



In partnership with the
Institute of Education



Farley Hill Primary School



10th January 2025

Newsletter Number 716

Items for Action:

- Dates for the calendar

Items for Information:

- 2025 Term Calendar dates
- Sports Fixtures

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a chilly start to term and the New Year but it has been lovely to welcome the children back to school. They have all been very busy this week and everyone is back into enjoying their learning. We even had Year 5 go on a school trip to the Lion King on Wednesday. They came back inspired by the show and the experience itself. It was very pleasing to hear from Mrs Howard that several people had commented on how well behaved they were at the theatre – thank you Year 5 for being such wonderful ambassadors for the school.

Next week watch out for news about Dinosaurs in school!

Please can I ask that you think carefully about parallel parking near the drop off zone during pick up. Although the road through site seems wide, if there are two lines of traffic parked near the drop off zone it becomes quite a safety concern, especially as we have so many young children onsite whose behaviour can't always be predicted. Our value of the month is Thoughtfulness and we would welcome everyone being thoughtful of others when parking onsite – thank you. In addition, please remember our disabled bays are for Blue Badge holders only, they are wider to accommodate any need for wheelchair access etc.

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs Ashwood to our Year 1 team this week and she has enjoyed teaching Holly Class. We also have welcomed new children in Year 2 and the Nursery to the school this week.

Have a great weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Best wishes

Head Teacher

2025 Term Calendar Dates

SPRING TERM		
Monday	06/01/25	Inset Day
Tuesday	07/01/25	First day of Spring Term
Wednesday	08/01/25	Yr 6 Lion King
Friday	24/01/25	Yr 5 Beech Class Assembly
Friday	31/01/25	Yr 1 Silver Birch Class Assembly
Monday - Friday	17/02 – 21/02/25	Half Term
Monday	24/02/25	Inset Day
Friday	04/04/25	Last day of Spring Term 1PM close
SUMMER TERM		
Tuesday	22/04/25	First day of Summer Term
Monday	05/05/25	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Friday	23/05/25	Inset Day
Monday - Friday	26/05 – 30/05/24	Half Term
Wednesday	23/07/25	Last day of Summer Term 1PM close

Sickness

Please be aware that if your child has been sick (vomited) or had an upset tummy (diarrhoea) they cannot return to school until 48 hours have passed since the last bout of illness.

NHS guidelines can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

This Weeks Awards

Unicorn Awards			Values Leaf Awards		
Shohora	R	Acorns	Theo	R	Acorns
Maeve	R	Conkers	Amari	R	Conkers
Romilly	1	Holly	Ecati	1	Holly
Evie	1	Silver Birch	Bella	1	Silver Birch
Scarlett	2	Aspen	Lincoln	2	Aspen
Evelyn	2	Maple	Frankie	2	Maple
Zayn	3	Sycamore	Sophie	3	Sycamore
Harry	4	Willow	Jacob	4	Willow
Beech Class	5	Beech	Cali	5	Beech
Sahejleen	6	Oak	Zach	6	Oak

Weekly Birthdays

We wish the following children, a very happy birthday this week:

Romilly
Florence Wi
Dyson
 Sahaskrit
Lily B
Holly P



Weekly House Winner

Saturn



Lunch Bookings

Due to the volume of children whose lunches are not being booked and dietary requirements, from now on **anyone not booked** will automatically go down as a JACKET POTATO – this covers all allergens and vegetarians.

Thankyou for your continued support, Catering Team.

Year 5

Year 5 had an amazing trip to London this week to see The Lion King at the Lyceum Theatre. We loved the show! The children described it as:

Amazing

Brilliant

Breath-taking

Unique

Wondrous

Jaw-dropping

Magical

We also enjoyed finding out about behind the scenes at the show, looking at costumes, masks, puppets, dance and finding out more about the characters. We can't wait to continue our learning in school.



Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Farley Hill!

The book fair will be open after school on:

Thursday 30th January

Friday 31st January



Every year this gives us a fantastic opportunity for the children to choose some amazing books to buy and read AND if enough books are purchased at the book fair we are awarded FREE BOOKS for the school! Come and support us after school on Thursday 30th and Friday 31st January. We can accept **cash***** and **online payment via a QR code** (card details will be required for this) at the book fair. We are also trialling a card machine so hopefully we will be able to take payment via card too!

We will be open at the end of school day outside the front of the school (by the hall).

There will be books galore and even some stationery too! Children will have the opportunity to visit the book fair during the school day to have a look at the book selection. Books will only be sold at the end of the school day.

***** we will be unable to provide 1p change so please be aware if paying in cash we will**

Parking – Polite reminder

Please refrain from parking in the residents and visitor car parks on the residential roads near the school.

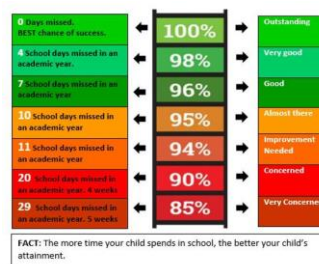
Several people have had an idea that may help the traffic flow through the school and on Baston Road. If all drivers could make a left hand turn onto Biggs Lane where it meets Baston Road (after exiting the school). This may help the flow of traffic leaving the school site not come to a standstill.

By driving down to the roundabout and coming back up Biggs Lane it may actually save time for everybody.

Thank you for your support,
Mrs Bateman

Attendance

In the Government's document 'Working together to Improve Attendance' it states: 'All schools have a continuing responsibility to proactively manage and improve attendance across their school community. Attendance is the essential foundation to positive outcomes for all pupils. This is why we continue to set expectations about attendance levels for our children. **However, we work with all families, and especially those with children who have SEN or medical needs, to support them with any attendance concerns regarding their children. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if support would be helpful.**



Playground at Pickup

Please note that the Pirate Ship and Adventure Playground should not be used outside of the school day. We would appreciate it if you could ensure that your younger children do not play on these whilst you are collecting your school children.

Thank you for your support,
Mrs Bateman

Leave of Absence Forms

If your child requires time off school for any medical appointment, please ensure that you complete a Leave of Absence form which can be obtained from our website or paper copy from the Office Reception.

Disabled Parking Bays

A polite reminder that disabled parking bays are for parents, grandparents and visitors who require these specific bays. Please do not park in these bays unless you are a blue badge holder. The disabled bays have designated space around the parking bay to allow for easier access. Please also consider that there are a wide range of impairments or conditions not necessarily visible to others, please be considerate and respect others.



All the National College, our WakeUpWednesday public engagement and media events will be conducted with the confidence and professional skills to do this in a balanced and responsible manner while also addressing about online safety, mental health, and climate change. Content delivered by National College, WakeUpWednesday, and our public row will be subject to review and approval by the relevant public, media and legal, please visit nationalcollege.gov.uk.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about JUSTALK KIDS

Justalk Kids is a child's version of the Justalk app – a highly popular social networking platform – designed for users up to 13 years of age, allowing them to video call, message and participate in group chats. While adults can lock their own Justalk account to their child's and make use of parental controls, it's important to understand the risks associated with the app.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SUBSCRIPTION FOR PREMIUM ACCESS

While Justalk Kids is free, there's the option to subscribe to a kids premium account as a premium family account. At a cost, this feature allows children to have access to more fun features such as games they can play with others to a safe, secure environment. It's a good idea to check the app's privacy policy and understand the risks of subscribing to a premium account.

POTENTIAL DATA LEAKS

Justalk and Justalk Kids could be hacked and hacked, giving us up to 100% of the data that we have stored on our servers. We have a data breach policy, so we will be able to identify any data breaches and we will be able to respond to any data breaches as quickly as possible. We will be able to identify any data breaches and we will be able to respond to any data breaches as quickly as possible.

RESISTANCE TO CONTROLS

Justalk Kids encourages children to share their photos and videos with friends and family. This can be a good thing, but it can also be a bad thing. Children may be tempted to share photos and videos that are inappropriate or that could be used to identify them. Parents and educators should be aware of this and should be able to control what their children share.

CYBERBULLYING

Justalk Kids can provide a place for cyberbullying, meaning that there is a risk that children may be bullied or harassed. This can be a serious problem, so it's important to be aware of the risks and to be able to respond to any cyberbullying as quickly as possible.

TOO MUCH SCREEN TIME

It's important to be aware of the risks of too much screen time. Children may be tempted to spend too much time on the app, which could affect their schoolwork and their health. Parents and educators should be aware of this and should be able to control how much time their children spend on the app.

KNOWING THE PARENT PASSCODE

After downloading Justalk Kids, parents can set a parent passcode to control what their children can do on the app. This is a good idea, but it's important to be aware of the risks of not knowing the parent passcode. If a child knows the parent passcode, they can access the app without the parent's permission.

Advice for Parents & Educators

JUSTIFY THE CONTROLS

If parents allow their child to use Justalk Kids, they should explain that they're putting parental controls in place to protect their child's privacy and to make sure they're safe. This is a good idea, but it's important to be aware of the risks of not justifying the controls. If a child doesn't understand why they're being controlled, they may be more likely to break the rules.

TALK ABOUT ONLINE FRIENDSHIPS

Young children create accounts with their friends and family. This is a good thing, but it's important to be aware of the risks of not talking about online friendships. Children may be tempted to share photos and videos with friends and family, which could be used to identify them.

DOS AND DON'TS OF SHARING

Young children may not understand the potential dangers of oversharing online. It's important to be aware of the risks of oversharing and to be able to control what children share. This is a good idea, but it's important to be aware of the risks of not controlling what children share.

ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Apps like Justalk can be a great way for children to stay connected with their friends and family. However, it's important to be aware of the risks of not encouraging open communication. Children may be tempted to share photos and videos with friends and family, which could be used to identify them.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Sarah Johnson is a child safety expert, author and researcher. She has written and researched on child safety, online safety, and mental health. She is a member of the National College of Child Safety and is a frequent speaker at child safety events.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

For more free information visit our public page <http://nationalcollege.gov.uk/public-page>

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We know that the early years is a time of phenomenal growth. Children are like sponges, soaking up stimuli around them and developing knowledge and new skills at an incredible rate. It is also a period that has a significant impact on the rest of an individual's life, with the foundations being laid for lifelong habits. Therefore, as parents and professionals we must think carefully about the input children receive in the early years, and more so than ever before, consider the role that online activity plays.