Fairisle Junior School
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Chair of Governors: Mrs Nikki Webb

Friday 6th November 2026

Weekly Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely half-term and enjoyed Halloween. Many of the children have told me about what they dressed up as and the different parties they went to! Earlier this week the children started learning Christmas songs for their performances, it will be here before we know it. See the bottom of this letter for the key dates coming up.

Our Inset Days

On Friday 23rd October the whole staff updated their annual safeguarding training with Southampton City Council. On Monday 2nd November the staff training focused on a resource we have invested in called 'Walkthrus'. Walkthrus are effectively a teacher's bible on how children learn and how to teach, for example the importance of checking for the children's understanding during lessons and all the strategies that support this process. They also have a short video to support parents and carers on how they can support their children's learning. Click here to watch this.

Southampton City Art Gallery Family Fun Day

Southampton City Art Gallery is holding a free family fun day on Sunday 15th November. For more information click here. The activities taking place will include hands-on art activities, facing painting, storytelling and much more. The day is being funded by The Art Society of Southampton as part of Southampton City Art Gallery's Art Then! exhibition.

Into University

Before half-term 6BP were the first class to participate in a focus week in STEM, in partnership with Into University. This is a new partnership with a natonal charity with a local

base in Millbrook - the children had a fantastic week. In the early part of the week the children were training to be an astronaut, taking part in a secret mission, researching influential figures in STEM such as Stephen Hawking. On Tuesday they participated in different team challenges, for example building bridges. On Wednesday they went on a school trip to the Sea City Museum, taking part in a workshop about the Titanic and why it sank. On Friday the children went on a trip to the University of Southampton looking around the campus, even popping into a lecture. On Friday afternoon the children all graduated, complete with gowns and hats! It was a real pleasure to hear about the childrens' hopes and dreams for the future.





Charities we are Supporting

Our Learning Leaders have decided on the charities we are supporting this year for non-uniform days. Please see below.

Monday 30th November - Dylan's Quest

One of the charities is very close to our hearts – Dylan's Quest. Dylan and his brother came to this school and we remember them both fondly. This year will mark ten years since Dylan's passing and to help raise funds for the charity set up in his name, we have decided to hold a non-school uniform day.

Monday 11th January - Rose Road Association

We have not raised funds for this local charity before. The Rose Road Association is a charity that provides including overnight respite breaks, community-based outreach, care at home, onsite and offsite day services, holiday and Saturday playschemes and SEN advice services for hundreds of children and young adults with complex physical and learning disabilities across Southampton and the south.



Monday 8th March – Brain Tumour Research

Another tradition at Fairisle Junior School over the years is that we support this charity. March is Brain Tumour Awareness Month. Historically only about 1% of the national cancer research spend has been allocated to brain tumours. Here at Fairisle we always aim to do our bit to help!

In the past we have made hats and worn our hair in different styles. This time we have decided that for the day we will wear the colours of the charity, which are pink and yellow. As some of you might not have any pink or yellow clothes, we have added red to make life easy. We look forward to seeing the children in the pink, red and yellow or combination of the three colours in March.



Monday 7th June – Communicare in Southampton

Communicare in Southampton is a friendly, local charity that enriches the quality of life of lonely and isolated people in Southampton. The committed volunteers act as good neighbours; they offer practical and emotional support in a variety of ways at no cost to the service users.

Learning to Celebrate

Every Friday we come together to celebrate the Learners of the Week. Each teacher nominates a child for some excellent learning that has taken place. I thought I would share with you Rosie's from 4CT, the improvement in her writing since September has been simply magnificent.



Key Dates

Thursday 19th November - Whole school flu immunisation
Friday 27th November – Termly Reports to be sent via e-mail to parents and carers
Monday 30th November – Non-uniform day to raise funds for Dylan's Quest
Monday 7th December 2026 – Years 3&4 Christmas Performance (9.15am and 2pm)
Tuesday 8th December 2026 - Years 5&6 Christmas Performance (9.15am and 2pm)
Monday 14th December 2026 – Christmas Craft Day
Tuesday 15th December 2026 – Free Christmas lunch for all children
Friday 18th December 2026 – Last day of term
Monday 4th January 2027 – First day back
Monday 11th January 2027 – Non-uniform day to raise funds for Rose Road

Have a great weekend and enjoy the fireworks.

Best Wishes,



Robin Hayes
Headteacher