



Fawbert & Barnard's Primary School

Newsletter 8 || 24.10.2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of our first half term, I want to thank you all for your continued support and involvement in school life. It has been a busy and exciting few weeks!

Today's author visit was a huge success! The children thoroughly enjoyed meeting the author and taking part in the engaging workshops. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm for reading and storytelling grow even stronger.

Thank you to everyone who attended today's Learning Showcase. The children were so proud to share their work and talk about what they have been learning. Your encouragement and interest make a real difference. If you have any feedback from the event, please do share it with your child's class teacher — we are always keen to hear your thoughts.

To help us maintain a safe environment for all pupils, please remember that parents should not enter classrooms at drop-off or pick-up times unless invited by staff. This is an important safeguarding measure, and we appreciate your cooperation in supporting us with this.

A gentle reminder that children should not bring toys, pencil cases, or other personal items into school. These items can easily go missing and often cause unnecessary upset. From now on, any items brought in will be kept by the teacher and returned at the end of the day to be taken home.

We value the strong partnership we have with our families and thank you for the positive and respectful communication that helps us work together effectively. Please take a moment to read the Parents' Code of Conduct on our website, which outlines our expectations when interacting with staff and other members of the school community.

For those providing grapes as a snack, please ensure they are cut in half (for older children) and quarters (for younger children) to reduce the risk of choking. Thank you for helping us to keep all children safe.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a wonderful and restful half term. The children have worked incredibly hard this term and have earned a well-deserved break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another great half term of learning.

Warm regards,
Sophia Ovonlen
Headteacher
Fawbert & Barnard's Primary School



Achievements



Due to the events of today, all stars of the week will be announced after the half term.



Year 1 Class Corner

Exploring the Past, Creating the Future!

This half term, Year 1 have been on a journey through time! We've been exploring old and new toys, learning how play has changed across generations. From Victorian games like jackstraws and hoop & stick, to 1950s favourites like ring-a-roses and hopscotch, we've had a blast stepping into the shoes of children from the past.

To deepen our understanding, we visited Harlow Museum, where we took part in exciting workshops comparing toys from different eras - even as far back as the Roman period! We linked this to our Science learning by investigating the materials toys are made from, and how their properties have changed over time.

In Science, we've been exploring the world of materials - learning the difference between an object and the material it's made from, and investigating properties like transparent, translucent, opaque, waterproof, and absorbent.

In Music, the classroom has come alive with rhythm as we've been singing and playing African drums. In Art, we've been learning to sketch and draw to scale, while studying the colourful and abstract styles of Odili Donald Odita and Paul Klee.

In RE, we've been learning about Hinduism, and in PSHE, we've been working with Team HAP as part of the MyHappyMind programme, learning about the brain and exploring emotions with the Emotion Explorers.

In English, we've enjoyed a range of wonderful books including Stick Man, Dogs Don't Do Ballet, Penguin, and Coming to England - the latter supporting our learning for Black History Month.

In Maths, we've been consolidating our understanding of place value, addition, subtraction, and shapes. And in PE, we've been developing our ball skills with our coach and learning floor gymnastics with our teacher.

It's been a half term full of curiosity, creativity, and confidence. We are so proud of the progress the children have made - well done, Year 1!



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	
Half Term Break: Monday 27 October - Friday 31 October 2025	
3 rd November	Pupils Return Anti-bullying week Football After School club starts
5 th November	Odd Socks Day
6/7 th November	Poppies Sale
10 th November	After School club starts
11 th November	Remembrance Day
12 th November	Autumn Book Fair Begins
19 th November	EYFS Open Morning
20 th November	Children in Need - Non-Uniform Day
26 th November	Autumn Music Concert @ 2.30pm
27 th November	EYFS Open Morning
3 rd December	EYFS Christmas Performance
4 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 Christmas Fair / Concert PM
12 th December	Young Carers Event Learning Showcase @ 2.30pm
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 2026	INSET Day
6 January 2026	Pupils Return

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

After school clubs - Autumn Term

Club	When 3:15- 4:15	Where
Football club	Monday	On the field with Coach Marion
Creative Club	Tuesday	Year 3
Choir	Wednesday	Year 4
Cooking	Wednesday	Year 6
Hockey	Wednesday	Main field
Netball	Wednesday	Meadow
Booster/Homework	Thursday	Year 3
Drama	Thursday	Year 4
Chess	Thursday	Year 5
Kungfu	Thursday	Studio

Safeguarding Update

Helping Children Spot Fake News

These days, our children see so much online—videos, posts, news stories—that it can be hard for them to know what's real and what isn't. Fake news and conspiracy theories can look very convincing, and young people can easily come across them while scrolling or gaming.

The best way to keep them safe is through simple conversations at home. You might:

- Ask what they've seen online and listen without judgement.
- Show them how to check if a story comes from a trusted source.
- Remind them that just because something is shared widely doesn't mean it's true.
- Reassure them that it's okay to ask questions if they're unsure.

A handy phrase children can remember is: **"Pause and check."**

Together, we can help children grow up confident in spotting what's fact and what's fiction online.

🌿 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.

Every week, we will celebrate children who show good examples of how to live out these values through their words, actions, and attitudes.



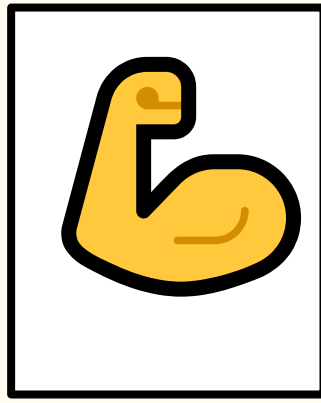
We show care and compassion to everyone. Children are encouraged to speak kindly, include others, and help those in need.

"We lift others up with our words and actions."



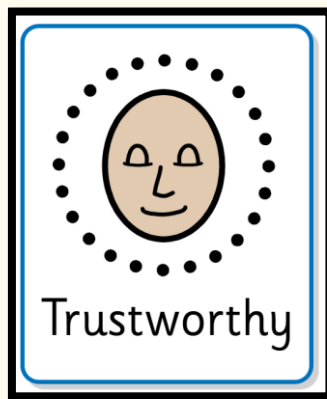
We treat everyone and everything with respect including ourselves, others, and our school environment. Children learn to listen, value different opinions, and take pride in their surroundings.

"We show respect in how we speak, act, and care for our world."



We keep trying, even when things are tough.
Children learn that mistakes help them grow and that
perseverance leads to success.

"We never give up. We bounce back and learn from every challenge."



We do the right thing, even when no one is watching.
Children learn to be honest, reliable, and take
responsibility for their actions.

"We build trust through honesty and integrity."



We take ownership of our learning, behaviour, and choices.
Children learn that they have the power to make a positive difference
to themselves and to others.

"We build trust through honesty and integrity."