children toward this mature grasp and make writing feel more comfortable and enjoyable. We are celebrating hand writer of the week across our KS1 classes and hand writer of the half term across the school. Please help support your child to develop an ideal grip which helps them to efficiently and accurately move the pencil for forming their letters.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Four Finger Grasp	Static Quadropod Grasp	Static Tripod Grasp	Dynamic Tripod Grasp	Thumb Wrap Grasp
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thumb Tuck Grasp	Transpalmar Grasp	Index Grasp	Interdigital Brace Grasp	Other

Reporting an absence.



In the event that your child is absent from school due to illness please report any absence through the Absence email or by leaving a message on the school phones.

As a school we have a statutory duty of care that within the first 30 minutes of the school day that we can account for all the children who attend school including those in our Nursery settings.

If absence is not reported to school then the absence reporting system will send out a message requiring parents to respond to the text and report their child's absence as soon as possible so we can account for the safety of all our children.

Please help us to complete this as quickly as possible and support our office staff in keeping all of our Farnborough children safe.

Thank you for your continued support.