

# FAIRISLE TIMES

March 2018

Issue No. 12

## The Newsletter of Fairisle Junior School

During the cold weather, please ensure your child brings a coat to school.



### Snow Days 2018

First of all let's get the serious bit out of the way. I would like to thank all our families for their understanding and support on Thursday and Friday with our enforced closures. The decision to close the school is one of the most challenging and problematic a Headteacher can take; I have to think about the safety of our children and families, our staff who may live many miles away, and the potential changing picture through the day. For your kind words and your willingness to change your plans at short notice and help keep everyone safe and warm, I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone.

It was great to get involved in the Homework on Friday and thank you so much for rising to the challenge of sending the snow photos and videos, which Mr Hayes spent most of the day uploading to our website!

I think the snow brings out the kid in most of us and it was great to involve the staff in our challenge and receive their photos throughout the day as well.

If you haven't sent us a photo of your children in the snow yet, please feel free to email me at [head@fjsslive.net](mailto:head@fjsslive.net) and I will make sure they get added to the page on our school website. You can see all the photos [here](#).



### Snow News from our Head Girl and Boy!



It was a lovely surprise when we woke up on Thursday morning to find that there was no school as a white blanket of snow had covered everywhere outside. We had a great time and Mia built a snowman named Mr Hayes and Korey threw snowballs at friends and family! We were sad that it melted so quickly although it was nice to come back to school today to see all our friends and teachers.

Mia & Korey



### Book Look — Spring Term 2018

Thank you very much to everyone who came to our Book Look Celebration with children and teachers last Wednesday. This morning I asked parents and teachers for their feedback about the evening as I spent most of the time in meetings with our inspection team and I was unable to get around classrooms to see for myself.

Some of the things people told me:

“Parents who wanted to speak with me had plenty of time to do so.” (Teacher, Year 4)

“Parents weren't confined to a time limit and could spend as long as they wanted in the classroom. They seemed to thoroughly enjoy looking through their children's books and they also seemed to be surprised at the amount their children had achieved this year.”

(Teacher, Year 5)

“We liked to be able to spend as much time as we wanted looking through our children's books in as much detail as we wanted without being rushed.” (Parent, Year 4)

“I had more parents turn up than expected, and I think if it hadn't been so cold outside there would have been even more.” (Teacher, Year 6)

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Please  
Park



Considerately

## Our OfSTED Inspection

As parents know, last Tuesday and Wednesday we had a visit from a team from the Office for Standards in Education (OfSTED). The phone rang during the early afternoon last Monday and on the other end of the line was Brian Macdonald, who I very soon learned was to lead our inspection with two colleagues.

The team arrived early on Tuesday morning and they spent the next two full days watching teachers teach and children learn; they looked very closely at pupil data, children's books and work across the curriculum; they interviewed leaders and governors, including subject leaders and our senior team; they had a long conversation with our Local Authority inspector; they spoke at length with groups of children and heard lots of them read; they spent time in the playground at break and lunchtime, as well as before and after school, and they received feedback from parents through ParentView, staff through online anonymous questionnaires and pupils through face to face question and answer sessions as well as an online survey.

I am not able to give any information about the outcomes of the inspection at the moment, as the school remains under inspection until the report is published, which should be either just before or straight after the Easter holiday.

## Year 5 Visit to Winchester Science Centre

Last Monday (before the days of snow and inspections), our Year 5 children and staff visited the Winchester Science Centre. It was the best. We got to use mini robot arms like the ones they use in space (it was hard). Our favourite part was the planetarium because we got to see new galaxies and other amazing things. The planetarium screen was all around on the ceiling. There was a room, which was weird because it was small and there was a camera so the people on the outside saw the other people inside the room and the room was tilted a little. By the soft play area was a tube of water where you can spin the steering wheel and it turns into a water storm. We had a great day. (Natalia and Teo)



## Dates for this term

Thursday 8 March	9.00am	Coffee Morning (Maths Leaders also showing how to help children learn their times tables at home)
Monday 12 — Friday 16 March		Year 5 Bikeability
Monday 12 March		Year 6 RE Day
Tuesday 13 March		Year 4 RE Day
Monday 19 March		Year 3 to Butser Farm (Re-arranged Date from 1/3/18)
Tuesday 20 March		Year 4 to Marwell
Friday 23 March		Year 3 to Rownhams Church
Thursday 29 March		School closes for Easter Holiday
Monday 9 — Thursday 12 April		Year 6 Easter School (Letter sent out)
Monday 16 April		School re-opens after Easter
Saturday 21 April		FJS representing Hampshire at South & West Football Finals
Tuesday 8 May		Year 5 to Gilbert White's House, Selbourne
Monday 14 — Thursday 17 May		Year 6 Statutory Assessment Test Week
Friday 25 May		School closes for May half term holiday
Monday 4 June		School re-opens after half term
Thursday 14 June		Class Photographs taken
Friday 22 and Monday 25 June		FAIRISLE SCHOOLS CLOSED (INSET)
Wednesday 4 July		Children meet next year's Teacher/Secondary transfer day
Friday 20 July		School closes for Summer holiday

**Doors open at 8.40am each morning and 8.50am is the latest the children should arrive.**