FAIRHOUSE primary SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER - 38 (17/07/26)

Dear families

Welcome to the end of another great week and another amazing year at Fairhouse Primary School.

What an incredibly busy, fun-filled week we have had in Year 1! Our young chefs put their design and technology skills to the test by designing, making, and evaluating their very own delicious sandwiches, showing wonderful maturity by using their chopping and slicing skills so sensibly and carefully. In science, we brought our learning to life through a fantastic animal-themed drama workshop, using movement and imagination to explore different creatures. To top off our amazing week, we also time-travelled back to the Victorian era to experience a historical classroom, where the children had very strict teachers, practiced writing on blackboards with chalk, and rounded out the day playing classic playground games like hopscotch.

Year 4 had a fantastic time celebrating Egyptian Day on Thursday, taking part in a range of Egyptian art activities. They also performed beautifully in the assembly, singing and showcasing their ukulele skills. A huge thank you to Miss Fraud for her support throughout the year in helping the children learn the notes and prepare for their wonderful performance. We are incredibly proud of them all!

This week the children in year 5 worked hard to rehearse and perform their parent assembly on Wednesday. Well done to the children for demonstrating courage when speaking and singing in front of an audience. In writing this week, they have been focusing on their non chronological reports based on the labours of Hercules. In DT they have been exploring architecture and completing a design task where they have learned to design an impressive, yet functional, building.

Year 6 have had a fantastic final week, making some wonderful memories together. They thoroughly enjoyed developing their observational drawing skills in Art, showing great focus, creativity and attention to detail. The water fight and slip-and-slide were a huge hit as part of their homework and reading treat, bringing lots of laughter and smiles! As the week comes to an end, emotions are running high as the children begin to say their goodbyes. It has been a special week filled with fun, reflection and celebrations of everything they have achieved.

Thank you to all of you who came along to our assemblies this week. This week we held assemblies for year 3, year 4, year 5, EYFS and year 6. All pupils did a wonderful job in performing, remembering lines and singing.

Thank you to all of you who came along to support our EYFS and KS1 sports day this week. The children had a wonderful time taking part in the different races. Our new style sports day meant that the children were much more engaged in the activities and got to experience a whole lot more than they have done previously. Feed back from the children, staff and parents is that they like this style much more.

We have collated the scores from both sports days and I am pleased to announce the final results:

Our winners are KINDNESS! Well done to all in house Kindness.

KINDNESS	RESPECT	COURAGE	RESPONSIBILITY
RECEPTION			
257	235	226	226
YEAR 1			
176	167	172	**209**
YEAR 2			
186	**186**	136	176
KEY STAGE 1			
619	588	534	611
YEAR 3			
275	265	**276**	256
YEAR 4			
240	231	228	206
YEAR 5			
242	**248**	218	245
YEAR 6			
239	245	215	**260**
KEY STAGE 2			
996	989	937	967
FINAL RESULTS			
1,615	**1,577**	**1,471**	**1,578**

We finish this year with further fantastic outcomes. Our phonics screening outcomes are well above national outcomes and the highest we have seen at Fairhouse. Our multiplication check results are, once again, well above the national outcome and again, are the highest we have seen since they have been running. Our end of KS2 (year 6) outcomes are also great. Although slightly lower in reading than we expected (we are challenging the marking of some papers), the biggest measure of a school is the combined outcomes for reading, writing and maths. Our initial results place us 1% above the national average figure. Progress measures have not yet been released but we are expecting these to be really positive. But we don't just celebrate our success through data. We measure our success on the impact we have on our young people. The work that goes on at Fairhouse to develop children both academically and pastorally is fantastic. I am pleased to share that we have recently been awarded an "Excellence in Safeguarding" award from Brightcore Consultancy following a very thorough review of our school's safeguarding procedures. This validates some of the fantastic pastoral and safeguarding work we do at Fairhouse Primary School.

As the academic year comes to a close, we say goodbye to Miss Whittington and Miss Hamilton who finish their university placement years with us and head back to Loughborough for their final year of study. We wish them both the very best of luck. We also say goodbye to Miss Peetoom who heads off to her new school south of the river, where she has relocated. We thank them all for their hard work and commitment to Fairhouse Primary School and wish them all the very best.

We say a warm welcome to Miss Pegg who has just joined us ready to take on a year 2 class in September and to Mrs Carter who will be joining us in September, teaching year 6.

Today we said a sad goodbye to our wonderful year 6 pupils, most of whom I started my journey with at Fairhouse back in 2019. They are a wonderful cohort of children who demonstrate all that we expect at Fairhouse and who have everything they need to go on and become the fine young adults we know they will be. We also say goodbye to some families who end their journey with us as their youngest child leaves.

For most of you, we will see you again in September when we return. Please note that school starts again on Thursday 3rd September.

We wish you all a wonderful summer break and hope the sun stays shining on you all!

See you in September.

Mrs Hamilton and team Fairhouse.

Dates for your Diary

Monday, 20th July 2026
Inset / Non-Pupil Day

Tuesday, 21st July - Monday, 31st August 2026
Summer Holidays

Tuesday, 1st & Wednesday 2nd September 2026
Inset / Non-Pupil Day

Thursday, 3rd September 2026
Back to School

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club MUST be pre-booked via ParentPay. Bookings can be made until 7am on the day.
Breakfast club runs from 8am - 8.40am and costs £2 per child per day. Last entry is at 8.15am.
Parents MUST accompany their child to the main doors by the office where they will be met and registered by a member of staff.
Various breakfast options are available such as a variety of cereal, toast, bagels, fresh juice & milk.

ParentPay

Please ensure you keep your ParentPay account in credit to cover any dinners booked for your child.

If your account accrues arrears of two meals (£4.80) your child WILL NOT be able to book any further school dinners and you MUST provide them with a packed lunch until the arrears are cleared.

Important information - Term time holidays

Improving school attendance is a key priority for all schools across Essex. Where families choose to take **a family holiday during term time, this can detrimentally impact a pupil's progress and can prevent them** from fulfilling their true academic potential. Our school attendance policy, available via our school website, clearly sets out the process that parents should follow if they wish to apply for leave during term time. Please note that applications should only be made, if you feel that there are exceptional circumstances which mean that the leave cannot be taken during the school holidays. We would ask all parents to note that, where families choose to go on holiday during term time and the absences are coded as unauthorised, Essex County Council may not issue penalty notices and may instead proceed straight to prosecution and place the case directly before the Magistrates for their consideration in court. If found guilty by the Magistrates, parents could face a fine of up to £2,500 and/or 3 months imprisonment.

Parking in the local area

Please drive with caution and be aware of children outside the school, there have been a few near misses with vehicles driving and reversing at speed.

Please also be considerate of our neighbours when dropping off and collecting your children from school. We have received a number of complaints from local residents due to parents parking on & blocking the entrances and or driveways at Fairhouse Court and Napier Close at drop off and pick up times.

Break Time Snack

Our school tuck shop has a range of healthy snacks available daily. Each item costs 50p and children are limited to one item each. If you wish to send your child in with a snack from home please make sure it is something from our approved snack list which can be found on our school website.

Key Stage 1 children receive a piece of fruit as part of the healthy schools initiative. They are not permitted to bring in their own break time snack.

School Uniform

Our school uniform consists of the following:

- Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore.
- White polo shirt
- Bottle green jumper or cardigan.
- Grey tights.
- Black, grey or white ankle socks.
- Grey shorts or green and white checked summer dress in summer months.
- Black school shoes or **ALL BLACK** trainers (including black soles - no big logos or brand names).

Leggings are **NOT** part of the school uniform and should **NOT** be worn to school.

Essex Fire Museum

Open Days 2026

26th Of July

10:30AM To 4:00PM

Fire Station, Hoggs Lane, Grays
RM17 5QS

Book Now
Free Entry

Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk

Essex Fire Museum

Open Days 2026

18th and 30th Of August

10:30AM To 4:00PM

Fire Station, Hoggs Lane, Grays
RM17 5QS

Book Now
Free Entry

Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk

What's On
At Thames Chase

July

1 - Thames Chase Art Club
2/9/16/23/30 - Wellbeing & Tree Walks
3 - Guided Heritage Walk - South Weald
7 - Thames Chase Quillers Adult Quilling Workshop
12 - Children's Paint, Plant & Grow
17 - Guided Heritage Walk - Thames Chase
19 - Monthly Sunday Market
24 - Children's Circus Skills Workshop
28 - Children's Seaside Crafts

August

1 - Butterfly Bay Adult Flower Necklace Clay Workshop
2 - Revamp Boutique - Tie Dye Effect Workshop
4 - Children's Musical Maracas Craft
5 - Adult Glass Fusing Workshop with The Pink Parachute
6/13/20/27 - Wellbeing & Tree Walks
7 - Guided Heritage Walk - Fobbing and Corringham
7 - Thames Chase Children's Art Competition, Free drop in session
9 - Children's LUSH Science Workshop
11 - Children's Butterfly Crafts
12 - From Sun to Stars Observing with Havering Astronomical Society
16 - Monthly Sunday Market
18 - Children's Flower Power Crafts
19 - Family Pottery Painting with The Pink Parachute
21 - Circus Skills Workshop
22 - Forest Flow and Wander - Yoga, Meditation and Forest Walk
25 - Thames Chase BioBlitz - Free Family event
26 - Back to School with Party Monsters
31 Aug - 10th Sept, Anniversary Thames Chase Art & Sculpture Exhibition

Call us on 01708 642970 for details on all events which are also listed on social media
X @Thames_Chase / Facebook @thameschase1 / Instagram @thameschase
Book online at Ticket Tailor: tickettailor.com/events/thameschase or click the QR code below

Thames Chase

For more information call 01708 642970 or visit the Thames Chase Forest Centre, Pike Lane, Upminster RM14 3NS.
Email: enquiries@thameschase.org.uk
Website: www.thameschase.org.uk
Thames Chase: Charity no. 1115627 Company no. 5687558.

Castle Point Astronomy Club

& Science Horizons

present a

Family Space Day

Saturday 8th August

1.30pm - 4.30pm

A fantastic afternoon of space themed activities and fun for both young and older children and adults. There's something for the whole family!

Handle real meteorites from outer space, land a spaceship on the Moon, launch rockets, find out about telescopes, try space-related craft activities and more!

Admission FREE

(Donations welcomed!)

St Michael's Church Hall

St Michael's Road, Daws Heath. SS7 2UW

More details on the website: www.cpastro.club

Science Horizons

Exciting Science and History Workshops for Schools and Adults.

www.sciencehorizons.co.uk

Essex County Council Libraries

READ to the BEAT

Turn up the volume on reading this summer!

We invite children throughout Essex to discover the joy of reading through Read to the Beat! — the music-themed Summer Reading Challenge 2026. Read six books to receive a certificate and medal!

Saturday 18 July to Saturday 5 September 2026

Find out more about how to take part in this free activity:

libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/summer-reading-challenge

THE READING AGENCY

UNIVERSAL

Read to the Beat illustrations by Harry Woodgate, illustrations and logo © The Reading Agency 2026

Smart Watches

Please note that smart watches that allow photos or video footage to be taken and / or have access to games and / or have cellular / internet connectivity are not permitted in school.

HOLIDAY COURSES

Bikeability Level 1, Level 1 & 2, Level 3, Learn to ride courses and a new course Child Bike Workshop & Learn

To book, please visit link

essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking

There is a £15 non-refundable booking fee

SAFER GREENER HEALTHIER

Essex County Council