



Fawbert & Barnard's Primary School

## Newsletter 16

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the Spring term! It has been wonderful to see the children back in school, and we hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break.

This week has been all about settling back into routines, and the children have embraced their new topics for the term with enthusiasm. From exploring the wonders of the Rainforest to delving into the history of World War II, our curriculum this term is packed with exciting learning opportunities. To stay informed about your child's learning journey, please visit our school website or check their SeeSaw account for detailed curriculum updates.

The chilly start to the term has not gone unnoticed, and we're grateful to see the children dressed warmly throughout the week. As temperatures remain low, please ensure your child continues to bring suitable winter clothing to school.

Next week promises to be full of excitement! A big thank you to everyone who has donated books for the School Council's upcoming book sale. The collection features an impressive range of high-quality books, and we are thrilled to share them with the children. The book sale will take place during school hours on Tuesday and Thursday, with each book priced at just 50p. All proceeds will go toward enriching our school resources.

Additionally, as part of our focus on reading this year, we are actively seeking Reading Volunteers to help hear children read during the school day. If you have an hour or two to spare and would like to support our young readers, we'd love for you to join us. For details on how to sign up, please refer to Page 4 of this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to an engaging and productive term ahead. Have a wonderful weekend, and please stay warm as the cold weather persists.

Warm regards,

Sophia Ovonen  
Head Teacher





## Achievements



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

AWARD	WINNER
Timestables Rockstar Cup	Year 3
Numbots Cup	Year 2
Timestables Rockstar champion	Oscar
Numbots champion	Eavie
STARS OF THE WEEK	
Reception	Darius
Year 1	Flo
Year 2	Niamh
Year 3	Ava
Year 4	Sophia
Year 5	Denny O
Year 6	George
House Tokens	
Moore	415
Gibberd	223
Fawbert	395
Barnard	288

# Congratulations!

# Calling All Parents and Carers!

## Become a Volunteer Reader at Fawbert and Barnard's!

Do you have an hour or so to spare during the school day? Would you like to make a lasting impact on the lives of our children? At F&B, we are passionate about raising the profile of reading and fostering a love of books next term. But we need your help!

### Why Volunteer as a Reader?

Reading is the foundation of learning, and with your support, we can:

- Boost children's confidence and fluency in reading.
- Spark imagination and creativity.
- Cultivate a lifelong love for books and stories.

Whether it's reading one-on-one with a child or sharing a story with a small group, your time can make all the difference.

### What's Involved?

It's simple! If you have an hour or more to spare during the school day, you can volunteer to read with our pupils. We will provide guidance and support to make your time enjoyable and rewarding. No previous experience is needed—just a willingness to help and a love for reading.

### Interested?

If you'd like to get involved or learn more, please contact the school office. We'd be thrilled to have you join us!

Thank you for your support!



## Dates for your diary

Spring Term 2025	
6 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school
13 <sup>th</sup> January	Phonics Workshop for KS 1 parents
14 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 1 School Trip
14 <sup>th</sup> January	School Council's Book Sale
14 <sup>th</sup> January	Phonics Workshop for KS 2 parents
15 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 2 School Trip
16 <sup>th</sup> January	Community officer visit to school
16 <sup>th</sup> January	School Council's Book Sale
29 <sup>th</sup> January	Scholastic Book Fair
31 <sup>st</sup> January	Open Book Afternoon
3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Parents Consultations
7 <sup>th</sup> February	Open Book Afternoon
10 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents Consultations
14 <sup>th</sup> February	Valentine Disco
17 - 21 February	Half term holidays
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Week
6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 School Trip
7 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> April - Holidays	

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# Parents Page

## How to nurture a child's mental health



Actively listen before offering your advice



Be patient



Share your feelings and validate theirs



Tell the truth



Model healthy behavior



Surround them with healthy adults



Be consistent and follow through with what you promise



Teach them how to be safe



Believe them and in them



Use open ended questions



Have scheduled family time



Limit electronic time for everyone



Reach out and hug them



Practice relaxation exercises together



Model forgiveness



Respond calmly when their emotions are elevated



View their behavior as a window to their needs and feelings



Make play and exercise a requirement



Recognize positive choices



Be present



Set and respect boundaries



# Home Learning Page

## Exploring Sentence Structures

Learning about sentence structures can greatly improve your child's writing and comprehension skills. Below is a simple guide to help understand three key types of sentences: simple, compound, and complex.

### 1. Simple Sentences

A simple sentence has one idea or action. It contains a subject (who or what the sentence is about) and a verb (what the subject does).

#### Example:

The cat sleeps.

We went to the park.

#### Activity Idea:

Ask your child to write five simple sentences about their day.

### 2. Compound Sentences

A compound sentence combines two simple sentences using a coordinating conjunction (such as and, but, or, so). Each part of the sentence can stand alone as a complete thought.

#### Example:

I wanted to play outside, but it was raining.

She likes pizza, and he likes pasta.

#### Activity Idea:

Write down a list of simple sentences together and then connect them using coordinating conjunctions.

### 3. Complex Sentences

A complex sentence has one main idea and one or more dependent ideas (extra information that cannot stand alone). It uses conjunctions like because, when, although, or if.

Example:

I stayed inside because it was cold.

When the sun came out, we went to the park.

Activity Idea:

Give your child a simple sentence and help them add extra information using conjunctions. For example:

"The dog barked" → "The dog barked because it saw a cat."

### Quick Tips to Practice:

Use different coloured pens to highlight subjects, verbs, and conjunctions in sentences.

Challenge your child to identify simple, compound, and complex sentences in a book or story.

Practice speaking different types of sentences in conversations.

Encourage your child to experiment with these sentence structures in their writing this week! A mix of sentence types will make their work more interesting and creative.

Happy learning!