



## Newsletter

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a truly amazing final week of the term it has been!

Year 3 had a fantastic time exploring Lesnes Abbey, learning about its fascinating history and enjoying the beautiful surroundings. Meanwhile, Year 5 were inspired by their trip to the British Museum, where they deepened their understanding of ancient civilisations and brought their classroom learning to life.

To top it all off, we had a very special visit from Zactiv, also known as Steel the Gladiator! He shared his incredible story of perseverance and determination, inspiring our pupils to overcome challenges and always believe in themselves. Every child received a signed photo, sticker, and bottle of water — and Steel said that Fairford gave the loudest cheers ever!

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for the Learning Showcase this afternoon. It was wonderful to see so many of you celebrating the children's hard work and achievements. The atmosphere around the school was buzzing with pride and excitement — a perfect way to end the term.

Keep an eye on our social media pages for photos and videos from this week's amazing learning experiences and events.

Wishing you all a lovely, restful half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 3rd November at 8.40am.

Warm wishes,

*Ms. Aujla*

Head of School



# Dates for your diary

Monday 3rd November 2025	Tuesday 4th November 2025	Wednesday 5th November 2025	Thursday 6th November 2025	Friday 7th November 2025
	Zebras swimming	Choir Club	Carnival of Heroes Workshop	

## Just a reminder

FAB Book Bags and PE Bags only to be used from after half term

## Attendance % & Number of Children Lates

Ladybirds	84.8%	1
Butterflies	92.0%	1
Dragonflies	96.6%	0
Owls	95.2%	2
Squirrels	89.1%	3
Koalas	96.9%	1
Kookaburras	96.9%	3

Narwhals	91.4%	2
Penguins	93.3%	2
Dolphins	92.9%	1
Sharks	93.3%	3
Whales	91.5%	3
Giraffes	89.2%	3
Lions	95.7%	1
Zebras	92.2%	4
Eagles	92.1%	1
Falcons	85.7%	3
Hawks	99.0%	1

Challenge– Let's hit the 96% mark for all classes. Those classes who have had the biggest improvement will win a prize!



# Wrap Around Care

## 📢 Important Notice for Parents/Guardians! 📢

### New Wraparound Care Booking System on ARBOR!

Introducing Arbor for Wraparound Care Bookings! 📱 🌳

We are excited to announce a significant upgrade to how you book and manage your child's **Wraparound Care** (Breakfast Club and After-School Club).

During half term, we will be moving from IRIS ParentMail to the Arbor Parent Portal and Arbor App for club bookings.

This change is part of our commitment to streamline communication and payments, creating a more convenient, all-in-one platform for our school community.

Arbor will now be your single platform for:

- **Wraparound Care Bookings** (Breakfast and After-School Club)
- **Making Payments** and managing balances
- **Viewing key school data** (attendance etc.)
- **Booking Clubs / School Trips**

Your remaining balances/debts will be transferred to Arbor during half term.

📅 **Key Dates to Remember**

Activity	Date/Time
Arbor Booking System Goes LIVE	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> October 2025

📱 **How to Book in 3 Simple Steps:**

1. **Log In:**

- **App:** Open the **Arbor App** on your smartphone.
- **Web:** Go to the **Arbor Parent Portal** at <https://fairford-academy-barnehurst.uk.arbor.sc>

2. **Wraparound Care:** Once logged in, navigate to the **Activities** section (or the **Clubs** icon on the app).

3. **Select & Book:** **Book:** Select the relevant club (**Breakfast Club** or **After-School Club**), choose your desired dates/sessions, and confirm your registration and payment.

Most bookings require you to have **sufficient funds** in your account before you can secure a place. You can top up your account directly within the Arbor system.

# Parents Evening

👤 Important Notice for Parents/Guardians! 👤

## Book Your Parents' Evening Appointments on ARBOR!

This Year, all bookings for Parents' Evening will be made through the Arbor Parent Portal or the Arbor App.

### 📅 Key Dates:

- Parents' Evening Date(s): Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November and Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November
- Booking Opens: \*\*\*Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 5.00pm\*\*\*
- Booking Closes: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 9.00pm

### 📱 How to Book in 3 Simple Steps:

#### 1. Log In:

- **App:** Open the **Arbor App** on your smartphone.
- **Web:** Go to the **Arbor Parent Portal** at <https://fairford-academy-barnhurst.uk.arbor.sc>

#### 2. Find Consultations:

- On the main page/dashboard, look for the "Guardian Consultations" section

#### 3. Select & Book:

- Click on the relevant Parents' Evening event.
- Choose your child (if you have more than one).
- Select the **teacher** and an **available time slot**.
- Click '**Book Time Slot**' and confirm!

### ⚠️ Need Help?

- **First time using Arbor?** Check your email for a welcome email/login instructions from the school. Your username is usually your email address.
- **Forgotten Password?** Click the 'Forgot your password?' link on the login page.
- **Still having trouble?** Please contact the **School Office** for support.

# Term dates & Lunch Menu

## Illuminateminds Trust - Term Dates 2025/26

September 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
36	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
37	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
38	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
39	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
40	29	30					

October 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40			1	2	3	4	5
41	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
42	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
43	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
44	27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44						1	2
45	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
46	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
47	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
48	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
50	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
51	15	16	17	18	*19	20	21
52	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	29	30	31				

January 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1				1	2	3	4
2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
4	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
5	26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5							1
6	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9	23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9							1
10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
12	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
13	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
14	30	31					

April 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14			1	2	3	4	5
15	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	27	28	29	30			

May 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
18					1	2	3
19	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
22	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	29	30					

July 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27			1	2	3	4	5
28	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
29	13	14	15	16	*17	18	19
30	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
31	27	28	29	30	31		

August 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31						1	2
32	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
33	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
34	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
35	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
36	31						

INSET DAYS

HOLIDAYS

\*School finishes at 1pm on 19/12/25 & 17/07/26



NOVEMBER TO MARCH 2026

NOURISH



### WEEK ONE

3 Nov  
24 Nov  
15 Dec  
19 Jan  
9 Feb  
9 March  
30 March

MONDAY
Chicken Pie 1 Pesto & Pea Pasta 1,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Crushed Potato Cauliflower, Carrots
Strawberry Mousse 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG

TUESDAY
Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V Bean Biryani VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Rainbow Pasta 1 Seasonal Vegetables
Toffee Apple Pudding 1 VG & Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG

WEDNESDAY
Roast Gammon & Gravy Broccoli Tot 1,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Rustic Roast Potatoes, Cabbage, Peas
Fruit Jelly VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

THURSDAY
Beef Bolognese Pasta Bake 1,7 Loaded Bean Chilli Wedges VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Green Beans Grated Carrots
Parsnip Brownie 1 VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

FRIDAY
Pork Sausages 1,6 Vegetable Sausage VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Chips, Sweetcorn, Baked Beans Cucumber Sticks
Oaty Cookie 1,15 VG Yoghurt 3,7 Fruit Pots VG

### WEEK TWO

10 Nov  
1 Dec  
5 Jan  
26 Jan  
23 Feb  
16 March

MONDAY
Caribbean Brown Chicken Tomato Spaghetti 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Rice, Carrots, Peas
Chocolate Ice Cream 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG

TUESDAY
Cheese & Broccoli Pasta Bake 1,7 V Buffalo Cauliflower Wings & Wedges VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Seasonal Vegetables
Plum Pudding 1VG & Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG

WEDNESDAY
Roast Chicken & Gravy Ratatouille Puff 1,3 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Rustic Roast Potatoes Broccoli, Carrots
Crispy Cake 1,3,7,16 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

THURSDAY
Beef Stew & Dumpling 1 Pesto Pasta Bake 1,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Cauliflower, Green Beans
Apple & Cinnamon Pinwheel 1 VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

FRIDAY
Salmon Bites 1,8 Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Chips, Peas, Coleslaw 9
Marble Cookie 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7 Fruit Pots VG

### WEEK THREE

17 Nov  
8 Dec  
12 Jan  
2 Feb  
2 March  
23 March

MONDAY
Macaroni Cheese 1,7 V Sweet Potato & Chick Pea Curry VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Rice, Green Beans, Mixed Salad
Peach Crumble 1 VG & Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG

TUESDAY
Chicken Noodles 1 BBQ Vegetable Burrito 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Sweetcorn, Peppers
Chocolate Rice Pudding 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG

WEDNESDAY
Roast Pork & Gravy Vegan Sausage Roll 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Rustic Roast Potatoes, Green Beans, Carrots
Fruit Jelly VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

THURSDAY
Beef Cottage Pie Herby Tomato Pasta 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Seasonal Vegetables
Beetroot Cake 1 VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

FRIDAY
Fish Fingers 1,8 Cheese, Carrot & Tomato Swirl 1,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Chips, Peas, Baked Beans, Grated Carrot
Caramel Flapjack 1,7,15 V Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

Primary 3

1 Wheat 2 Gluten 3 Crustaceans 4 Soybean 5 Sesame 6 Sulphites/Sulphur Dioxide 7 Milk 8 Fish 9 Egg  
10 Peanuts 11 Molluscs 12 Celeriac/Celery 13 Nuts 14 Lupins 15 Oat 16 Barley 17 Gluten VG Vegan V Vegetarian

AVAILABLE DAILY

Selection of Salads 9, Homemade Bread 1,3. Some of our schools may use pre prepped potatoes or vegetables on occasions. These may contain sulphites and celeriac. Please discuss with your manager.



# Information

## Admission to Reception in September 2026

Children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 will be due to start in Reception in September 2026. The application period will be open on 1 September 2025 and the closing date is 15 January 2026.

Apply on line at:

<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>

More information visit:

<https://www.bexley.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/primary-schools/starting-primary-school>

**What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES**

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (78% Ypulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

- SPREADING MISINFORMATION**  
While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.
- EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**  
Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memos spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.
- MASKED MESSAGES**  
Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden messages, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Older users often create these memes to look the inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.
- HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY**  
When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, it means that young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what's funny versus what's discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.
- PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT**  
Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be reinterpreted, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or shared beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, ending how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

**Advice for Parents & Educators**

- ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS**  
Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss where they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.
- TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY**  
Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable. Developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how to check credibility, investigate sources, and encourage them to check credible sources when someone claims to present truth.
- MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES**  
Show children and teens positive online behaviour, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risk of screen use. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.
- FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE**  
Remind children and young people that memes about how some people or services aren't perfect. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Dr Cristina Mereno-Almado is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.

**Wake Up Wednesday**  
**The National College**

## Sign of the Week

### Scary

Clawed hands hover close to chest



### Halloween



Attached with this week's Newsletter in ParentMail is the Wake-Up Wednesdays guide on "MEMES"

## Year 6 - Secondary Transfer Online Applications - Closing date 11.59pm 31 October 2025

You must remember to apply online for secondary schools for your Year 6 child.

The deadline is **11.59pm 31 October 2025**.

The link is <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>

The link below is for the Admissions booklet, which contains extensive information on the admissions process.

<https://www.bexley.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/secondary-schools/starting-secondary-school>

# Information



## INTERESTED IN ZACTIV

**YOU'VE UNLOCKED A FREE 30 DAY TRIAL AND 40% OFF THE FULL ZACTIV PACKAGE!**

Because you booked a Zactiv workshop, you get a **FREE 30 day trial** and then if you sign up within 7 days of the trial ending, you get **40% off** the standard price of the full Zactiv package. Consider this your golden ticket to keep the momentum going **Grab it now before it runs out!**

**ZACTIV SCHOOL DAY**    **ZACTIV PE**    **ZACTIV FAMILY**

These three amazing initiatives could be an everyday part of your school! Visit [www.zactiv.co.uk](http://www.zactiv.co.uk) for full details on the Zactiv initiatives.

(The 30 day free trial starts from your Workshop date)

VOUCHER ISSUED ON:

SCAN HERE TO REDEEM YOUR REWARDS



**ZACTIV**  
ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

## FAB PTA

Thank you for all your support this term.

**£1159.99**  
made this term

**Autumn Term 2**

**03.11.25-19.12.25**

**13th Nov - PTA Meeting**  
**5th Dec - Christmas Fair**  
**19th Dec - Own Clothes Day**

If you would like to speak to a member of the leadership team please contact:  
[fairfordadmin@illuminateminds.org](mailto:fairfordadmin@illuminateminds.org)

