



FARNDON NEWSFLASH

Dear Parents / Carers,

Well everyone, can you believe that nearly 15 weeks of school life has passed. I am so proud of each and every child and adult in the school for their hard work and determination; it has been absolutely incredible. The Autumn Term is probably the most exhausting term of the year, but also the most exciting one. It is the longest but also the most important in terms of how well the children settle and progress through the curriculum. I always find this term so magical: with all the nativity performances, Christmas baking and crafts, Panto trips, Christmas Fair, even a visit from Story Tent for Early Years who had a wonderful time! I want you all to have a safe and happy Christmas; please rest those brains for a week or two and come back in January with the same energy and enthusiasm. Thank you so much for the heartfelt messages, cards and gifts. We do this job because we love it so much, but your words and presents do mean so much to us all.

It has been a long autumn term and both the staff and pupils are certainly deserving of a well-earned rest. I would like to thank everyone connected to the school for their hard work and commitment throughout 2023 and I look forward to an exciting year for the school in 2024. I wish everyone a very merry Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Mr Walker – Headteacher

CHRISTMAS SHOWS FROM OUR EARLY YEARS

Our Early Years children performed their Christmas shows to their parents. Our Pre School pupils performed so well and I am expecting big things from them during their time in our school.

Our Reception show was fantastic with plenty of singing and dancing. We had Ralph the Reindeer centre stage and even Father Christmas made an appearance in his wonderful sleigh (made by our brilliant Site Manager Mr McCann). I was amazed at how confidently they all performed. A big well done to you all.



YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE

- To inform school of an absence, please either phone the school office or use the School Spider app.
- When informing school of a change of collection at the end of the day, please can parents **NOT** e-mail the school office. To ensure we receive the message, we ask that parents phone instead.
- Finally, we ask those parents who haven't downloaded the School Spider to try to do so in readiness for the Spring term. We think it will make life easier for reporting absence, booking meetings and communicating positive messages.



SPORTS ROUND UP

In this term, we always compete in the Chester Schools tournament which is held at Christleton High School. Our girls' team were first up and they performed brilliantly! There were wins against Tarvin, Our Ladys and Malpas, along with a draw against Cherry Grove. However, it wasn't quite enough to qualify. Our boys also did well, keeping two clean sheets to earn two draws. But a 1 - 0 loss to Huntingdon knocked us out. Finally, it was the final cross-country race of the season. Henry Glynn bagged a second gold of the season. A huge well done to all our athletes who have performed so well and shown great resilience.

DEVELOPING CAPITAL CULTURE

Here at Farndon, we are always looking for ways to develop all our pupils' cultural capital by offering different life experiences. The upper juniors enjoyed Willy Wonka - the Musical - at the Empire theatre. And our pupils in Years 1 - 4 are looking forward to their Panto in New Brighton.

SCHOOL SPIDER

Thank you to those parents who have signed up to the school spider app on your phones. Many parents are now using the features such as reporting an absence. For those that haven't yet, the letter detailing all the information can be found on the website: <https://www.farndon.cheshire.sch.uk/page/letters/65001>

YOUR SCHOOL PTA EVENTS

Many thanks to all the PTA members who put on a fantastic Christmas Fair outdoors. Everyone worked so hard and it was a huge success raising £1900. A big thank you to all those who supported our school.

We were fortunate Father Christmas paid us a visit and the grotto looked magical. I think holding it outside really does make it feel so much more "Christmasey".

The raffle was also a huge success, with so many fantastic prizes. Congratulations to all the winners!



FEELING FESTIVE AT FARNDON

As well as all the concerts and plays that centre around Christmas, we have also taken part in lots of other festive fun.

Our Infant pupils busily made Christmas decorations for the trees in the village and some of our families were there at the big switch on! We had our own switch on with the tree that the Reception pupils brought back from their trip to Threapwood, where they also got to leave a Christmas wish on the tree.

Some of our Year 6 pupils went carol singing in Chester with Abbey Gate and the Junior block has been filled with the smells of Christmas as they did their baking. And we will end on Reverend Scurr's final Carol Concert on Thursday with our Juniors at St Chads church.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Can I just say a huge thank you to all the children and their families for joining us in the celebrations with our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils. I hope it captured all of the magic you'd hoped for. Our Christmas performance by our Year 2 pupils was called, "The Big Little Nativity." It was far from little and big in every way! Wonderful performances on stage, some amazing solo singing, and fantastic dancing to those catchy songs. And our Year 1 pupils

SCHOOL DINNERS

Menus are available on the school website:

Week beginning 8th Jan: Menu Week 1
Week beginning 15th Jan: Menu Week 2
Week beginning 22nd Jan: Menu Week 3
Week beginning 29th Jan: Menu Week 1
Week beginning 5th Feb: Menu Week 2
Week beginning 12th Feb: Menu Week 3

For menus, please follow the link below:

<http://www.farndon.cheshire.sch.uk/page/school-dinners/4281>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

19th December: Strings concert Year 5 parents
20th December: Years 1 - 4 Panto trip
21st December: Carol Service at St Chads (last day)
8th January: Pupils back in school for Spring Term
18th January: Phonics Talk to Year 1 parents
8th February: Upper Junior Jodrell Bank trip

CHRISTMAS AT ST CHADS

As always on the last day of term, the Juniors will be holding their carol concert at St Chads church at 1:30pm. It's Reverend Scurr's last one so we want to make it a special one. We have pushed the children further back into school to allow more spaces for adults so we can pack the place out. Also, don't miss the Christingle service held at church - the perfect way to start your Christmas celebrations.

TEAMS 4 U GIFTS FOR CHILDREN

A huge thank you to everyone in our community who donated a whopping 130 boxes. These will now be given to vulnerable children through schools, hospitals and orphanages. They are now heading off to Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Bosnia and Romania.

