



Fawbert & Barnard's Primary School Newsletter 17 || 16.01.26

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the end of our first full week back at school. Despite the cold weather, it has been a settled and positive week. As expected after a first full week, many children – and staff – were feeling a little tired by the end of today and ready for a well-deserved rest.

After-school clubs also started again this week, and it has been wonderful to see so many children keen to take up their places. I would like to take this opportunity to give a huge thank you to the staff who give their time to run these clubs. We are incredibly fortunate to have a team that cares deeply about our children's personal development beyond the academic curriculum. At the moment, Mr Cooper's Comic Club and Mrs Hutchinson and Mrs Abbott's Creative Clubs are proving particularly popular – perhaps the Rich Tea biscuits are part of their success!

You may recall that last term our Reception classroom was affected by flooding, which meant the class had to be temporarily relocated. We are now halfway through the restoration work and hope to be able to share a confirmed return date soon. I am pleased to report that the outdoor environment is now fully back in use, and the children have been able to enjoy their resources again this week to support their learning. Thank you, as always, for your continued support – particularly to our Reception and Year 3 families.

This half term, we would like to place a strong focus on reading at home every day. Regular reading makes a significant difference to children's progress and confidence. I have included some helpful ideas on page 3 to support reading at home with your child.

I wish you all a very lovely weekend and hope the weather is kind to us.

Warm regards,
Sophia Ovonlen
Headteacher



Achievements

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

STARS OF THE WEEK	
Reception	Blake
Year 1	Myla Ingle
Year 2	Pearl
Year 3	Zak
Year 4	Savannah
Year 5	Samuel
Year 6	Lola
Numbots Cup	Year 1
Numbots Champ	Ella W
TTRS Cup	Year 6
TTRS Champ	Oscar (Y5)



Academic Calendar 2025-2026

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

Spring Term 2025	
5 January	INSET Day
6 January	Pupils Return
12 th January	After school clubs start
19 th January	Choir Event
27 January	Year 6 Trip
4 th February	Mental Health Week
6 th February	After school club end
9 th February	Parents Consultation
10 th February	Parents Consultation
13 th February	Valentines Disco
16 th - 20 th February Half Term Holidays	

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

Reading at Home Makes a Difference



Why reading at home matters



Builds vocabulary and language



Improves reading fluency and comprehension



Supports confidence and wellbeing



Strengthens parent-child relationships



Children who read at home regularly make up to **6 months** more progress in reading.



Just **10 minutes** of reading a day exposes children to **thousands** of new words a year



Children who enjoy reading are more likely to succeed across all subjects

A few minutes every day really adds up.

Healthy Screen Time Guidelines

0-2 Years:
No Screen Time



2-5 Years:
Up to 1 Hour/Day



5-18 Years:
Up to 2 Hours/Day



What is Cyberbullying?

About **1 in 3** children have experienced cyberbullying.

Girls are affected **slightly more** than boys.



Declining Grades



Avoiding Friends



Sleep Problems



Low Self-Esteem



Avoiding Devices

Warning Signs of Cyberbullying:

How Parents Can Help



Talk with Your Child



Report to Platform & School



Involve Law Enforcement



Get Professional Support

🌿 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.

FAWBERT & BARNARD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Parent & Carer Communication Flowchart

Helping you find the right person, first time

1. Learning Concerns

(Progress, attainment, classwork, behaviour for learning)

Start with → Class Teacher

They know your child best and will be able to resolve most issues.

If unresolved → Behaviour Lead: Miss Sansom

If still unresolved → Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Derriman

Next → Headteacher: Mrs Sophia Ovonlen

2. Pastoral / Emotional / Friendship Concerns

(Playground issues, friendships, wellbeing, possible bullying including discriminatory behaviour)

Start with → Class Teacher

If unresolved → Behaviour Lead: Miss Sansom

If still unresolved → Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Derriman

Next → Headteacher: Mrs Sophia Ovonlen

3. SEND Concerns

(Suspected or known SEND, learning needs, behaviour linked to SEND, access arrangements, reasonable adjustments)

Start with → Class Teacher

Then, SENCo – Mrs Derriman

Then → Headteacher: Mrs Sophia Ovonlen

4. Safeguarding Concerns

(Immediate safety, disclosures, neglect, abuse, welfare concerns)

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Mrs Sophia Ovonlen

Deputy DSLs: Mrs Deriman, Miss Sansom, Mr Downey, Mrs De Howes,
Mrs Hutchinson

For urgent concerns: Contact via the school office immediately.

5. Family / Home Support Needs

(Housing difficulties, finances, behaviour at home, routines, attendance challenges, parenting support)

Contact

Family Support: Mrs De Howes

or

DSL/Deputy DSL

6. Administration / Office Queries

(Invoices, ParentMail, school meals, trips, attendance, paperwork, forms)

Contact:

School Office Manager – Mrs Hutchinson

or

School Office Team

7. Concerns About Staff Conduct

Contact:

Headteacher – Mrs Sophia Ovonlen

If the concern involves the Headteacher → Chair of Governors

(Contact details available via school office)

8. Making Contact

Teachers and staff can be contacted via the school office:

Phone: 01279 429427

Email: Office@fawbert-barnards.essex.sch.uk

In person: Appointments can be arranged through the office

Our Promise

We aim to respond within **48 working hours** to acknowledge your concern and outline next steps.