

# Firthmoor Primary School Newsletter Date: Friday 11th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers.

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of another busy school year and this is the final newsletter. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year at Firthmoor Primary School and it has been wonderful to get to know you all.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all parents, carers and families for your support and generosity. We were delighted with all the donations for the school fair and it was a huge success that was enjoyed by lots of families in the community. We will be putting the money raised towards our pantomime visit in December. It has been lovely to see you all at the school events that we have had this year. Thank you for making time to attend.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all the staff and volunteers that make Firthmoor Primary School an amazing place for children to learn. Everyone has worked incredibly hard to ensure that our school provides the very best learning opportunities and experiences for our children.

There is lots happening in school next week so please keep an eye on the newsletters. Please remember that our newsletter is sent via email and is on Facebook and the school website. It is also on the noticeboard outside of school. It is sent out every other Friday so keep an eye out to keep up to date.

School will close on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July and re open on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

# **Staffing Update**

Mrs Bujara (Administration Assistant) and Mrs Geraghty (Behavior Support) will be leaving us this summer to enjoy their retirement. We would like to thank them both for their hard work and dedication and wish them well for the future. Ms Russell-Johnson has joined us as an Administration Assistant and is settling in well in school.

# Toy Day and Sweet Shop - Friday 18th July 2025

On our last day of school, we will have a sweet shop that children can visit to purchase sweets and small fidgets toys. The money raised from this will go towards subsidising our school visits. Children can bring a non-electronic toy to school to play with. Please do not send anything precious or valuable as we cannot accept responsibility for lost/broken items.

## **Beach Visit to South Shields**

# Nursery with a parent/carer – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025 Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 2/3 – Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025



Year 3, Year 3/4, Year 4, Year 5, Year 5/6, Year 6 – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025

We are delighted to announce that we have organised a visit for all our pupils to the beach at South Shields. We have sent a letter out with further information.

Reminder that contributions of £8 should be made as soon as possible if you haven't already. In addition, if your child would like an ice cream payment of £2.50 should be made (Reception to Year 6). All payments should be made on Parent Pay – if anyone requires help with setting up their account please contact the admin team who will be happy to help.

# Y6 Leavers' Assembly

It is that time of year again when we have to say goodbye to our lovely Y6 pupils. We invite all Y6 parents/carers to the Y6 leavers' assembly on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July at 2:15pm.** Due to space in the hall, may we ask you restrict the number of people attending to 2 per household. No tickets are required.

#### **Pupil Attendance**

A reminder that there has been changes to the attendance guidance to schools by the DFE. There is a link to guidance for parents below:

<u>DfE external document template (childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)</u>

If your child is absent, then please remember to make a phone call to the school office every day that your child is absent from school.

#### **Sports Update**

# <u>SUMMER 2</u> – PE Kit Days



Here are the days that your child will be taking part in PE lessons in <u>Summer – Please note some classes have changed</u> their PE day.

Year Group and Teacher	PE Days
Year Reception Mrs Smith & Mrs Coad	Friday
Year 1 Miss Bujara	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 2/3 Mrs Irwin	Monday and Tuesday
Year 2 Miss Heslop	Thursday and Friday
Year 3 Mrs Blagg and Mrs Howland	Monday and Tuesday
Year 3/4 Miss Trainer	Monday and Wednesday
Year 4 Miss True	Tuesday and Friday
Year 5 Miss Jamieson	Friday – PE
	Tuesday - Swimming
Year 5/6 Mrs Walker	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 6 Miss Murray	Monday and Thursday

<u>Swimming -</u> Miss Jamieson's class will continue swimming on Tuesday afternoons in the Summer Term.

#### PE Kit

Pupils should wear a plain red t-shirt, plain black shorts, leggings or tracksuit and trainers.

No jewellery is to be worn on PE days. Earrings must be removed for PE.

Our Uniform Guidance can be found on our website in the school prospectus and policy.

Children in Year 1 to Year 6 can come to school dressed in their PE kits on their specified PE days.

Children in Reception will continue to change into their PE kits at school. Please bring kits in a school drawstring bag.

# **Music Lessons**

Violin lessons will take place on Tuesdays in school.

# Diary of Events:

Event	Date and Time	Year Group	Parents Invited
Beach Trip	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> July at 9.15am	Nursery	Yes
Beach Trip	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July at 9.15am	Rec, Y1, Y2, Y2/3	No
Beach Trip	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July at 9.15am	Year 3, Year 3/4, Year 4, Year 5, Year 5/6, Year 6	No
Y6 Leavers' Assembly	2.15pm Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6	Yes
Toy day and sweet shop	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	All year groups excluding Nursery	No

# Term Dates:

#### FIRTHMOOR SCHOOL CALENDAR

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#### FIRTHMOOR SCHOOL CALENDAR

#### <u> 2025 - 2026</u>

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Staff Training Days Monday 1st September 2025 Monday 20th April 2026 Friday 22nd May 2026 Monday 20th July 2026 Tuesday 21st July 2026

Public Holidays
School Holidays
Staff Training



# Helping parents to understand the changes to fines for term time holidays

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued for unauthorised holidays recorded by schools **after 19**<sup>th</sup> **August 2024**.

## Who may be fined?

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving 3 separate fines.

#### First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised term time holiday the fine amount will be:

£80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Increasing to £160 if paid between days 22-28.

#### National Threshold

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.

For example: a 5-day holiday would meet the national threshold.

The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

#### Second Offence

(within 3 years)

The Second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

£160 per parent (who allowed the holiday), per child, payable within 28 days.

# Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice will not be issued and local authorities will need to consider other available measures to address the absence concerns. This may mean that cases are presented before a Magistrate's Court. Prosecution can result in criminal records and fines of up to £2,500.

Cases found guilty in the Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.