



Firle CE
Primary
School

Term 3 2026- Week 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year. That seems like a long time ago now. Happy New Year to you all!

In worship we have been talking to the children about fresh starts and what we want to achieve this year. We have also been talking about diversity and difference and how to help our friend and peers who may be autistic. It is really important for the children to recognise each other's differences and know ways to help each other.

We are now in that time of year when the weather is either very cold or rainy or both! Please make sure that your child has a coat in school at all times. We know that some children do not like wearing coats but they do need to have something in school that they can wear outside in these winter weathers so please make sure that one is available for them to leave at school.

Teachers have now put their class topic web on their class page on our school website [Firle Church of England Primary School - Home](#) so please take a look. They have also added some links and information to support you with information. Please let them know if other things would be useful for you to access through the class page.



ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Beech Class who ended last term with a whopping 100% attendance - what an amazing way to see out 2025!

This term, Beech are leading the way, achieving a fabulous 98.3% this week!

Our target for this year is **96%** and our current whole school attendance is **94%**.

HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Congratulations to the winners for following our school values of

*Kindness Respect Working Together
Perseverance Aspiration Forgiveness*

Last week

Pips Class
Ivy

Cherry Class
Bluebelle

Beech Class
Elizabeth and Polly

Holly Class
Bella and Phoenix

This week

Pips Class
Martha

Cherry Class
Hector

Beech Class
Josiah and Ted

Holly Class
Molly and Frank

DIARY

January 2026

Fri 23rd Yr 4 swimming lesson
Fri 30th Yr 4 swimming lesson

February 2026

Mon 2nd Reception Class Welly Walks resume
Tues 3rd Pips and Cherry Classes – Paradise Park trip
Weds 4th Forest School
Tues 10th Parents' evening
Weds 11th Forest School
Thurs 12th Parents' evening
Fri 13th End of term pancakes
Weds 25th Forest School

March 2026

Thurs 5th World Book Day

INSET days 2026

Mon 22nd June / Weds 22nd July

SCHOOL REMINDERS

Can we also remind you that we are a **NUT FREE** school and packed lunches from home must not contain any foods containing nuts, including chocolate spread, cereal bars etc. We continue to promote healthy eating in school and therefore ask that chocolate bars and sweets are not included in packed lunches. Small chocolate covered biscuits – Kit Kats, Penguin bars etc are fine. As a rule of thumb, if it is in the biscuit aisle, it is a biscuit; therefore, ok in school. Playtime snacks are raw fruit or vegetables only, thank you.

SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

At the beginning of February 2024, a couple of mums from Suffolk set up a WhatsApp group for people interested in holding off on giving their child a smartphone. Within hours it had exceeded its capacity and has now attracted thousands of people across the country. It is now a large ongoing national movement, with national press, and with parents and carers coming together in solidarity.

More recent research means that now we know a difficult truth - smartphones and social media are linked to increased anxiety and depression, decreased attention span, cyberbullying is more prevalent and children are accessing inappropriate content, amongst other risks. These risks are present at surprisingly young ages, not necessarily just during teenage years. Education is obviously hugely important to try and keep our children safe, but our children's young brains are not wired to be able to avoid the risk or the addiction. There are alternatives to smartphones that allow us to keep in contact with our children without these risks.

We plan to hold a meeting for parents with Magda Bannister about this issue on a Wednesday morning and will confirm the date when it has been arranged.

YEAR 4 SWIMMING

We are extremely proud of our year 4s who started their weekly swimming lessons last week. Swimming staff reported excellent behaviour and attitude and are looking forward to the progress that will be made.

YOGA FOR ALL

We are delighted to announce that each class have started having yoga classes on Thursday afternoons. This week, the children were amazing and really embraced the opportunity to learn something new. The classes are being led by Josie, a specialist yoga teacher, and are being paid for from our sports premium.



FOREST SCHOOL

We are starting forest School again in February and will be using an external provider to give the children the true Forest School experience!

This will initially be for children in Years 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. The Year 6 children will get a longer session in the summer term after their SATs and the Reception children will continue with their weekly welly walks and have some taster sessions in the summer term.

This will start in the first week of February and be on Wednesdays. Please make sure that your child has the appropriate clothing to be outdoors in all weathers on this day and have their school uniform to change into or from depending on their class times. Forest School is also being paid for from our sports premium.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

If we need to close the school due to severe weather etc, we will first put a message on our website and contact the Local Authority for our school's name to be put on their school closures list on their website. We will also email parents and carers as soon as possible and encourage the message to be shared via What's App groups.

If the school needs to be closed, for any reason whilst the children are in school, we will email first and then start calling families to cascade the information. It is really important that we have the correct contact details for you so please make sure that any change in email, phone number or address has been received by the school office for our records, thank you.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

The online booking window for our parent consultations on Tuesday **10th** and Thursday **12th February** will open on **20th January at 3pm**. You will need to use your parent portal login to access this. If you haven't yet logged in, it would be helpful to do so now so that you can access the bookings when they become available. If you have any problems, please contact the office. Thank you.

FROM CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER FOR ENGLAND

Supporting children's safety is a shared responsibility between families, schools and wider society. For parents and carers, this responsibility has become increasingly complex as children's lives are now deeply intertwined with the digital world. Many parents face difficult decisions about how to balance protecting children from online harm with enabling access to spaces that are now central to learning, socialising and play.

[What I wish my parents or carers knew: A guide for parents on managing children's digital lives.](#)

Thank you for all your continued support.

Kind regards,
Mrs Rachel West and Mrs Jeanette Fuller