



# Farnham Primary School Newsletter

## April 2025

*'Together we discover, believe & achieve'*



Wishing everyone a very warm welcome back to school  
after the Easter holiday.

It's going to be a busy half-term as it's only a 5 week half-term with  
another Bank Holiday on Monday 5th May.

We have educational visits planned for lots of year groups, lots of  
parent workshops and the KS2 SATs for our Year 6 pupils!



National  
Education  
Nature Park

We have been successful in applying for and receiving a  
**£10,000** National Nature Park Grant administered by the Royal  
Horticultural Society. The grant is to help children and young  
people connect with nature through their education setting.

The £10,000 grant will help us to 'turn grey to green' at Farnham  
by developing our outdoor space around school with  
biodiversity improvements such as planters, green walls and

water butts.

Watch this space as the work starts to take place!



# Important Diary Dates



Date	Time	Focus
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	All day	Year 1 trip to Harlow Carr
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	AM & PM	Year 2 trip to the Alhambra
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	9.15am - 10am	Year 1 phonics workshop for parents
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	11am - 11.30am	Reception maths workshop for parents
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	All day	Year 4 trip to Leeds City Museum
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	2.45pm	Year 3 Mian Class assembly
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	All day	Year 4 Strong class visit to Harden Primary as part of Linking Schools
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May		Bank Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	9am - 1pm	School Council trip to City Hall (Y5&6)
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	2.45pm	Year 2 Coelho Class assembly
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	1.45pm - 2.30pm	Year 3 science workshop for parents
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May		KS2 SATs week for Year 6 pupils
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	2pm - 3pm	Year 4 art workshop for parents
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	2.45pm	Year 2 Jeffers class assembly
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	All day	Year 5 trip to Murton Park
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	9am - 9.30am	Year 6 reading workshop for parents

Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	8.45am - 9.15am	Year 1 phonics screening check meeting for parents
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	11am - 11.30am	Nursery teddy bear's picnic for parents
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	2.30pm - 3pm	Nursery teddy bear's picnic for parents
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	All day	Year 4 Zephaniah class visit to Ben Rhydding Primary as part of Linking Schools
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	2pm - 2.30pm	Year 2 science workshop for parents
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	2.30pm - 3pm	Year 5 computing parent workshop
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	3.10pm	School closes for half-term
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	8.35am	School re-opens
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June		Multiplication Tables Check starts for Year 4 pupils
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June		Phonics Screening Check starts for Year 1 pupils





## **After-School Clubs**

After-school clubs for the summer term are now available to book using the Arbor App or you can call the school office to book a place for your child. Places are £2 each or are subsidised and are free if your child receives pupil premium funding.

All clubs are now available for year groups 2 to 6 - spaces are limited!

Monday - Ju-Jitsu

Tuesday - Multi-sports

Wednesday - Dance & cheerleading

Thursday - Football

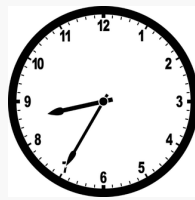
Thursday - Arts & crafts

Clubs are offered based on pupil interest and staff expertise.



To ensure that every child has the best start to the school day and to improve punctuality, the school gates are closed promptly at 8.45am in the morning and at 3.20pm at the end of the day.

The school doors open at 8.35am.



These times have not changed.

If you arrive after these times, you will need to go to the main office.

### Staffing Update

A very warm welcome back to **Mrs Savage** who has returned to school following her maternity leave.

We also wish **Mrs Kaur** in Year 2 the very best of luck as she is due to have her baby very soon.



## Do you want to know more about what your child is learning in school?

Did you know that our school website holds a wealth of information about our curriculum and what your child is learning?


Feedback from parents usually includes wanting to know more about what your child is learning each day at school. We share this information with parents on a regular basis on our school website

**[www.farnhamprimary.org.uk](http://www.farnhamprimary.org.uk)**

Every half-term, we upload an overview of what each year group will be learning on the class pages section of our website.

Each week, we upload our Farnham School News on the parents section of our school website to share what each year group has been learning about that week.

There is also an opportunity every half-term for you to come into school to spend time with your child in their classroom. We would love to see more families join us for these workshops as the children really enjoy their families coming into school to work with them.





Bradford College will continue to run classes for **adults** in our Community Room each week for the next 8 weeks.

**Family Literacy class**

starts Monday 28th April from 12.30pm to 3pm

**Confidence and Wellbeing class**

starts Tuesday 29th April from 12.30pm to 3pm.



Please meet on Farnham Road outside our new community room entrance if you wish to join either of the classes.

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent parent consultation evenings. It is always so lovely to see so many parents supporting their children.

Every child who attended were lucky to receive 2 free books each. This was part of our 'pop-up book shop' organised by Mrs Buckley through a charity who kindly donated all of the books we were able to give away for free. We hope that we will be able to do this again in the future.



We will also be taking part in the Literacy Trust's Book Talk Challenge which encourages students to value talking about books with their peers, teachers and family and enables young people to recommend texts and share in a growing reading experience.

The challenge celebrates reading for pleasure and helps confidence, engagement in reading and motivation to read aiming to build reading stamina and to foster a love for a diverse range of books. More information to follow...



We have been working with Living Streets which is a charity that promotes the healthy benefits of walking. We have been part of their WOW project this year where pupils can earn badges for travelling to school in different ways other than by car.

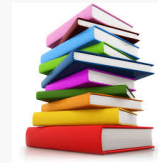
Many of our pupils have earned lots of lovely colourful badges and we are delighted to confirm that Farnham Primary school will continue to receive resources from September for another school year, until July 2026!



We are holding our annual Summer Fair on **Wednesday 16th July 2025**. We'd like to make it better than ever before so we are kindly asking for any donations towards our raffle and tombola stall.

Donations could be chocolates, toiletries, games, books or any unwanted gifts.

Please bring any donations to the main office.  
Thank you.



As part of our ongoing efforts to strengthen the connection between home and school, we are exploring the possibility of starting a Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) at Farnham Primary School.



A PTA can be a wonderful way to build community, support school initiatives, and enhance the educational experience for all our students. Before we move forward, we'd love to know if there is interest among our parent community in forming and participating in a PTA.

If you'd be interested in learning more or getting involved, please let us know by emailing [office@fps.paymat.org](mailto:office@fps.paymat.org) with 'PTA' and your full name in the subject line.

We truly value your partnership and look forward to working together to make Farnham Primary the best it can be!



## EDUCATIONAL VISITS



We are committed to providing enriching educational experiences beyond the classroom, and school visits play a vital role in bringing learning to life. However, due to rising transport costs, increased entry fees, and general inflation, the overall cost of organising these visits has significantly increased in recent years.

While we strive to keep costs as low as possible and fund as much as we can through school budgets and external support, we do rely on voluntary contributions from parents and carers to make these valuable experiences possible. These contributions help cover essential expenses and ensure that visits can go ahead as planned.

We want to emphasise that no child will be excluded from an activity due to non-payment. However, if we are unable to raise sufficient funds through voluntary contributions, we may unfortunately have to reconsider or cancel certain visits.

We greatly appreciate your understanding and continued support in helping us provide meaningful, real-world learning opportunities for all our pupils.



# Safeguarding Support for Parents

## Excessive Screen Time

Pupils tell us that they are spending more and more time online at home. The NSPCC reports that excessive screen time for children can lead to a variety of problems, including physical health issues like obesity and eye strain, as well as mental health concerns such as anxiety, depression, and difficulty with focus.

Additionally, prolonged online use can impact social and emotional development, potentially hindering language skills and reducing opportunities for real-life interactions. Finally, children may be exposed to inappropriate content, online predators, and cyberbullying, all of which can have serious consequences for their well-being. Here's a more detailed look at the dangers:

### Physical Health

**Obesity:** Sitting for long periods while using devices can reduce physical activity and contribute to weight gain.

**Eye Strain:** Excessive screen time can strain the eyes and lead to eye fatigue.

**Sleep Disturbances:** Blue light emitted from screens can interfere with melatonin production, making it harder to fall asleep.

**Poor Posture:** Sitting for extended periods while using devices can lead to poor posture.

### Mental and Emotional Health

**Anxiety and Depression:** Excessive screen time has been linked to increased anxiety and depression symptoms, especially in older children.

**Difficulty with Focus and Concentration:** Too much screen time can make it harder for children to focus on schoolwork and other tasks.

**Social and Emotional Development Issues:** Excessive screen time can impact the development of social skills and the ability to understand and regulate emotions.

**Increased Aggression:** Some research suggests that excessive screen time, particularly violent content, can promote aggressive behavior.

### Social and Educational Development

**Reduced Social Skills:** Too much screen time can limit opportunities for real-life interactions and the development of social skills.

**Language Development Issues:** Studies have shown that children who watch a lot of television during early years may perform less well on reading tests and show deficits in attention.





**Lower Academic Achievement:** Excessive screen time has been linked to lower academic achievement and poorer school functioning.

### Online Risks

**Inappropriate Content:** Children may be exposed to harmful and age-inappropriate content, including pornography, violent material, and content promoting self-harm or eating disorders.

**Online Predators:** Children can be targeted by online predators who may try to groom them for sexual exploitation.

**Cyberbullying:** Children can experience bullying and harassment online, which can have severe emotional consequences.

**Privacy Concerns:** Children may not understand the importance of online privacy and could inadvertently share personal information that could be misused.

### Addiction

**Internet Addiction:** Excessive screen time and online engagement can lead to internet addiction, which can negatively impact a child's mental and physical health.

### "Sharenting" Risks

**Parents Sharing Too Much:** Parents posting pictures and information about their children online could put them at risk of online predators or cyberbullying.

**Creating a False Image:** Parents may be tempted to portray their children in a way that is not realistic, which can lead to a negative impact on their self-esteem.

### Recommendations

**Set Screen Time Limits:** Establish age-appropriate screen time limits and encourage children to engage in other activities, such as physical activity, reading, and playing outside.

**Monitor Online Activities:** Parents should monitor their children's online activities and be aware of the websites and apps they use.

**Talk to Children About Online Safety:** Educate children about online safety, including how to protect their privacy, recognize inappropriate content, and report online threats.

**Encourage Healthy Habits:** Promote healthy habits, such as getting enough sleep, eating a balanced diet, and engaging in physical activity.

**Seek Professional Help:** If you are concerned about your child's screen time habits or online safety, please speak to member of staff in school.



**Thank you, as always, for your continued support.**

**Please speak to your child's class teacher, the school office or any member of the leadership team if you have any questions.**

**We are always happy to help.**

**Mrs S Keenan, Headteacher**

