



**Expect Success**

## Fairisle Junior School

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**Headteacher: Peter M Howard BA (Hons), NPQH**  
**Chair of Governors: Mrs Nikki Webb**

January 2024

### Happy New Year and Welcome Back!

Dear Parents and Friends

Firstly, I would like to welcome everyone back after the Christmas break and wish you all a very Happy New Year. Our batteries are recharged and we are looking forward to the term ahead. It is quite a short term and with so much happening across the school in the next few weeks, I know the time will fly by, especially with the Year 5 residential to Stubbington in a fortnight as well as our choir's trip to the O<sub>2</sub> in London in a few weeks and the building of our new trim trail on the bottom field. Just a reminder that the Fairisle Schools will both be closed on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February for staff training.

#### Attendance 2023 – 2024

As usual, during the holiday, we looked closely at last term's attendance and punctuality, and as part of that work, we compared figures for last term with those from the same period last year. We noticed that attendance has been much better this year although minutes late across the school have increased this year. Most of our children come to school on-time every day and we know that this boosts their academic achievement and helps cement resilience as well as friendships. We also realise that there are times when children are too unwell to attend and, of course, they need time to get better. However, poor attendance leaves children at a disadvantage, as they struggle to keep up in class. It also affects their friendship groups as children do not invest time in friends who are not around to play with.

If your child misses 10% of their schooling they are considered a Persistent Absentee and their attendance data is collected by the school and Southampton City Council for further review.

Later this week we will be sending you your child's attendance record for the autumn term. We will then update you with your child's attendance for the autumn and spring terms together after the Easter holiday. Towards the end of the summer term your child's attendance record for the year will be printed on the front page of their annual report to you.



## Lost Property

We finished last term with a huge amount of lost property, much of which was not named. We do try to return as much as possible to the rightful owners but every school sweatshirt looks the same! We have moved the lost property boxes into the front entrance hall so parents have open access to them at all times. Please ensure that all your children's clothing is clearly named – this helps them as well as our staff! Thank you.

The Curriculum Bulletins for this half term are complete and will be out and on our website in the next 24 hours.

Please remember that school dinners should be paid for in advance – this helps us all!

We're really looking forward to the term ahead.  
Very best wishes



Peter Howard  
**Headteacher**

