



Fawbert & Barnard's Primary School

Newsletter 13 || 05.12.2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a quieter week in school, although a very cold and wet one! Our EYFS children had their first performance, and it was wonderful to see so many parents, grandparents, and family members in attendance. The children were fantastic, and I think many of us now have "and the bells will ring, ding-don-ding!" stuck in our heads. Thank you for coming to support them. It was truly lovely.

Next week officially marks the start of our Christmas countdown! Here is what's coming up:

Tuesday 9th December: KS1 Christmas Performance (you are in for a treat. I've seen snippets, and it is out of this world!). This is also Non-Uniform Day for the Tombola.

Wednesday 10th December: Christmas Dinner Day. Children are welcome to wear Christmas jumpers to school.

Thursday 11th December: Pantomime in the School Hall in the morning, followed by our Christmas Fair and Concert in the afternoon. Please see the following page for a full rundown of the Christmas Concert timings.

A reminder that all school-led after-school clubs have now finished for the term. However, our external clubs (Football, Multi-Sports, and Kung Fu) will continue as normal next week. Finally, we are delighted to share some exciting sports news from our cheerleaders. See the information on the next page.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Sophia Ovonen
Headteacher

Sports News



Our KS2 Cheerleading Showcase brought energy, teamwork, and plenty of school spirit! Pupils performed a vibrant routine packed with sharp motions, coordinated stunts, and enthusiastic chants. Their hard work, confidence, and positive attitude lit up the room—well done to all our amazing KS2 cheerleaders!

Miss Amber Moore



Achievements



Please see below for some of the achievements that were celebrated this week.

Champions	
Times tables Rockstar Cup	Year 4
Numbots Cup	Year 1
Times tables Champion	Zak
Numbots Champion	Evelyn

STARS OF THE WEEK	
Reception	Isla
Year 1	Artie
Year 2	Belle
Year 3	Marley
Year 4	Oscar
Year 5	Oscar M
Year 6	Niamh



Year 3 Class Corner

What a busy, exciting, and wonderfully creative few weeks it has been in Year 3! Our classroom has been full of imagination, teamwork, curiosity, and plenty of "lightbulb moments" as we've explored a wide range of new learning across the curriculum.

In English, we've been completely swept up in the magical world of *The Christmasaurus* by Tom Fletcher. The children have really taken to this story and have enjoyed getting to know the characters, the twists and turns, and all the festive surprises along the way. We have spent time predicting what might happen next, acting out scenes through drama, and creating story maps that have helped us understand the structure of the tale. This week has been especially exciting as the children have begun writing their own versions of the story—each replacing the Christmasaurus with a brand-new mythical creature of their own invention. Their imaginations have been brilliant, and we've loved seeing how confidently they are beginning to create stories with clear settings, interesting characters, and problems that build to a dramatic ending. Our comprehension sessions have also been based on the book, giving the children lots of opportunities to practise retrieval, inference, and vocabulary skills while exploring a text they genuinely enjoy.

In Maths, we've made the exciting move into our multiplication and division unit. To help everyone get a strong understanding of the concepts, we've been using practical resources such as counters and cubes to explore grouping, sharing, and building arrays. The children have enjoyed physically making the maths happen on the table in front of them—it has helped them see how multiplication and division link together and has given them the confidence to explain their thinking. We'll continue to build on this understanding as we begin using these skills in problem solving and reasoning tasks.

Our History topic, Stone Age to Iron Age, is now coming to an end, and what a journey it has been! We started right back in the Paleolithic period, learning about hunter-gatherers and the ways early humans survived. From there, we moved forward into the Mesolithic and Neolithic eras, comparing how life changed as people began farming, settling, and creating tools. Now, we are learning about the huge leaps forward that came with the discovery of Bronze and later Iron. The children have been fascinated by how each new material changed daily life. We have had some brilliant discussions about which era they would prefer to live in and why!

In Science, we've been looking closely at the human skeleton and the three important functions it performs. The children can now confidently explain that the skeleton gives our body support, enables movement, and protects our vital organs. To bring this learning to life, we created moving joints and even built protective skeletal structures to test how well they could protect a delicate raspberry "organ." There was a lot of excitement as the children tested their creations, and it gave them a brilliant hands-on understanding of how clever the human body truly is. Very soon, we'll be moving on to our next Science topic: Rocks. The children are already curious and full of questions, so we're looking forward to lots more practical exploration.

All in all, it has been a wonderful half term of enthusiasm, creativity, and hard work. Year 3 should feel incredibly proud of everything they have achieved so far. We can't wait to see what new discoveries, discussions, and adventures the next few weeks will bring!





Christmas Fair/Concert

We are excited about the Christmas Fair on Thursday, 11th December! This year, children will perform in the main hall, allowing parents to enjoy the show. Please see the event's running order below. We look forward to seeing you there!



Time	Activity
4:45 PM	Year 3/4 children prepare in Year 6 classroom.
4:50 PM	Year 3/4 parents seated in the main hall.
4:55 PM	Year 3/4 children enter the main hall.
5:00 PM	Year 3/4 performance begins.
5:20 PM	Performance ends: Children handed over to parents.
5:20-5:40 PM	Interval and raffle draw in the playground.
5:30 PM	Year 5/6 children prepare in Year 6 classroom.
5:40 PM	Year 5/6 parents seated in the main hall.
5:45 PM	Year 5/6 performance begins.
6:10 PM	Performance ends: Children handed over to parents.

Academic Calendar 2025-2026

Autumn Term 2025

INSET DAYS: Monday 1 & Tuesday 2 September 2025

Pupils Start: Wednesday 3 September 2025

Half Term: Monday 27 October - Friday 31 October 2025

Term ends: Friday 19 December 2025

Spring Term 2026

INSET DAY: Monday 5 January 2026

Pupils Start: Tuesday 6 January 2026

Half Term: Monday 16 February - Friday 20 February 2026

Term ends: Friday 27 March 2026

Summer Term 2026

Pupils Start: Monday 13 April 2026

Half Term: Monday 25 May - Friday 29 May 2026

INSET DAY: Monday 1 June 2026

Term ends: Friday 17 July 2026

INSET DAY: Monday 20 July 2026

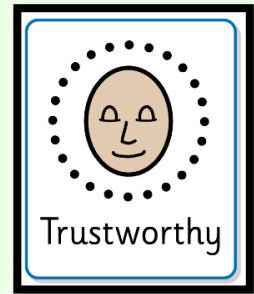
Please note that holidays requests during term time will not be authorised.

Dates for your diary

Autumn Term 2025	
9 th December	Year 1/2 Christmas Performance
8 th December	No After School Clubs this week
9 th December	Non-Uniform day for Tombola
10 th December	Christmas Dinner
11 th December	Pantomime in School Hall AM Christmas Fair / Concert PM
12 th December	Young Carers Event Learning Showcase @ 2.30pm
15 th December	Rock Steady Concert @ 9.00am End of term report out to parents
19 th December	Fabulous Finish School finishes @ 1.30pm
Christmas Holidays: 19 December 2025 - Monday 5 January 2026	
5 January	INSET Day
6 January	Pupils Return
27 January	Year 6 Trip

Please note that holidays requests during term time will not be authorised.

Our F&B Values



At Fawbert & Barnard's, our values guide everything we do in the classroom, on the playground, and beyond the school gates.

They help our children grow into kind, confident, and responsible individuals who make a positive difference in their community and the wider world.



Messy Christmas

FREE

With Christingle



Family fun for children aged 3-10 years

Saturday 6th December
3 to 4.30pm

* GAMES * CRAFTS * SONGS * FOOD *
NATIVITY PHOTO BOOTH

No need to register



St Mary's Church

Churchgate Street, Old Harlow CM17 0JT

www.stmaryschgate.co.uk



Everyone is invited to celebrate the joy
of Christmas with St Mary's Church

Sunday 30 November 3.30pm

Harlow Singers Carol Concert

Wednesday 3 December 5pm

Carols in High Street, Old Harlow

Saturday 6 December 3.30pm Messy Christingle
family fun with craft, games, songs

Sunday 14 December 6.30pm

Carols by Candlelight

Wednesday 24 December Christmas Eve

4.30pm Nativity Service

11.15pm Midnight Communion

Thursday 25 December Christmas Day

10am Family Celebration with Communion

St Mary's Church, Churchgate Street, Old Harlow CM17 0JR

www.stmaryschgate.org.uk