



Newsletter

Friday 5th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful week it has been!

A huge thank you to all the parents who came to watch the fantastic Rock Steady concerts this week. The children truly did us all proud! They performed with such incredible confidence and enthusiasm, and it was an absolute pleasure to watch them shine.

Our Year 5 children had an exciting and educational time earlier this week during their Kingdom of Benin workshop. They all thoroughly loved the experience, although we did have one disappointed child who wished they could teleport back in time for real! It's fantastic to see their imaginations sparked by history.

Yesterday, we held a very productive governors meeting. It was genuinely lovely to hear such positive feedback from some of our newly elected parent governors regarding our attendance incentives. They highlighted the value of our initiatives, such as:

- Certificates and gifts at the end of each term.
- The personally written postcards from each teacher before the children return to school.

We are very committed to improving attendance, and we really value your partnership in this. Every decision we make is with the children's best interests at heart. **Please keep an eye out for those attendance postcards arriving in the post after Christmas!**

🔔 Upcoming Events & Reminders

Event	Date
PTA Christmas Fair	Tonight!
Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas dinner	Wednesday, 10th December
Christmas performances	Mon 15 th Dec 2:30pm – Year 5&6
	Tues 16 th Dec 2:30pm – Year 1&2
	Wed 17 th Dec 2:30pm – Year 3&4
	Thurs 18 th Dec 9:30am – Nursery & Reception
Panto	Friday 19th December finish at 1pm

Have a lovely weekend, and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday morning!

Best Wishes,
Ms. Aujla
Head of School



Dates for your diary

Monday 8th December 2025	Tuesday 9th December 2025	Wednesday 10th December 2025	Thursday 11th December 2025	Friday 12th December 2025
YR2 School Trip KS1 French Club		Christmas Jumper Day <i>Donations made on Arbor</i> Choir Club KS2 French Club		

Please remember: Children finish at 1pm on 19th December

Attendance % & Number of Children Lates

W/E 5th December

Ladybirds	98.1%	3
Butterflies	98.7%	3
Dragonflies	94.6%	3
Owls	92.3%	5
Squirrels	92.6%	6
Koalas	92.4%	2
Kookaburras	91.8%	5

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

Narwhals	97.6%	7
Penguins	89.9%	5
Dolphins	95.8%	3
Sharks	89.8%	4
Whales	92.6%	3
Giraffes	90.6%	1
Lions	92.4%	1
Zebras	93.3%	7
Eagles	95.4%	4
Falcons	92.5%	3
Hawks	96.7%	2



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



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	<h1>Christmas Menu</h1>	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	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 Gluten 2 Crustaceans 3 Soybean 4 Mustard 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 Gluten 16 Barley 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

NOURISH

Wednesday
10th
December

CHRISTMAS MENU

Roast Turkey with Yorkshire Pudding, Stuffing, Pigs in Blanket & Gravy 1,6,7,9

Winter Vegetable Wellington 1 vg
With Yorkshire Pudding, Stuffing & Gravy 1,7,9

Santa's Cookie 1 vg

Iced Chocolate Sponge 1 vg

Jelly

Fruit Pots vg

Jugs of Squash

Peas, Carrots, Brussel Sprouts
Rustic Roast Potatoes

Dishes marked with any of the following numbers contain the matching allergen:
1 Wheat 2 Gluten 3 Crustaceans 4 Mustard 5 Sesame 6 Sulphites/Sulphur Dioxide 7 Milk 8 Fish 9 Egg
10 Peanuts 11 Molluscs 12 Celery/Celery 13 Nuts 14 Lupins 15 Oat 16 Barley 17 Gluten 18 Vegetarian 19 Vegan

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND DEVICES

Electrical safety is a vital topic for parents and educators, especially with the growing use of devices like smartphones, laptops, and power banks. Electrical fires are a major risk and are the cause of many deaths and injuries each year. There are reportedly nearly 20,000 accidental fires of electrical origin each year in the UK. This guide offers practical advice to help families and schools prevent electrical hazards, and promote safety when using everyday devices.

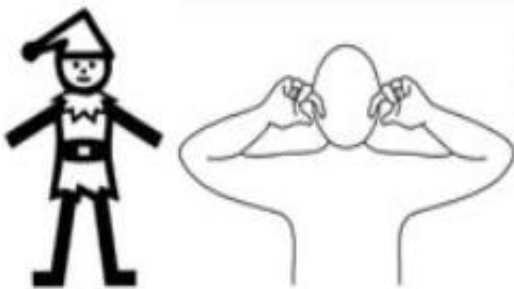
- CHECK FOR OVERHEATING**
Devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones can overheat if used for long periods or when charging. Ensure that children don't use devices on soft surfaces like beds or sofas, which can block ventilation. If a device becomes unusually hot, turn it off and unplug it. Overheating can lead to fire hazards if left unchecked.
- INSTALL RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES**
Ensure that homes and schools are equipped with Residual Current Devices (RCDs). These devices cut off the power if an electrical fault occurs, preventing electric shocks and reducing the risk of fires. RCDs should be tested regularly to ensure they are working properly. More information about RCDs is available from Electrical Safety First.
- AVOID OVERLOADING SOCKETS**
Plugging too many devices into one socket can overload the electrical system and cause a fire. In schools and homes, ensure extension leads are not overloaded and never 'daisy chain' multiple extension cords together. Educate children on the dangers of connecting too many devices to a single outlet.
- POWER BANKS: SAFE USE**
Power banks are a handy way to charge devices, but they can also pose a risk if misused. Ensure power banks are of high quality and comply with UK safety standards. Teach children never to leave power banks charging unattended, and to avoid plugging them under pillows or bedding where they may overheat.
- REGULAR DEVICE INSPECTIONS**
Regularly check devices for signs of wear and tear. Frayed charging cables, cracked device casings, or devices that are slow to charge may indicate electrical problems. If any issues are noticed, stop using the device until it can be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician. This proactive approach helps prevent fires caused by faulty devices.
- UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE**
Encourage children and pupils to unplug devices when not in use, particularly overnight. Devices left plugged in unnecessarily can overheat or become fire hazards, especially if left charging uninterrupted for long periods. Simple habits like unplugging can prevent various incidents.
- USE GENUINE CHARGERS**
Always use chargers supplied by the manufacturer or from a reputable retailer. Faulty or counterfeit chargers can cause devices to overheat, short-circuit, or even catch fire. Teach children the importance of avoiding poor-quality chargers, and regularly inspect charging cables for signs of wear or damage. More tips on safe charging can be found at Electrical Safety First.
- WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX**
Teach children that water and electricity are a dangerous combination. Devices should never be used near sinks, bathtubs, or swimming pools. Parents and educators should ensure that any electrical appliances near water sources have proper waterproof casings and are plugged into RCD-protected outlets.
- KEEP DEVICES VENTILATED**
Devices need proper ventilation to avoid overheating. Avoid stacking items on top of plugged-in devices like laptops or gaming consoles, and make sure there is enough space around devices to allow for airflow. Proper ventilation helps prevent dangerous heat build-up, reducing the risk of fires.
- SUPERVISE YOUNG CHILDREN**
Younger children may not understand the dangers of electricity, so it's important to supervise them when they are using devices. Keep electrical cords out of reach and always remind children never to put objects into electrical outlets.

Meet Our Expert
James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings as well as many other industries to help them maintain a safe working environment.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Sign of the Week



Elf

Attached with this week's Newsletter is the Wake-Up Wednesdays guide on "Electrical safety and devices"

FAB PTA

Please email our.fab.pta@gmail.com if you are interested in helping at any of our events

For these events to go ahead, we need you!



PTA Meeting

You are invited to the PTA Meeting

Where: Fairford Academy Barnehurst
Date & Time: 15th January @ 7 PM via ZOOM

Topic:
Movie Night, School Discos & Easter Parade

Agenda

- Planning
- Expectations
- Availability
- Getting volunteers

Spring Term 1

06.01.26-13.02.26

15th Jan - PTA Meeting
4th Feb - Movie Night
13th Feb - Own Clothes Day

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

