Fordham CE Primary School

27th April 2026

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

A note from Miss. Rankin

Good afternoon, I hope you all had a lovely, sunny weekend.

Science Fair: Well done to the children who presented at the Science Fair last Monday. There were a great range of experiments and investigations on show including testing to see which sweets had the most surface sugar content to creating crystals in egg shells, to creating circuits to make objects move; the children all did an amazing job of explaining and should be proud of what they demonstrated. Thanks to the parents/carers for helping out with your children's science experiments.

Class Assembly: Well done to Year 2 for last week's class assembly. They confidently read, explained and sang all the subjects they had been learning.
This week, we have the pleasure of watching the Year 5 class assembly. This is open to Year 5 parents/carers and will start at 9.15am. Please enter via the school office to sign in.
The Year 1 class assembly will be next week, Thursday 7th May.

Earth Day: Last Wednesday was Earth Day and the children did some activities about what we should be doing to look after our planet and why this is important. The Eco Reps. recently attended a climate change workshop and were able to share some ideas. The Eco Committee also had an afternoon with Peter Goodyear to learn about the River Snail and we are looking to do some project work with him in the future.

Year 6 SATs/Residential meeting: Thank you to those who attended the Year 6 meeting presented by Mrs. Peacock and Miss. Pack. Hopefully all of your questions were answered. The Year 6 team continue to work tirelessly to ensure your children are ready and not worried about the SATs, providing boosters after-school in their own time. We all want the children to do their best and do not want them to be anxious about them. The SATs breakfasts usually starts the days in positive ways and brings the children together before the assessments. The children usually report that they have enjoyed SATS week after it is over. If you have any further questions or was unable to make the meeting, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office.

Mini London Marathon: We were pleased to offer the chance for ten of our children in Years 4 - 6 the amazing opportunity to participate in running 2.6km of the London Marathon route. The children did so well and were provided with a lovely medal - what an amazing achievement! Thank you to Ryan Thomas, one of our Parent Governors who helped us be successful in the ballot. See Page 2 for more information about the event.

SHINE Study - Parent & Carer Survey for Reception and Year 6: Parents have been invited to take part in the SHINE (Studying Happiness, self-Image and Nutrition and Eating in children) Parent & Carer Survey. The survey will help us understand the health and wellbeing of children in Reception (4-5 years) and Year 6 (10-11 years).
The survey takes around 20 minutes and can be completed online. By sharing your experiences, you will help us make changes at both local and national levels to support children's wellbeing. As a thank you for taking part, you can enter a prize draw to win one of four £50 shopping vouchers, awarded to parents and carers in your local community. The information you provide will only be used only for research purposes and will be kept completely confidential.
Click here to access the survey. For more details, visit our website. The SHINE Study.

Monday 4th May - a reminder that this is a Bank Holiday and school will not be open.

Miss Rankin

LAMDA for Life
Confidence in Creation!

Congratulations from LAMDA

I am proud to celebrate the outstanding achievements of my LAMDA students through LAMDA for Life. Clara Mattick White and Elliott Trent achieved the highest mark of Distinction in Acting, while Penélope Dodds De Jesus achieved the highest mark of Distinction in Verse and Prose. A wonderful achievement to celebrate.
LAMDA lessons support confidence, communication and performance skills, helping students grow both on and off the stage.

Diary Dates

30th April - Y5 Class Assembly 9.15am & Y5 Forest School
4th May - MAY DAY - no school
6th May - SEND coffee afternoon 9.15-10.30
7th May - Y1 Class Assembly 9.15am
8th May - Y5 visit
11th May - GPS SATs
12th May - Reading SATS
13th May - Maths Paper 1 and 2 SATS
13th May - Y3 Forest School
14th May - Maths Paper 3 SATs
15th May - Y2 Forest School
19th May - Y1 Forest School
21st May - Y4 Forest School
21st May - Y5 trip
21st May - Young Musician showcase 9.05 *invite only
22nd May - PD Day - no school

~ Half Term ~

1st June - Return to School
1st June - IEP Meetings 3.20pm *more information to follow
Week beg. 1st June and 8th June: Y4 Multiplication Check
3rd June - KS2 Sports Day (morning)
3rd June - IEP Meetings 3.20pm *more information to follow
Week Beg. 8th June: Year 1 Phonics check
8th June - Y4 Botanic Garden visit
11th June - KS1 Sports Day (morning)
11th June - PTFA School Disco
15th - 17th June - Y6 Residential
16th June - Y4 Forest School
18th June - Early Years trip to South Angle Farm
18th June - Y6 Forest School
19th June - Provisional back up KS1 Sports Day (morning)
23rd June - Y5 Forest School
24th June - Early Years *New starters evening 6-7.30pm
25th June - Provisional back up KS2 Sports Day (morning)
26th June - Y2 Forest School
8th July - Y6 Production 2pm and 5.30pm
10th July - Y2 African Day
11th July - PTFA Summer Fair
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

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

Congratulations:

There have been lots of exciting achievements happening outside of school, that the children have been sharing with us in our Friday Flourisher Collective Worship.

Ronnie did really well in his recent kickboxing tournament and got silver medal; Orla participated in a Golf tour near London getting 3rd Position; James competed in a recent gymnastics competition and won a number of medals - Gold medals for floor, vault, high bars and Gold Overall and a silver medal in P bars. Ella CB competed in her first ever majorette competition. She did amazing and received 1st place Mascot for her age group and received a medal.
Tom also competed in a recent swimming gala achieving 200m freestyle and representing the GB Team at Swim Camp.

Well done also to Zeka who achieved his Grade 1 with merit for drums.

If you would like to share any accomplishments that your child has achieved outside of school, please send in a shirt paragraph with the information you would like to share.

Update from the Fordham Smartphone Free Childhood Working Party

What's actually just happened on phones in school (and what it means)

Lots of headlines flying around about school phone bans, here's a quick analysis:

What's new

- The government is making its existing phone guidance law (statutory)
- That means schools are now legally required to follow it

What that guidance actually says

- Schools should be smartphone-free during the school day, BUT it doesn't mandate one strict approach. Schools can still choose how they do it.

What it does change

- Gives headteachers legal backing (many have wanted this)
- Sends a clear national signal that smartphones don't belong in schools
- Makes it easier for schools to stand firm with parents and students

A bit of context

- This move has come after significant political pressure from opposition Lords
- It helps get a bigger child safety bill through (so politics is part of this)
- The government has effectively conceded by putting guidance into law, but it's not a major shift in substance

Our take

This is good news. It's a step forward and reflects years of work from SFC parents and schools pushing for change.

Team SFC

TSC Mini London Marathon 2026

This past Saturday, ten of our pupils had the incredible opportunity to represent our school at the Mini London Marathon in London. And what a day it was!

The children arrived full of energy and excitement, ready to take on the challenge. Conditions could not have been better, with lovely weather setting the perfect scene for the event. Spirits were high as participants warmed up alongside some familiar faces, including fitness coach Joe Wicks, who was high-fiving runners and Fury from Gladiators, who led an energetic and fun warm-up session that got everyone moving.

When the race began, our pupils showed determination, resilience and fantastic sportsmanship. Many of them completed the course in around 13 minutes – an impressive achievement that reflects both their preparation and positive attitude. Along the route, they were also inspired by the memory of last year's achievement, following in the footsteps of Miss Rankin who completed the marathon herself.

The atmosphere throughout the day was electric. Crowds cheered loudly, creating a truly uplifting experience that the children will remember for years to come. Crossing the finish line was a moment of pride and joy for every runner and each child was rewarded with a well-earned medal to mark their accomplishment.

We are incredibly proud of all ten pupils who too part. They represented the school with enthusiasm, courage and teamwork, making an unforgettable experience for everyone involved.

Well done to all our runners – you truly made us proud!

A special mention and thank you goes to our PE governor, Mr Thomas, who organised this amazing opportunity for our school.

Written by Mrs. Levell