

Fawbert & Barnard's Primary School
Newsletter 14 // 12.12.2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an incredibly busy and festive week in school. We have enjoyed Christmas concerts, the Christmas fair, and the pantomime—all in the same week! Alongside this, children took part in Christmas dinner day, Christmas jumper day, and our learning showcase. It was wonderful to see so many parents attending the showcase, and I hope you enjoyed seeing the fantastic learning taking place across the school.

On behalf of the staff team, I would like to thank our parent community for your continued support of the children's learning and enjoyment of school. A special thank you to the Friends Committee for organising the Christmas Fair—it was very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed.

Interim reports for this term have been sent out today. These provide an update on your child's progress. If you have any questions or would like further clarification, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Next week is the final week of term. Please note that school will finish at 1.30pm on the last day. I would also like to gently remind parents of our complaints process, which helps ensure that any concerns are addressed appropriately. This has been attached on the following pages for your reference. Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,
Sophia Ovonlen
Headteacher

Snow White Pantomime





Achievements

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

Champions	
Times tables Rockstar Cup	Year 3
Numbots Cup	Year 1
Times tables Champion	Teya
Numbots Champion	Myla I

STARS OF THE WEEK	
Reception	Tyler
Year 1	Olivia
Year 2	Whole Class
Year 3	Harry
Year 4	Wren
Year 5	Alan
Year 6	Millie



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	
15 th December	Rock Steady Concert @ 9.00am
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.

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.



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

**10 January
to 22 February
2026**



Winter Reading Challenge

Children across Essex are being challenged to read and get creative at their local library this winter!

Explore our Pawfessionals' amazing careers as you progress through the challenge.

Choose from twelve fun activities to complete. For each one, you'll get a sticker! Complete six, and you'll receive a certificate and get to enter our prize draw for the chance to win some incredible goodies!

Plus, you can join in with themed events and activities at the library!



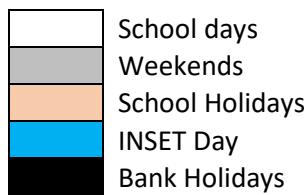
Find out more about how to take part in this free activity on our website: libraries.essex.gov.uk



School Term and Holiday Dates

Academic Year 2026-2027

September 2026							October 2026							November 2026							December 2026									
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S			
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28	29	30												30																
January 2027							February 2027							March 2027							April 2027									
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30					
May 2027							June 2027							July 2027							August 2027									
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
31																				30	31									



Autumn Term: Tuesday 1 September 2026 – Thursday 17 December 2026
Half Term 19 October – 30 October

Spring Term: Monday 4 January 2027 – Thursday 25 March 2027
Half Term 15 February - 19 February

Summer Term: Monday 12 April 2027 – Wednesday 21 July 2027
Half Term 31 May – 4 June, and May Bank Holiday - 3 May