Fordham CE Primary School

Monday 15th June

It take a whole community to raise a child, striving for excellence together

A note from Miss. Rankin

Good afternoon. Thankfully the sun seems to have returned. Today we waved Year 6 off as they sett off on their two-night residential adventure in Norfolk. We look forward to hearing about their experiences and the memories they create. We are also pleased to welcome Miss. Day back from maternity leave; she will be working across a number of the classes for the remainder of this half term.

Assessments: Last week, the children in Year 1 completed their phonics screening. Mrs. George, the Phonics Lead, was really pleased with how the children completed them and could see that they tried their best. Well done to Year 1. Also well done to Year 4 who also completed statutory assessments but this time with multiplications. We are proud of the children.

Sports Day: We apologise for any inconvenience caused by the change in both the KS1 and KS2 sports days. It is always difficult to make the call to postpone and we appreciate your support. The new dates are:
KS2 Sports Day: Thursday 25th June morning
KS1 Sports Day: Friday 3rd July morning

Swimming: Swimming lessons have now started for Year 5 pupils. The expectation is that all children leaves Key Stage 2 able to swim 25 metres unaided. As we do not have a swimming pool nearby, providing lessons carries a significant financial cost for the school. In addition, many pupils have already received swimming lessons before reaching Year 5, which can lead to some parents being reluctant to contribute towards further sessions. This adds to the overall financial pressure. In light of this, we are considering moving swimming provision to a younger year group, such as Year 3, to maximise impact and ensure all pupils benefit earlier in their swimming journey. Currently, PE and Sport funding can only be used towards whose who cannot swim 25 metres, however, from next April the funding is being changed significantly which will further affect how we allocate resources. I would greatly value your feedback on this proposed change.

PTFA Update: We are so lucky to have such a supportive PTFA who help provide for the children in our school. Thank you to them for organising an excellent disco. The feedback was very positive.
Friday 19th June - Men in Our Lives gifts are delivered to classrooms and this marks the start of the sunflower growing competition - the tallest sunflower will win a prize!
Friday 26th June - Non-Uniform Day in exchange for a bottle please. This can be any type of bottle. Ideally in a bottle bag but not essential. If you happen to have any spare bags, donations are welcomed. Please note that the PTFA can no longer take payments for PTFA events through Arbor so please see the poster for a link to pay through Sum-Up. Please remember to include your child's name and class in the comment box. Alternatively, you can pay with cash at the school office.
A reminder that **Saturday 11th July** is our school Summer Fayre.

Classes: We have been organising next year's classes and as usual, looked at our class lists as a collective staff. Please see page 2 to find out which teacher is teaching each year group. All year group classes, including EYFS, will be mixed. We have decided to not ask the children for their friend preferences as we believe the staff know the children well and will be making the decisions based on our knowledge and for the best interests of the children alongside a set criteria. I must emphasise that we do only have two classes per year group and therefore they may well not be with all of their friends. The children can always enjoy their friendships at breaks.

The children will be meeting the new academic year teachers through a story session at the end of the school day over the next two weeks. The teachers from the current year group and the future year grup will also participate in Pupil Progress meetings alongside Mrs. Bramley, Mrs. Clay and the SENCos. to ensure all necessary information has been passed on.

Packed lunches: Please can we ask that all waste from packed lunches goes home with the child in their lunchbox due to changes in the waste collection. It should be helpful in you being able to monitor how much is eaten as well.

Restrictive Intervention: In April 2026, the government introduced new guidance regarding the use of restrictive intervention. These measures are only used as a last resort to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all pupils and staff. In line with this guidance, we are committed to keeping you fully informed; if a restrictive intervention is used involving your child, you will be notified and a letter will be sent home outlining the circumstances. We continue to prioritise positive behaviour support and work closely with families to promote a safe and supportive environment for all.

'Thank a teacher' day: Wednesday 17th June is 'Thank a Teacher' day - a national moment to recognise the dedication, creativity, and care that teachers and teaching staff bring to their classrooms every day. Last year, over 100,000 personalised e-cards were sent to teachers across the country: from teaching assistants to school leaders, every educator deserves recognition. If you would like to send a free personalised e-card to a teacher that has made a difference, please press on this link:
https://thankateacher.co.uk/thank-a-teacher/thank-a-teacher-form/

We look forward to welcoming our new starters' parents on Wednesday 24th June, and a reminder that it is non-uniform day on Friday 26th June in exchange for a bottle.

Have a lovely fortnight. Miss. Rankin

Diary Dates

15th - 17th June - Y6 Residential
16th June - Y4 Forest School
18th June - Early Years trip to South Angle Farm
23rd June - Y5 Forest School
24th June - Early Years *New starters evening 6pm - 7.30pm
25th June - KS2 Sports Day (morning)
25th June - Y1 trip to Banham Zoo
26th June - Y2 Forest School
26th June - PTFA Non-Uniform Day in exchange for a bottle
1st July - Y3/Y4 and Young Musician performance* more information to follow
**3rd July - ***Provisional back up KS1 Sports Day (morning)
8th July - Y6 Production 2pm and 5.30pm
10th July - Y2 African Day
11th July - PTFA Summer Fair
13th July - Move Up Day
14th July - Y1 & Y5 Forest School, Y6 Fair 3.20pm & End of Year Reports out
15th July - Celebration afternoon 2.30pm-3.20pm *more information to follow
16th July - Y6 Forest School and Y6 Leavers' Disco - more information to follow
17th July - Last Day of Term
17th July - Y6 Leavers' Assembly 9.15am
20th July - Disaggregated day - no school

We hope that you have a wonderful summer holiday and look forward to welcoming you back in the new academic year.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Tuesday 1st September - PD Day
Wednesday 2nd September - First day back to school

'I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.' Philippians 4:13
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Academic Classes for 2026 - 2027

Early Years: **Barn Owls:** Mrs. Woodcock (4 days) & Mrs. Valentine (1 day)
Snowy Owls: Mrs. Holland

Year 1: **Bumblebees:** Mrs. Archer (4 days) & Mrs. Hacking (1 day)
Butterflies: Mrs. George

Year 2: **Rabbits:** Mrs. Reeves
Raccoons: Mrs. Cook (3 days) & Mrs. Lycett (2 days)

Year 3: **Kestrels:** Mrs. Bell (4 days) & Mr Archer (1 day)
Kingfishers: Mrs. Laskar (3 days) & Miss. Day (2 days)

Year 4: **Penguins:** Miss. McLees
Puffins: Mrs. Sivyer

Year 5: **Flamingos:** Mr. Lycett (4 days) & Miss. Day (1 day)
Foxes: Mrs. Davenport (3 days) & Mrs. Valentine (2 days)

Year 6: **Leopards:** Miss. Pack
Lions: Mrs. Peacock

The class teachers have arranged the children into two classes to ensure the best possible learning and well-being dynamics, taking into account the following criteria which appear in priority order:

- Safeguarding
- Effective management of SEN (Special Educational Needs) and Disability needs
- Behaviour dynamics
- Consideration of Boys / Girls Even spread of children in care and previously in care
- Even spread of EAL (English as an additional language) / supportive
- EAL dynamics
- Parental preference of splitting twins/siblings
- Consideration of summer-born children
- Healthy working relationships / friendships / personality

We understand that transition to the next year group can sometimes be a difficult time for all children and therefore a number of transition activities have been planned in to support this. More information will be shared in the next newsletter regarding classes and move up day. We appreciate your support and understanding with this.

World Ocean Day

The children enjoyed a collective worship on 'World Oceans Day' last week learning how millions unite on the 8th June to protect our blue planet.
They discussed ways that we can help our earth including not dropping litter, walking to places (where possible) and turning lights off. Thank you to Kaya in Y2 for sharing her posters on what makes a happy earth, sad earth to get us all thinking.

Year 6 Summer Fair

The annual Year 6 Summer Fair will be held on the Tuesday 15th July straight from school until 4:15pm. The event will take place on the school field - weather dependent - where we will have various stalls and activities taking place for up to £2 each. The Year 6 pupils aim to raise as much money as possible for their leaver's experiences - including the Y6 disco, Y6 leaver's hoodies, Y6 props and Y6 SATs breakfast.

All members of our school community are welcome to come along and support our Year 6 pupils and we hope to see you there. Please keep an eye out for our posters that will be placed around our school grounds over the next couple of weeks.

Thank you for your continued support,

Year 6 Team

Well done to Leo (Kingfishers class) who recently competed at the City of Ely ASC Barracudas Sprint Championships 2026 and had an outstanding competition, achieving four club records and winning a medal.

His club record performances were:
50m Freestyle – 46.09
50m Backstroke – 50.93
100m Freestyle – 1:43.22
100m Individual Medley – 1:59.47

These achievements were all recorded at the club championships in May 2026 and reflect Leo's hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm for swimming.