



## Newsletter

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of an incredibly busy and joyful term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful week we've had at Fairford.

First and foremost, a massive thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas performances and Nativity this week. It was heart-warming to see the hall so full of supportive families.

The children were absolutely amazing! They truly did themselves proud. The hard work they put into rehearsals really shone through, and they have certainly put us all in the festive spirit!

### Staffing Updates & Farewells

Today is a day of mixed emotions as we say goodbye to some valued members of our team, while looking forward to welcoming new faces in the New Year.

- Miss Hong and Mr Fernandez are leaving us to take up positions at new schools. We thank them for their hard work and wish them the very best of luck in their new roles.
- Mrs Reynolds is officially retiring today. Mrs. Reynolds has shown incredible dedication to Fairford over the years, and her impact on the school community has been profound. We also say a fond goodbye to Lola, who has been such a special part of our school life. Both will be deeply missed, and we wish Mrs Reynolds a long, happy, and well-deserved retirement.

### Warm Welcomes

We are delighted to introduce the following new members of staff who will be joining us in January:

- Miss Chen will be joining the Squirrels class.
- Miss Mascoll will be joining the Giraffes class.
- Miss Copperwaithe joins the Fairford team, working within our SRP.

### A Special Delivery

Keep an eye on your letterboxes over the holidays! Each child will be receiving a special personal postcard from the school before we return. We hope these bring a smile to their faces during the break.

On behalf of all the staff at Fairford, we wish you and your families a wonderful festive break filled with rest and happiness. We look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready for a new year on Tuesday, 6th January.

Best wishes,

Best Wishes,  
*Ms. Ayla*  
Head of School



# Dates for your diary

Monday 5th January 2026	Tuesday 6th January 2026	Wednesday 7th January 2026	Thursday 8th January 2026	Friday 9th January 2026
<b>INSET DAY</b> School closed for Children		Choir Club	Boys Football Club	

## Attendance % & Number of Children Lates

### W/E 19<sup>th</sup> December

Ladybirds	82.1%	3
Butterflies	95.6%	6
<b>Dragonflies</b>	<b>96.8%</b>	1
Owls	90.0%	7
Squirrels	90.5%	3
Koalas	94.6%	4
Kookaburras	91.5%	2

Narwhals	96.1%	5
Penguins	93.5%	4
Dolphins	96.3%	3
<b>Sharks</b>	<b>97.8%</b>	8
Whales	96.7%	4
<b>Giraffes</b>	86.0%	<b>0</b>
Lions	95.2%	7
Zebras	88.4%	3
Eagles	94.1%	1
Falcons	90.0%	5
Hawks	96.7%	1

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



# 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 Bolognaise 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 18 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

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI TOYS

This festive season, the newest toys on the shelves do not just blink or make noises they listen. Many now come with artificial intelligence (AI), allowing them to talk, learn, and even respond to a child's emotions. These toys can be educational and engaging, but they also collect, store, and process information. This guide explains what that means for families and why it matters.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

- TOYS THAT LISTEN AND LEARN**  
When a toy uses AI, it collects data such as voice recordings, interactions, and background sounds. This information is sent to remote servers, where it is analysed to improve responses. Your child's voice becomes training data, which may be stored indefinitely or shared with third parties.
- WEAK SECURITY PROTECTIONS**  
Some AI toys have poor password protection or open network connections. Owners may have microphones or cameras that stay on, even when the toy appears to be off. This can lead to recordings being made without your knowledge, including conversations unrelated to play.
- ARTIFICIAL VOICES, REAL INFLUENCE**  
For very young children, an AI companion may become one of the first voices they interact with regularly. How that voice shows humour, empathy, or authority can shape how a child learns to communicate. If the model is artificial, then part of what is learned is artificial as well.
- PRESSURE TO KEEP ENGAGING**  
Some toys reward repeated use or track engagement, encouraging children to interact more. When children compare how their toys perform, it creates pressure to play more often. This increases the amount of data collected and can make learning feel like competition.
- MARKETING THROUGH PLAY**  
Toys that learn a child's preferences may feed that data into future advertising. A toy that knows a child's favourite colour or hobby could help a company design more targeted marketing to that child and their family.
- PLAYTIME AS DATA TRAINING**  
The information collected from children helps train AI systems. Their voice, emotional responses, and behaviour shape how machines understand people. They become part of a much larger system that influences how future technologies behave.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

- START WITH A CONVERSATION**  
Talk to young people. Explain that some toys learn from what they say and do. Help them understand that even friendly technology should have boundaries, and to ask questions about it. Curiosity is healthy. Good trust is not.
- SET LIMITS ON USE**  
Turn off Wi-Fi or Bluetooth when the toy is not in use. Check for updates regularly, as they can change privacy or safety settings. These connected toys like any smart device, they should be monitored, updated, and switched off when not in use.
- MODEL DIGITAL AWARENESS**  
Children learn from adults. If they see you checking privacy settings, reading terms, and talking openly about online safety, they are more likely to do the same. Show them how to question technology in a healthy way.
- RESEARCH BEFORE YOU BUY**  
Look for toys that work offline or store data locally. Check for a free or demo version so you can test how it behaves. Read privacy policies to understand what data is collected, where it goes, and whether it's shared with others.
- REVIEW PRIVACY SETTINGS**  
Find out where the data is stored and who has access to it. Some companies sell or share data with advertisers. If the toy connects through an app, check what it requests access to and limit these permissions whenever possible.
- BALANCE AI WITH REAL PLAY**  
All toys can be fun and creative, but they are not a replacement for real human interaction. Encourage time away from technology with activities that foster emotional and social development. Use AI toys to support learning, not define it.


**Meet Our Expert**  
Ciara Hawking is Executive Director of Kompass Education. She advises governments, school trusts, and global organisations on AI governance and safeguarding, helping schools and families understand how technology shapes learning, wellbeing, and the digital future of children.

**#WakeUpWednesday** **The National College**

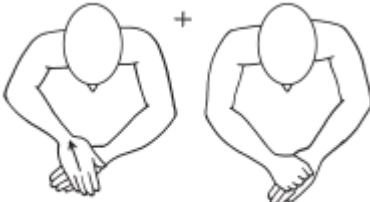
Attached with this week's Newsletter is the Wake-Up Wednesdays guide on "AI Toys"

## Sign of the Week

### Merry



### Christmas



Slide top hand back towards body. Close and move back onto left hand

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

