



Newsletter

Friday 27th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an incredible week it has been here at Fairford! From the depths of our own swimming pool to the historic halls of Westminster, our pupils have been diving into new experiences and making us exceptionally proud.

This week marked a milestone as we introduced **weekly swimming lessons** on-site for all of our Key Stage 2 children. Integrating these lessons into the PE curriculum ensures that every child develops this vital life skill in a familiar environment.

- **The Progress:** This week was all about assessments. Our qualified swimming teachers Graham and Zoe spent time understanding each child's confidence and ability level.
- **Next Week:** We move straight into refining swimming techniques and building stamina.

We know that new activities can be daunting. To support our more anxious swimmers, we've implemented regular check-ins and used **social stories** to help them visualize the process.

The feedback so far has been extremely positive—the children have truly taken to the water like ducks!

On Tuesday, our **Pupil Parliament** took a trip to the heart of British democracy. It was a whirlwind day of history and governance that our young representatives won't soon forget. The group had the chance to:

- Walk past **Downing Street** and visit the **Horse Guards**.
- Enter the **House of Commons** to watch **Prime Minister's Questions (PMQs)** live!
- Experience the fast-paced energy of national leadership first-hand.

Following their meeting with **Daniel Francis** earlier this year, this visit has further ignited their passion for change. We truly have some future leaders in our midst at Fairford!

Keep an eye on our social media pages! We will be posting photos and updates from the trip.

We hope you have a restful and lovely weekend.

Warm regards,

Ms. Aujla

Head of School



Dates for your diary

Monday 2 nd March 2026	Tuesday 3 rd March 2026	Wednesday 4 th March 2026	Thursday 5 th March 2026	Friday 6 th March 2026
YR6 Swimming Nicole's Dance Club KS1 French Club	YR6 & YR5 Swimming YR4&5 Violin Club YR3 Choir Club	YR4 Swimming FAB PTA Meeting KS2 Mindfulness Art YR4 Times Tables Club KS2 French Club YR1&2 Forest Club	World Book Day YR 3 Swimming YR3 Violin Club YR 6 Craft Club KS1 Colouring Club YR4&5 Recorder Club Girls Football Training	YR4 & SRP Swimming YR 5 Pokémon Club KS2 Bell Ringing Club

Attendance % & Number of Children Lates

W/E 27th February

Ladybirds	83.6%	1
Butterflies	83.8%	1
Dragonflies	94.6%	1
Owls	90.0%	3
Squirrels	95.6%	3
Koalas	91.5%	0
Kookaburras	94.6%	0

Narwhals	96.7%	3
Penguins	97.5%	2
Dolphins	98.2%	3
Sharks	94.6%	2
Whales	97.2%	5
Giraffes	93.5%	0
Lions	92.4%	2
Zebras	94.8%	1
Eagles	91.6%	2
Falcons	87.9%	1
Hawks	98.3%	0

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



MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

WEEK ONE

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

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 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

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

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

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

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

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

World
Book Day
Menu

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 Mustard 6 Sesame 7 Sulphites/Sulphur Dioxide 8 Milk 9 Fish 10 Egg
11 Peanuts 12 Molluscs 13 Celeriac/Celery 14 Lupins 15 Oat 16 Gluten 17 Barley 18 Gluten 19 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.



Photos from this Week

Pupil Parliament Trip



Swimming Pool



Information

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SNAPCHAT

97 SNAP STREAK

AGE RESTRICTION 13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the My AI character and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may show unfiltered or inappropriate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to misrepresentation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION
Snapchat boasts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak is about to end for a few days, users will see a 'y' emoji. The number of streaks it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION
Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then threaten to capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+
Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY
Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT
Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the people who view an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so texting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB
Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS
Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about some and block them before using children sign up. If they do need help, a scam encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgmentally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

BLOCK AND REPORT
If a stranger contacts with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to explain why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'trudes'.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER
Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explore privacy settings and how they work, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes to their friendship groups.

Meet Our Expert
Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and conducted research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Sign of the week

Rainbow

Attention Year 5 Parents

Bexley selection test registration opens on 1st March and closes on 31st March. If you would like your child to take this test, please register here <https://www.bexley.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/selection-tests/register-secondary-selection-test>.

Attention for Nursery Applications

Bexley Nursery applications for September 2026 are now open and closes on 6th April. If your child was born between 1st Sept 2022 and 31st Aug 2023, please apply here <https://www.bexley.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/nursery-schools/starting-nursery>

Attached is #WakeUpWednesday's updated online safety guide which examines Snapchat's latest features, including AI tools, Snap Map, and subscription content, and the potential risks they pose to young users.

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

